

The Danger of Doing Things My Way Instead of God's Way

Genesis 16

The Birth of Ishmael as a Human Device to Acquire God's Blessing

A. Sarai Gives Her Maid, Hagar to Abram to Provide an Heir. Gen. 16:1-3

1. Sarai, Abram's wife, was unable to bear children (Gen. 16:1). What did she suggest to Abram? (Gen. 16:2). _____

2. Abram agreed, and accepted his wife's maid as his second wife (Gen. 16:2-3). What was her name? _____.
3. Is this what God wanted? _____
4. How many wives did God create for Adam, the first man? (Gen. 2:18-25) ____

5. Does polygamy please God? (1 Timothy 3:1-2) _____

B. Offended Sarai Punishes Pregnant and Disrespectful Hagar. Gen. 16:4-6

1. What happened when Abram slept with Hagar? (Gen. 16:4) _____

2. What was Hagar's attitude toward Sarai after that? (Gen. 16:4) _____

3. Whom did Sarai blame? (Gen. 16:5). _____
4. Abram told Sarai to do whatever was necessary, so Sarai became harsh with Hagar. What did Hagar do? (Gen. 16:6) _____

C. The Angel of the LORD Tells Hagar to Submit to Sarai. Gen. 16:7-9

1. What did the Angel of the LORD ask Hagar? (Gen. 16:7-8) _____

2. What was Hagar's reply? (Gen. 16:8) _____
3. What did the angel tell her to do? (Gen. 16:9) _____

D. The Angel of the LORD Blesses Hagar. Gen. 16:10-12

1. What did the angel promise about Hagar's descendants? (Gen. 16:10) _____

2. What did the angel tell Hagar she was to name her son? (Gen. 16:11) _____
_____. The name means, "G_____ H_____."
3. What animal would her son be like? (Gen. 16:12) _____

4. What kind of relationship would the descendants of Ishmael have with their relatives? (Gen. 16:12) _____
5. Note: Ishmael is the father of the A_____.
6. Question: What kind of relationship do the descendants of Ishmael have with the descendants of Abraham's son Isaac and grandson Jacob? _____

7. What kind of long-term consequences are there if we refuse to do things the way God says we should? _____

E. Hagar Names God. Gen. 16:13-14

1. What name did Hagar give to God? (Gen. 16:13) _____

F. Hagar Gives Birth to Ishmael. Gen. 16:15-16

1. Hagar gave birth to a son (Gen. 16:15). What did Abram name him? _____

2. How old was Abram when Ishmael was born? (Gen. 16:16) _____

G. Long-Term Consequences

1. The Arabs are descendants of Ishmael. The Jewish people are the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. What kind of relationship do the two peoples have 4000 years later? _____
2. What major world religion allows polygamy? _____
3. What could you pray to protect your children from bad consequences? _____
