### Genesis

## Chapter 21

1Then the Lord visited SarAh and did as [He had promised] to her. 2She became pregnant and bore a son to AbraHam in his old age, at the exact time that the Lord had specified. 3And AbraHam named the son who was born to him through SarAh, IsaAc [meaning ‘Laughter’].  
  
4Then on the 8th day, AbraHam circumcised IsaAc, just as God had instructed him.  
  
5AbraHam was 100 years old when his son IsaAc was born. 6And SarAh said:  
  
 ‘Jehovah has created laughter for me, because everyone who hears [about this] will rejoice with me.’  
  
7Then she added:  
  
 ‘Who could tell AbraHam that I’m nursing a child, because I’ve given birth in my old age?’  
  
  
8Thereafter, the child grew; and on the day that he was weaned, AbraHam prepared a great feast. 9However, SarAh noticed Hagar’s son (the one who was born to AbraHam through the Egyptian [woman]) playfully making fun of their son IsaAc.  
  
10So she told AbraHam:  
  
 ‘Throw this slave woman and her son out, because I won’t have this slave’s son receive an inheritance with my son IsaAc!’  
  
11Now, those words about his son were very difficult for AbraHam. 12But God said to AbraHam:  
  
 ‘Don’t allow this thing about your son and the slave woman to become too difficult for you. Listen to whatever SarAh tells you, because IsaAc will be the one who’s called your offspring. 13However, I’ll make a great nation of this slave woman’s son, because he’s also your offspring.’  
  
  
14So the next morning, AbraHam got up, gave Hagar some loaves [of bread] and a skin [bottle] of water, put her son on her shoulders, and sent her away. Then she left there and wandered in the desert near the Well of the Promise.  
  
15However, [before long], the skin [bottle] of water was empty. So she threw her child under a fir tree, 16where she left him, and then she sat some distance across from him (a bow-shot away). And she said:  
  
 ‘I can’t just watch my child die.’  
  
So she sat there across from him as her child bawled and cried.  
  
17Well, God heard the voice of the child from the place where He was, and a [spirit] messenger from God called to Hagar out of the sky, and asked:  
  
 ‘Why are you so concerned, Hagar?  
  
 ‘Don’t worry; for God has heard the child’s voice from where He is. 18So now, get up and take the child by his hand, because I’m going to make a great nation of him!’  
  
19Then The God opened her eyes and she saw a life [sustaining] well of water; so she went and filled the skin with water and gave the child a drink.  
  
20God was with that child, so he grew up living in the desert and he became an archer. 21And while he was living there in the desert, his mother found a woman for him in Pharan, Egypt.  
  
  
  
22Now, the time came when AbiMelech, OchoZath (his trusted friend), and Pichol (the head of his army) [came to] AbraHam and said:  
  
 ‘God is with you [and has blest] everything that you do. 23So swear to me by God that you won’t harm me, my offspring, or my name; rather, you should deal with me in the same righteous way that I’ve dealt with you in this land in which you’re living.’  
  
24And AbraHam said:  
  
 ‘I swear.’  
  
25Then AbraHam complained to AbiMelech about some water wells that his servants had taken from him. 26And AbiMelech replied:  
  
 ‘I don’t know who did this thing to you, nor did you tell me about it. Today is the first time I’ve heard of this.’  
  
27And thereafter, AbraHam took some cattle and sheep and gave them to AbiMelech, and they made a treaty. 28Then AbraHam set aside 7 female lambs. 29And AbiMelech asked him:  
  
 ‘Why have you set those 7 female lambs aside?’  
  
30And AbraHam replied:  
  
 ‘I’m giving my 7 female lambs to you as testimony to the fact that I dug this well.’  
  
31So thereafter, he named that place, ‘The Well of the Promise,’ because that’s where they swore their oath 32and made their treaty. Then AbiMelech, his trusted friend OchoZath, and Pichol (the head of his army) got up and returned [home] to the land of the Philistines.  
  
33Well, after that, AbraHam planted a field near The Well of the Promise and started calling on the Name of the God of the ages, Jehovah. 34And he stayed there in the land of the Philistines for many days.