

GENESIS

THE CREATION

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

²And the earth was a ^aformless and desolate emptiness, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.^b

³Then God said, "^BLet there be light"; and

‘God saw that the light was good; and God

"God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. **A** **E**
V **5** God called the light "day," and the darkness He called "night." And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

6Then God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate

⁶God made the ^cexpanse, and separated the waters that were below the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse; and it was so.

⁸God called the expanse "heaven." And

there was evening and there was morning, a second day.

¹⁰ And God called the dry land "earth," and the gathering of the waters He called "seas"; and God saw that it was good.

"Then God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit according to their kind with seed in them"; and it was so.^{id bns}

¹²The earth produced vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, according to their kind; and God saw that it was good.

¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, a third day.

¹⁴Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and they shall serve as signs and for seasons, and for days and years;

¹⁵and they shall serve as lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so.

¹⁶God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; *He made the stars also.*

¹⁷God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth,
¹⁸and to govern the day and the night, and

¹⁸ and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good.

19 And there was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

²⁰Then God said, "Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly

swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens."

b 21 And God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind; and God saw that it was good.

22 God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."

²³And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

24 Then God said, "Let the earth produce living creatures according to their kind: live-

^b25 God made the animals of the earth ac-

God made the animals of the earth according to their kind, and the livestock according to their kind, and everything that crawls on the ground according to its kind; and God saw that it was good.

B 26 Then God said, "Let Us make mankind in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the live-

²⁷So God created man in His own image,
in the image of God He created him; male

28 God blessed them; and God said to them,

^{1:2}Or waste ^{1:3}i.e., a command, not a request; and so throughout the ch ^{1:7}Or *firmament* ^{1:26}i.e., indicating united action, not a request ^{i.e.}, have them rule

"Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

²⁹Then God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you;

³⁰and to every animal of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to everything that moves on the earth which has life, I have given every green plant for food"; and it was so.

³¹And God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

2 And so the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their heavenly lights.
³²By the seventh day God completed His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.

³³Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because on it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

THE CREATION OF MAN AND WOMAN

¹This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made earth and heaven.

²Now no shrub of the field was yet on the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the LORD God had not sent rain upon the earth, and there was no man to cultivate the ground.

³But a mist used to rise from the earth and water the whole surface of the ground.

⁴Then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living person.

⁵The LORD God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed.

⁶Out of the ground the LORD God caused every tree to grow that is pleasing to the sight and good for food; the tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁰Now a river flowed out of Eden to water the garden; and from there it divided and became four rivers.

¹¹The name of the first is Pison; it flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold.

¹²The gold of that land is good; the beryl and the onyx stone are there as well.

¹³The name of the second river is Gihon; it flows around the whole land of Cush.

¹⁴The name of the third river is Tigris; it flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

¹⁵Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to cultivate it and tend it.

¹⁶The LORD God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may freely eat;

¹⁷but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for on the day that you eat from it you will certainly die."

¹⁸Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him."

¹⁹And out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the sky, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name.

²⁰The man gave names to all the livestock, and to the birds of the sky, and to every animal of the field, but for Adam there was not found a helper suitable for him.

²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place.

²²And the LORD God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man.

²³Then the man said,

²⁴At last this is bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; She shall be called 'woman,' Because she was taken out of man."

²⁵For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.

²⁶And the man and his wife were both naked, but they were not ashamed.

THE FALL OF MANKIND

3 Now the serpent was more cunning than any animal of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God really said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?"

^{2:1}Lit host i.e., sun, stars, etc. ^{2:7}Or soul
man ^{2:22}Lit built

²The woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; ³but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.'"

⁴The serpent said to the woman, "You certainly will not die!"

⁵"For God knows that on the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will become like God, knowing good and evil."

⁶When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took some of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband with her, and he ate.

⁷Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves waist coverings.

⁸Now they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

⁹Then the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?"

¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself."

¹¹And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?"

¹²The man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me some of the fruit of the tree, and I ate."

¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" And the woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴Then the LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
Cursed are you more than
all the livestock,

And more than any animal
of the field;
On your belly you shall go,
And dust you shall eat
All the days of your life;

¹⁵And I will make enemies
Of you and the woman,
And of your offspring and
her descendant;
He shall bruise you on the head,
And you shall bruise Him on the heel."

¹⁶To the woman He said,
"I will greatly multiply
Your pain in childbirth,
In pain you shall deliver children;
Yet your desire will be for
your husband,
And he shall rule over you."

¹⁷Then to Adam He said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat from it';

Cursed is the ground because of you;
With hard labor you shall eat from it
All the days of your life.

¹⁸Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you;
Yet you shall eat the plants of the field;

¹⁹By the sweat of your face
You shall eat bread,
Until you return to the ground,
Because from it you were taken;
For you are dust,
And to dust you shall return."

²⁰Now the man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all the living.

²¹And the LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.

²²Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out with his hand, and take fruit also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"—
²³therefore the LORD God sent him out of the Garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he was taken.

²⁴So He drove the man out; and at the east of the Garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim and the flaming sword which turned every direction to guard the way to the tree of life.

CAIN AND ABEL

⁴Now the man had relations with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to Cain, and she said, "I have obtained a male child with the help of the LORD."

⁵And again, she gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of flocks, but Cain was a cultivator of the ground.

^{3:15}A Lit seed ^BLit Seed; ie., a prophetic reference to Christ

^{3:20}C.I.e., living; or life

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³So it came about in the course of time that Cain brought an offering to the LORD from the fruit of the ground.

⁴Abel, on his part also brought an offering, from the firstborn of his flock and from their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering;

⁵but for Cain and his offering He had no regard. So Cain became very angry and his face was gloomy.

⁶Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why is your face gloomy?"

⁷"If you do well, will your face not be cheerful? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it."

⁸Cain talked to his brother Abel; and it happened that when they were in the field Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him.

⁹Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" And he said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?"

¹⁰Then He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying out to Me from the ground.

¹¹"Now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand."

¹²"When you cultivate the ground, it will no longer yield its strength to you; you will be a wanderer and a drifter on the earth."

¹³Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is too great to endure!"

¹⁴"Behold, You have driven me this day from the face of the ground; and I will be hidden from Your face, and I will be a wanderer and a drifter on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me."

¹⁵So the LORD said to him, "Therefore whoever kills Cain, vengeance will be taken on him seven times as much." And the LORD placed a mark on Cain, so that no one finding him would kill him.

¹⁶Then Cain left the presence of the LORD, and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

¹⁷Cain had relations with his wife and she conceived, and gave birth to Enoch; and Cain built a city, and named the city Enoch, after the name of his son.

¹⁸Now to Enoch was born Irad, and Irad fathered Mehujael, and Mehujael fathered Methushael, and Methushael fathered Lamech.

¹⁹Lamech took two wives for himself: the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other, Zillah.

²⁰Adah gave birth to Jabal; he was the father of those who live in tents and have livestock.

²¹His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and flute.

²²As for Zillah, she also gave birth to Tubal-cain, the forger of all implements of bronze and iron; and the sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah.

²³Lamech said to his wives,

"Adah and Zillah, listen to my voice,
Listen to my voice,
You wives of Lamech,
Pay attention to my words,
For I have killed a man for
wounding me;

And a boy for striking me!"

²⁴"If Cain is avenged seven times,
Then Lamech seventy-seven times!"

²⁵Adam had relations with his wife again; and she gave birth to a son, and named him Seth, for, she said, "God has appointed me another child in place of Abel, because Cain killed him."

²⁶To Seth also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then people began to call upon the name of the LORD.

DESCENDANTS OF ADAM

5 This is the book of the generations of Adam. On the day when God created man, He made him in the likeness of God.

²He created them male and female, and He blessed them and named them "mankind" on the day when they were created.

³When Adam had lived 130 years, he fathered a son in his own likeness, according to his image, and named him Seth.

⁴Then the days of Adam after he fathered Seth were eight hundred years, and he fathered other sons and daughters.

⁵So all the days that Adam lived were 930 years, and he died.

⁶Now Seth lived 105 years, and fathered Enosh.

⁷Then Seth lived 807 years after he fathered Enosh, and he fathered other sons and daughters.

⁸So all the days of Seth were 912 years, and he died.

⁹Now Enosh lived ninety years, and fathered Kenan.

¹⁰Then Enosh lived 815 years after he fathered Kenan, and he fathered other sons and daughters.

²⁵and Nahor lived 119 years after he fathered Terah, and he fathered other sons and daughters.

²⁶Terah lived seventy years, and fathered Abram, Nahor, and Haran.

²⁷Now these are the records of the generations of Terah. Terah fathered Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran fathered Lot.

²⁸Haran died during the lifetime of his father Terah in the land of his birth, in Ur of the Chaldeans.

²⁹Abram and Nahor took wives for themselves. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife was Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of Milcah and Iscah.

³⁰Sarai was unable to conceive; she did not have a child.

³¹Now Terah took his son Abram, and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram's wife, and they departed together from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to the land of Canaan; and they went as far as Haran and settled there.

³²The days of Terah were 205 years; and Terah died in Haran.

ABRAM JOURNEYS TO EGYPT

12 Now the LORD said to Abram,

"Go from your country,

And from your relatives

And from your father's house,

To the land which I will show you;

²And I will make you into

a great nation,

And I will bless you,

And make your name great;

And you shall be a blessing;

³And I will bless those who bless you,

And the one who curses

you I will curse.

And in you all the families of

the earth will be blessed."

⁴So Abram went away as the LORD had spoken to him; and Lot went with him. Now Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

⁵Abram took his wife Sarai and his nephew Lot, and all their possessions which they had accumulated, and the people which they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan; so they came to the land of Canaan.

⁶Abram passed through the land as far

as the site of Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. Now the Canaanites were in the land at that time.

⁷And the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD who had appeared to him.

⁸Then he proceeded from there to the mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD.

⁹Then Abram journeyed on, continuing toward the ^ANegev.

¹⁰Now there was a famine in the land; so Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a time, because the famine was severe in the land.

¹¹It came about, when he was approaching Egypt, that he said to his wife Sarai, "See now, I know that you are a beautiful woman;

¹²and when the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife'; and they will kill me, but they will let you live.

¹³"Please say that you are my sister so that it may go well for me because of you, and that I may live on account of you."

¹⁴Now it came about, when Abram entered Egypt, that the Egyptians saw that the woman was very beautiful.

¹⁵Pharaoh's officials saw her and praised her to Pharaoh; and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house.

¹⁶Therefore he treated Abram well for her sake; and he gave him sheep, oxen, male donkeys, male servants and female servants, female donkeys, and camels.

¹⁷But the LORD struck Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife.

¹⁸Then Pharaoh called Abram and said, "What is this that you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife?

¹⁹"Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her for myself as a wife? Now then, here is your wife, take her and go!"

²⁰And Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him; and they escorted him away, with his wife and all that belonged to him.

ABRAM AND LOT

13 So Abram went up from Egypt to the ^ANegev, he and his wife and all that belonged to him, and Lot with him.

^{12:9; 13:1}^AI.e., South country

²Now Abram was very rich in livestock, silver, and gold.

³And he went on his journeys from the Negev as far as Bethel, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai,

⁴to the place of the altar which he had made there previously; and there Abram called on the name of the LORD.

⁵Now Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks, herds, and tents.

⁶And the land could not support both of them while living together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to remain together.

⁷And there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. Now the Canaanites and the Perizzites were living in the land at that time.

⁸So Abram said to Lot, "Please let there be no strife between you and me, nor between my herdsmen and your herdsmen, for we are relatives!"

⁹"Is the entire land not before you? Please separate from me; if you choose the left, then I will go to the right; or if you choose the right, then I will go to the left."

¹⁰Lot raised his eyes and saw all the vicinity of the Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere—this was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah—like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt going toward Zoar.

¹¹So Lot chose for himself all the vicinity of the Jordan, and Lot journeyed eastward. So they separated from each other.

¹²Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled in the cities of the vicinity of the Jordan, and moved his tents as far as Sodom.

¹³Now the men of Sodom were exceedingly wicked sinners against the LORD.

¹⁴The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, "Now raise your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward, and eastward and westward;

¹⁵for all the land which you see I will give to you and to your descendants forever.

¹⁶"I will make your descendants as plentiful as the dust of the earth, so that if anyone can count the dust of the earth, then your descendants could also be counted.

¹⁷"Arise, walk about in the land through its length and width; for I will give it to you."

¹⁸Then Abram moved his tent and came and lived by the oaks of Mamre, which are in Hebron; and there he built an altar to the LORD.

WAR OF THE KINGS

14 And it came about in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of Goiim,

²that they made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar).

³All these kings came as allies to the Valley of Siddim (that is, the Salt Sea).

⁴For twelve years they had served Chedorlaomer, but in the thirteenth year they rebelled.

⁵And in the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him came and defeated the Rephaim in Ashteroth-karnaim, and the Zuzim in Ham, and the Emim in Shaveh-kiriathaim,

⁶and the Horites on their Mount Seir, as far as El-paran, which is by the wilderness.

⁷Then they turned back and came to En-mishpat (that is, Kadesh), and conquered all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites, who lived in Hazazon-tamar.

⁸And the king of Sodom and the king of Gomorrah, the king of Admah and the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar) came out; and they lined up for battle against them in the Valley of Siddim,

⁹against Chedorlaomer king of Elam, Tidal king of Goiim, Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar—four kings against five.

¹⁰Now the Valley of Siddim was full of tar pits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and they fell into them. But those who survived fled to the hill country.

¹¹Then they took all the possessions of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their food supply, and departed.

¹²They also took Lot, Abram's nephew, and his possessions and departed, for he was living in Sodom.

¹³Then a survivor came and told Abram the Hebrew. Now he was residing by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and brother of Aner, and they were allies with Abram.

^{13:1}e., South country

¹⁴When Abram heard that his relative had been taken captive, he led out his trained men, born in his house, numbering 318, and went in pursuit as far as Dan.

¹⁵Then he divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and defeated them, and pursued them as far as Hobah, which is north of Damascus.

¹⁶He brought back all the possessions, and also brought back his relative Lot with his possessions, and also the women, and the other people.

GOD'S PROMISE TO ABRAM

¹⁷Then after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley).

¹⁸And Melchizedek the king of Salem brought out bread and wine; now he was a priest of God Most High.

¹⁹And he blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth;

²⁰And blessed be God Most High, Who has handed over your enemies to you."

And he gave him a tenth of everything.

²¹Then the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give the people to me and take the possessions for yourself."

²²But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have sworn to the LORD God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth,

²³that I will not take a thread or a sandal strap or anything that is yours, so that you do not say, 'I have made Abram rich.'

²⁴I will take nothing except what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their share."

ABRAM PROMISED A SON

¹⁵After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying,

departed from him. "Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great."

²But Abram said, "Lord GOD, what will You give me, since I am childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"

³Abram also said, "Since You have given me no son, one who has been born in my house is my heir."

⁴Then behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "This man will not be your heir; but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir."

⁵And He took him outside and said, "Now look toward the heavens and count the stars, if you are able to count them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."

⁶Then he believed in the LORD; and He credited it to him as righteousness.

⁷And He said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess it."

⁸But he said, "Lord GOD, how may I know that I will possess it?"

⁹So He said to him, "Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtle dove, and a young pigeon."

¹⁰Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, and laid each half opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds.

¹¹And birds of prey came down upon the carcasses, and Abram drove them away.

¹²Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, terror and great darkness fell upon him.

¹³Then God said to Abram, "Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, where they will be enslaved and oppressed for four hundred years.

¹⁴But I will also judge the nation whom they will serve, and afterward they will come out with many possessions.

¹⁵As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you will be buried at a good old age.

¹⁶"Then in the fourth generation they will return here, for the wrongdoing of the Amorite is not yet complete."

¹⁷Now it came about, when the sun had set, that it was very dark, and behold, a smoking oven and a flaming torch appeared which passed between these pieces.

¹⁸On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying,

"To your descendants I have given this land, From the river of Egypt as far as the

great river, the river Euphrates:

¹⁹the land of the Kenite, the Kenizzite, the Kadmonite,

²⁰the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Rephaim,
²¹the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Girgashite, and the Jebusite."

SARAI AND HAGAR

16 Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had not borne him a child, but she had an Egyptian slave woman whose name was Hagar.

²So Sarai said to Abram, "See now, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children. Please have relations with my slave woman; perhaps I will obtain children through her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.

³And so after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Abram's wife Sarai took Hagar the Egyptian, her slave woman, and gave her to her husband Abram as his wife.

⁴Then he had relations with Hagar, and she conceived; and when Hagar became aware that she had conceived, her mistress was insignificant in her sight.

⁵So Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done to me be upon you! I put my slave woman into your arms, but when she saw that she had conceived, I was insignificant in her sight. May the LORD judge between you and me."

⁶But Abram said to Sarai, "Look, your slave woman is in your power; do to her what is good in your sight." So Sarai treated her harshly, and she fled from her presence.

⁷Now the angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, by the spring on the way to Shur.

⁸He said, "Hagar, Sarai's slave woman, from where have you come, and where are you going?" And she said, "I am fleeing from the presence of my mistress Sarai."

⁹So the angel of the LORD said to her, "Return to your mistress, and submit to her authority."

¹⁰The angel of the LORD also said to her, "I will greatly multiply your descendants so that they will be too many to count."

¹¹The angel of the LORD said to her further, "Behold, you are pregnant, and you will give birth to a son." ¹²And you shall name him Ishmael, because the LORD has heard your affliction.

¹³But he will be a wild donkey of a man; His hand will be against everyone, and everyone's hand will be against him;

¹⁴And he will live in defiance of all his brothers."

¹³Then she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, "You are a God who sees me"; for she said, "Have I even seen Him here and lived after He saw me?"

¹⁴Therefore the well was called "Beer-lahroi; behold, it is between Kadesh and Bered."

¹⁵So Hagar bore a son to Abram; and Abram named his son, to whom Hagar gave birth, Ishmael.

¹⁶Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to him.

ABRAHAM AND THE COVENANT OF CIRCUMCISION

17 Now when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him,

"I am God Almighty; walk before Me, and be blameless."

²"I will make My covenant between Me and you, and I will multiply you exceedingly."

³Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying,

⁴"As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you will be the father of a multitude of nations."

⁵"No longer shall you be named Abram, but your name shall be Abraham;

for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations."

⁶"I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you."

⁷"I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations as an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you."

⁸"And I will give to you and to your descendants after you the land where you live as a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."

⁹God said further to Abraham, "Now as for you, you shall keep My covenant, you

¹⁰A.e., God hears the well of the living one who sees me ¹¹C.e., exalted father ¹²I.e., father of a multitude

and your descendants after you throughout their generations.

¹⁰"This is My covenant, which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: every male among you shall be circumcised.

¹¹"And you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskin, and it shall be the sign of the covenant between Me and you.

¹²"And every male among you who is eight days old shall be circumcised throughout your generations, *including* a slave who is born in the house or who is bought with money from any foreigner, who is not of your descendants.

¹³"A slave who is born in your house or who is bought with your money shall certainly be circumcised; so My covenant shall be in your flesh as an everlasting covenant.

¹⁴"But as for an uncircumcised male, one who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, that person shall be cut off from his people; he has broken My covenant."

¹⁵Then God said to Abraham, "As for your wife Sarai, you shall not call her by the name ^aSarai, but ^bSarah *shall* be her name.

¹⁶"I will bless her, and indeed I will give you a son by her. Then I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

¹⁷Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said in his heart, "Will a child be born to a man a hundred years old? And will Sarah, who is ninety years old, give birth to a child?"

¹⁸And Abraham said to God, "Oh that Ishmael might live before You!"

¹⁹But God said, "No, but your wife Sarah will bear you a son, and you shall name him ^cIsaac; and I will establish My covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him.

²⁰"As for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, I will bless him, and make him fruitful and multiply him exceedingly. He shall father twelve princes, and I will make him into a great nation."

²¹"But I will establish My covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you at this season next year."

²²When He finished talking with him, God went up from Abraham.

²³Then Abraham took his son Ishmael, and all the slaves who were born in his house and all who were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's

household, and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin on this very same day, as God had said to him.

²⁴Now Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

²⁵And his son Ishmael was thirteen years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

²⁶On this very same day Abraham was circumcised, as well as his son Ishmael.

²⁷And all the men of his household, those who were born in the house or bought with money from a foreigner, were circumcised with him.

BIRTH OF ISAAC PROMISED

18 Now the LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, while he was sitting at the tent door in the heat of the day.

²When he raised his eyes and looked, behold, three men were standing opposite him; and when he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed down to the ground,

³and said, "My Lord, if now I have found favor in Your sight, please do not pass Your servant by.

⁴"Please let a little water be brought and wash ^dyour feet, and make yourselves comfortable under the tree,

⁵and I will bring a piece of bread, so that you may refresh yourselves; after that you may go on, since you have visited your servant." And they said, "So do as you have said."

⁶So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Quickly, prepare three measures of fine flour, knead it, and make bread cakes."

⁷Abraham also ran to the herd, and took a tender and choice calf and gave it to the servant, and he hurried to prepare it.

⁸He took curds and milk and the calf which he had prepared, and set it before them; and he was standing by them under the tree as they ate.

⁹Then they said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent."

¹⁰He said, "I will certainly return to you at this time next year; and behold, your wife Sarah will have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door, which was behind him.

17:15^aI.e., princess ^bI.e., princess (in another dialect)
17:19^cI.e., he laughs ^dI.e., referring to the three visitors

10 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; Sarah was past childbearing.

11 So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have become old, am I to have pleasure, my lord being old also?"

12 But the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I actually give birth to a child, when I am so old?'"

13 Is anything too difficult for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, at this time next year, and Sarah will have a son."

14 Sarah denied it, however, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. And He said, "No, but you did laugh."

15 Then the men rose up from there, and looked down toward Sodom; and Abraham was walking with them to send them off.

16 The LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do,

17 since Abraham will certainly become a great and mighty nation, and in him all the nations of the earth will be blessed?

18 "For I have chosen him, so that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring upon Abraham what He has spoken about him."

19 And the LORD said, "The outcry of Sodom and Gomorrah is indeed great, and their sin is exceedingly grave.

20 "I will go down now and see whether they have done entirely as the outcry, which has come to Me indicates; and if not, I will know."

ABRAHAM APPEALS FOR SODOM

21 Then the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham was still standing before the LORD.

22 Abraham approached and said, "Will You indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?"

23 "Suppose there are fifty righteous people within the city; will You indeed sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous who are in it?"

24 "Far be it from You to do such a thing, to kill the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous and the wicked are treated alike. Far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth deal justly?"

25 So the LORD said, "If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare the entire place on their account."

26 And Abraham replied, "Now behold, I

have ventured to speak to the Lord, although I am only dust and ashes.

27 Suppose the fifty righteous are lacking five, will You destroy the entire city because of five?" And He said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there."

28 And he spoke to Him yet again and said, "Suppose forty are found there?" And He said, "I will not do it on account of the forty."

29 Then he said, "Oh may the Lord not be angry, and I shall speak; suppose thirty are found there?" And He said, "I will not do it if I find thirty there."

30 And he said, "Now behold, I have ventured to speak to the Lord; suppose twenty are found there?" And He said, "I will not destroy it on account of the twenty."

31 Then he said, "Oh may the Lord not be angry, and I shall speak only this once: suppose ten are found there?" And He said, "I will not destroy it on account of the ten."

32 As soon as He had finished speaking to Abraham the LORD departed, and Abraham returned to his place.

THE DOOM OF SODOM

19 Now the two angels came to Sodom in the evening as Lot was sitting at the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he stood up to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground.

20 And he said, "Now behold, my lords, please turn aside into your servant's house, and spend the night, and wash your feet; then you may rise early and go on your way." They said, "No, but we shall spend the night in the public square."

21 Yet he strongly urged them, so they turned aside to him and entered his house; and he prepared a feast for them and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.

22 Before they lay down, the men of the city—the men of Sodom—surrounded the house, both young and old, all the people from every quarter;

23 and they called to Lot and said to him, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may have relations with them."

24 But Lot went out to them at the doorway, and shut the door behind him,

25 and said, "Please, my brothers, do not act wickedly."

26 "Now look, I have two daughters who

^{19:5} Lit know them; i.e., have intercourse

GENESIS 19:9 + 16

have not had relations with any man; please let me bring them out to you, and do to them whatever you like; only do not do anything to these men, because they have come under the shelter of my roof."

⁹ But they said, "Get out of the way!" They also said, "This one came in as a foreigner, and already he is acting like a judge; now we will treat you worse than them!" So they pressed hard against Lot and moved forward to break the door.

¹⁰ But the men reached out their hands and brought Lot into the house with them, and shut the door.

¹¹ Then they struck the men who were at the doorway of the house with blindness, from the small to the great, so that they became weary of trying to find the doorway.

¹² Then the two men said to Lot, "Whom else do you have here? A son-in-law and your sons and daughters, and whomever you have in the city, bring them out of the place;

¹³ for we are about to destroy this place, because their outcry has become so great before the LORD that the LORD has sent us to destroy it."

¹⁴ So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who were to marry his daughters, and said, "Up, get out of this place, for the LORD is destroying the city." But he appeared to his sons-in-law to be joking.

¹⁵ When morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Up, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away in the punishment of the city."

¹⁶ But he hesitated. So the men grasped his hand and the hand of his wife and the hands of his two daughters, because the compassion of the LORD was upon him; and they brought him out and put him outside the city.

¹⁷ When they had brought them outside, one said, "Escape for your life! Do not look behind you, and do not stay anywhere in the surrounding area; escape to the mountains, or you will be swept away."

¹⁸ But Lot said to them, "Oh no, my lords!

¹⁹ Now behold, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have magnified your compassion, which you have shown me by saving my life; but I cannot escape to the mountains, for the disaster will overtake me and I will die;

²⁰ now behold, this town is near enough to flee to, and it is small. Please, let me escape there (is it not small?) so that my life may be saved."

²¹ And he said to him, "Behold, I grant you this request also, not to overthrow the town of which you have spoken."

²² "Hurry, escape there, for I cannot do anything until you arrive there." Therefore the town was named Zoar.

²³ The sun had risen over the earth when Lot came to Zoar.

²⁴ Then the LORD rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah from the LORD out of heaven,

²⁵ and He overthrew those cities, and all the surrounding area, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground.

²⁶ But Lot's wife, from behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

²⁷ Now Abraham got up early in the morning and went to the place where he had stood before the LORD;

²⁸ and he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the surrounding area; and behold, he saw the smoke of the land ascended like the smoke of a furnace.

²⁹ So it came about, when God destroyed the cities of the surrounding area, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the destruction, when He overthrew the cities in which Lot had lived.

LOT AND HIS DAUGHTERS

³⁰ Now Lot went up from Zoar with his two daughters and stayed in the mountains, because he was afraid to stay in Zoar; and he stayed in a cave, he and his two daughters.

³¹ Then the firstborn said to the younger, "Our father is old, and there is not a man on earth to have relations with us according to the custom of all the earth."

³² "Come, let's make our father drink wine, and let's sleep with him so that we may keep our family alive through our father."

³³ So they made their father drink wine that night, and the firstborn went in and slept with her father; and he did not know when she lay down or got up.

³⁴ On the following day, the firstborn said to the younger, "Look, I slept last night with my father; let's make him drink wine tonight too, then you go in and sleep with him, so that we may keep our family alive through our father."

³⁵ So they had their father drink wine that night too, and the younger got up and slept

with him; and he did not know when she lay down or got up.³⁵ And so both of the daughters of Lot conceived by their father.

³⁷ The firstborn gave birth to a son, and named him Moab; he is the father of the Moabites to this day.

³⁸ As for the younger, she also gave birth to a son, and named him Ben-ammi; he is the father of the sons of Ammon to this day.

ABRAHAM'S TREACHERY

20 Now Abraham journeyed from there toward the land of the ^aNegev, and settled between Kadesh and Shur; then he lived for a time in Gerar.

² And Abraham said of his wife Sarah, "She is my sister." So Abimelech king of Gerar sent men and took Sarah.

³ But God came to Abimelech in a dream of the night, and said to him, "Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is married."

⁴ Now Abimelech had not come near her; and he said, "Lord, will You kill a nation, even though blameless?"

⁵ "Did he himself not say to me, 'She is my sister'? And she herself said, 'He is my brother.' In the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands I have done this."

⁶ Then God said to him in the dream, "Yes, I know that in the integrity of your heart you have done this, and I also kept you from sinning against Me; therefore I did not let you touch her."

⁷ "Now then, return the man's wife, for he is a prophet, and he will pray for you and you will live. But if you do not return her, know that you will certainly die, you and all who are yours."

⁸ So Abimelech got up early in the morning and called all his servants, and told all these things in their presence; and the people were greatly frightened.

⁹ Then Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, "What have you done to us? And how have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? You have done to me things that ought not to be done."

¹⁰ And Abimelech said to Abraham, "What have you encountered, that you have done this thing?"

¹¹ Abraham said, "Because I thought, surely there is no fear of God in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife."

¹² "Besides, she actually is my sister, the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife;¹³ and it came about, when God caused me to wander from my father's house, that I said to her, 'This is the kindness which you will show to me: everywhere we go, say of me, "He is my brother."'"

¹⁴ Abimelech then took sheep and oxen and male and female servants, and gave them to Abraham, and returned his wife Sarah to him.

¹⁵ Abimelech said, "Behold, my land is before you; settle wherever you please."

¹⁶ To Sarah he said, "Look, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver. It is your vindication before all who are with you, and before everyone you are cleared."

¹⁷ Then Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech and his wife and his female slaves, so that they gave birth to children.

¹⁸ For the LORD had completely closed all the wombs of the household of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.

ISAAC IS BORN

21 Then the LORD took note of Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had promised.

² So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the appointed time of which God had spoken to him.

³ Abraham named his son who was born to him, the son whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac.

⁴ Then Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him.

⁵ Now Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.

⁶ Sarah said, "God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me."

⁷ And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have given birth to a son in his old age."

⁸ And the child grew and was weaned, and Abraham held a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned.

SARAH TURNS AGAINST HAGAR

⁹ Now Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, mocking Isaac.

¹⁰ Therefore she said to Abraham, "Drive

¹¹ "i now I" bice mard AAS
20:1.e., South country

out this slave woman and her son, for the son of this slave woman shall not be an heir with my son Isaac!"

¹¹The matter distressed Abraham greatly because of his son *Ishmael*.

¹²But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and your slave woman; whatever Sarah tells you, listen to her, for through Isaac your descendants shall be named."

¹³"And of the son of the slave woman I will make a nation also, because he is your descendant."

¹⁴So Abraham got up early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water, and gave them to Hagar, putting them on her shoulder, and gave her the boy, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered about in the wilderness of Beersheba.

¹⁵When the water in the skin was used up, she left the boy under one of the bushes.

¹⁶Then she went and sat down opposite him, about a bowshot away, for she said, "May I not see the boy die!" And she sat opposite him, and raised her voice and wept.

¹⁷God heard the boy crying; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What is the matter with you, Hagar? Do not fear, for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is."

¹⁸"Get up, lift up the boy, and hold him by the hand, for I will make a great nation of him."

¹⁹Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink.

²⁰And God was with the boy, and he grew; and he lived in the wilderness and became an archer.

²¹He lived in the wilderness of Paran, and his mother took a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Covenant with Abimelech

²²Now it came about at that time that Abimelech and Phicol, the commander of his army, spoke to Abraham, saying, "God is with you in all that you do;

²³so now, swear to me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me or with my offspring or with my descendants, but according to the kindness that I have shown to you, you shall show to me and to the land in which you have resided."

²⁴Abraham said, "I swear it."

²⁵But Abraham complained to Abimelech

because of the well of water which the servants of Abimelech had seized.

²⁶And Abimelech said, "I do not know who has done this thing; you did not tell me, nor did I hear of it until today."

²⁷So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and the two of them made a covenant.

²⁸But Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock by themselves.

²⁹Then Abimelech said to Abraham, "What do these seven ewe lambs mean, which you have set by yourselves?"

³⁰He said, "You shall take these seven ewe lambs from my hand so that it may be a witness for me, that I dug this well."

³¹Therefore he called that place Beersheba, because there the two of them took an oath.

³²So they made a covenant at Beersheba; and Abimelech and Phicol, the commander of his army, got up and returned to the land of the Philistines.

³³Abraham planted a tamarisk tree at Beersheba, and there he called on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God.

³⁴And Abraham resided in the land of the Philistines for many days.

THE OFFERING OF ISAAC

22 Now it came about after these things, that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

²Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you."

³So Abraham got up early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and his son Isaac; and he split wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place of which God had told him.

⁴On the third day Abraham raised his eyes and saw the place from a distance.

⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey, and I and the boy will go over there; and we will worship and return to you."

⁶And Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together.

⁷Isaac spoke to his father Abraham and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." And he said, "Look, the fire and the

wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

⁸ Abraham said, "God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

⁹ Then they came to the place of which God had told him; and Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood, and bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.

¹⁰ And Abraham reached out with his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son.

¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!"

And he said, "Here I am."

¹² He said, "Do not reach out your hand against the boy, and do not do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me."

¹³ Then Abraham raised his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram caught in the thicket by its horns; and Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering in the place of his son.

¹⁴ And Abraham named that place The LORD Will Provide, as it is said to this day, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

¹⁵ Then the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven,

¹⁶ and said, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son,

¹⁷ indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand, which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies.

¹⁸ "And in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

¹⁹ So Abraham returned to his young men, and they got up and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham lived in Beersheba.

²⁰ Now it came about after these things, that Abraham was told, saying, "Behold, Milcah also has borne children to your brother Nahor:

²¹ Uz his firstborn, Buz his brother, Kemuel (the father of Aram),

²² Chesed, Hazo, Pildash, Jidlaph, and Bethuel"—

²³ and it was Bethuel who fathered Rebekah. These eight Milcah bore to Nahor, Abraham's brother.

²⁴ His concubine, whose name was Reumah, also gave birth to Tebah, Gaham, Tahash, and Maacah.

DEATH AND BURIAL OF SARAH

23 Now Sarah lived 127 years; these were the years of the life of Sarah.

² Sarah died in Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan; and Abraham came in to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her.

³ Then Abraham arose from mourning before his dead, and spoke to the sons of Heth, saying,

⁴ "I am a stranger and a foreign resident among you; give me a burial site among you so that I may bury my dead out of my sight."

⁵ The sons of Heth answered Abraham, saying to him,

⁶ "Hear us, my lord: you are a mighty prince among us; bury your dead in the choicest of our graves; none of us will refuse you his grave for burying your dead."

⁷ So Abraham stood up and bowed to the people of the land, the sons of Heth.

⁸ And he spoke with them, saying, "If you are willing to let me bury my dead out of my sight, listen to me, and plead with Ephron the son of Zohar for me,

⁹ that he may give me the cave of Machpelah which he owns, which is at the end of his field; for the full price let him give it to me in your presence for a burial site."

¹⁰ Now Ephron was sitting among the sons of Heth; and Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham so that the sons of Heth heard, that is, all who entered the gate of his city, saying,

¹¹ "No, my lord, listen to me; I give you the field, and I give you the cave that is in it. In the presence of the sons of my people I give it to you; bury your dead."

¹² And Abraham bowed before the people of the land.

¹³ But he spoke to Ephron so that the people of the land heard, saying, "If you will only please listen to me; I will give the price of the field, accept it from me so that I may bury my dead there."

¹⁴ Then Ephron answered Abraham, saying to him,

¹⁵ "My lord, listen to me: a plot of land worth four hundred shekels of silver—what is that between me and you? So bury your dead."