

The Son of the Bondwoman – Part 1

Sunday May 15th, 2005

1). Ga 4:22 *For it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman. 23 But he who was of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise, 24 which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar-- 25 for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children-- 26 but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all. 27 For it is written: "Rejoice, O barren, You who do not bear! Break forth and shout, You who are not in labor! For the desolate has many more children Than she who has a husband." 28 Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise. 29 But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, even so it is now. 30 Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman." 31 So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free.*

2). 2000 years on from the garden of Eden God began working with one man, Abram, in respect to His purpose for man's creation and His promise of a redeemer.

a). A number of events leading into Genesis 15 – cf. Abram's meeting with Melchizedek – where God makes him this promise

b). Ge 15:1 ¶ *After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward." 2 ¶ But Abram said, "Lord GOD, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3 Then Abram said, "Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!" 4 And behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir." 5 Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be." 6 And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness. 7 ¶ Then He said to him, "I am the LORD, who brought you*

out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to inherit it." 8 And he said, "Lord GOD, how shall I know that I will inherit it?"

c). We will notice that the promise speaks of an inheritance, an heir and descendants.

d). Simply put God made His promise to a man who was without children and in his 80s with a wife in her 70s and God had promised that Abram's heir would come from his own body.

3). It may not be surprising then that we find the events of Genesis 16

Ge 16:1 ¶ Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. And she had an Egyptian maidservant whose name was Hagar. 2 So Sarai said to Abram, "See now, the LORD has restrained me from bearing children. Please, go in to my maid; perhaps I shall obtain children by her." And Abram heeded the voice of Sarai. 3 Then Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar her maid, the Egyptian, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan.4 ¶ So he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress became despised in her eyes.

a). Abram was 86 when Ishmael was born. And it is without doubt that he loved his son. Remember Ishmael was his firstborn son and as such could look to the firstborn's right of inheritance – go through this.

b). But please note – Ishmael became Abram's firstborn because Abram acted apart from faith. He had an heir, but this was his heir not God's heir. Note the connection with Egypt.

c). The God who made covenant with Abram after the meeting with Melchizideck was more than able to provide the heir Abram needed.

d). Contrast this with the sacrifice of Isaac

e). An encouragement for us in the unfolding of God's faithfulness.

4). Note what God says regarding Ishmael

Ge 16:12 He shall be a wild man; His hand shall be against every man, And every man's hand against him. And he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren."

Ge 17:20 "And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall beget twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation.

5). After the birth of Ishmael the scriptures show 13 years of silence before God again speaks to Abram. And it is on this occasion that He changes his name to Abraham and institutes the covenant of circumcision.

a). Abraham though is still focused on Ishmael

b). Ge 17:15 ¶ *Then God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. 16 "And I will bless her and also give you a son by her; then I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples shall be from her." 17 Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said in his heart, "Shall a child be born to a man who is one hundred years old? And shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?" 18 And Abraham said to God, "Oh, that Ishmael might live before You!" 19 Then God said: "No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him. 20 "And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall beget twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation. 21 "But My covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time next year." 22 Then He finished talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.*

c). Abraham clearly thinks the task is too great for God, hence his drawing attention to Ishmael – but note God’s emphatic response, ‘No’

d). God’s timing

e). Rejecting the first and establishing the second

First Adam/Second Adam – First Ruler, Satan,/Second ruler Christ – First King, Saul, /Second King, David – Our first birth/the birth from above

6). Remember the birth of Ishmael had to do with an inheritance and a land and the birth of Isaac the same.

a). Romans helps us put this in perspective - Ro 4:13 *For the promise that he would be **the heir of the world** was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.*

7). We see then that the context into which these two half brothers are born has to do with dominion over the entire earth in fulfillment of God’s purposes

8). Notice what God says in respect of this - Ge 21:5 *Now Abraham was one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.....* Ge 21:9 ¶ *And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, scoffing. 10 Therefore she said to Abraham, "Cast out this bondwoman and her son; for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, namely with Isaac." 11 And the matter was very displeasing in Abraham's*

sight because of his son. 12 But God said to Abraham, "Do not let it be displeasing in your sight because of the lad or because of your bondwoman. Whatever Sarah has said to you, listen to her voice; for in Isaac your seed shall be called. 13 "Yet I will also make a nation of the son of the bondwoman, because he is your seed." (God couldn't go against what He had already said)

9). It is through Isaac and the lineage of Jacob that we have Israel and it is through Ishmael that we have the Arab nations of the world and both their focus is the land in the middle east that was promised to Abraham and his descendants. Now these Arab nations are predominately Islamic – 7th century ad - Mohammed himself claiming direct descent from Ishmael

The major distortions of God's word by Islam

- a). It is Ishmael not Isaac who is the son of promise
- b). It is to the descendants of Ishmael not Isaac that God deeded the land.
- c). It was Ishmael and not Isaac who Abraham took as a sacrifice to mount Moriah. This then, because of the symbolism would mean the Messiah would have to be an Ishmaelite born of the flesh and not Jesus, a Jew born of the Spirit.
- d). God has put aside both Jews and Christians and is fulfilling His purpose through Moslems.

10). Ps 83:2 *For behold, Your enemies make a tumult; And those who hate You have lifted up their head. 3 They have taken crafty counsel against Your people, And consulted together against Your sheltered ones. 4 They have said, "Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation, That the name of Israel may be remembered no more." 5 For they have consulted together with one consent; They form a confederacy against You: 6 The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites; Moab and the Hagrites; 7 Gebal, Ammon, and Amalek; Philistia with the inhabitants of Tyre; 8 Assyria also has joined with them;*

a). So the purpose of the descendants of Ishmael is the total destruction of their half brother - Psalm 83:4 - Occupation of the land of promise in the name of Allah - the taking of Jerusalem - and expansion to take in the whole world, either by conversion or Jihad. Islam is the fastest growing religion in the world today and extends far beyond the Middle East – just down the road.

11). They are seeking the inheritance thereby having dominion in a counterfeit of what God has purposed

a). But remember what God has said - , *"Cast out this bondwoman and her son; for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, namely with Isaac."*

b). There is only one Biblical character that would stand to gain from the success of the son of the bondwoman and the total destruction of Israel. he who exults himself above God and has sought to counterfeit the purposes of God since the beginning of his own rebellion

c). It is about whose Kingdom will rule this world - the kingdom of Satan or the Kingdom of Christ.

d). Ever since a remnant of the House of Jacob returned to the land in 1948 there has been continual conflict - *29 But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, even so it is now.* - nor will it end until the coming of Christ.

e). Politicians (roadmap) cannot succeed

f). Although the outcome of this conflict is clear and without any doubt, Satan, through Ishmael, will destroy as many Jews as he can to stop them from ever having access to the land.

g). Although that spoken in Psalm 83 will come close to fulfillment we will remember that events in time operate according to God's timetable and at exactly the right time the 'Heir of all things' of the seed of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob will set foot once again upon the Mount of Olives and bring destruction to the enemies of God's people.

h). The nation of Israel, descended from the son of promise, with the Greater Son at their head, will be established in the land covenanted to Abraham at the head of the nations of the world to whom God's blessings will then be able to flow.

i). The matter was settled in Genesis and cannot be any other way - *for in Isaac your seed shall be called.*

12). As we close today let us pray for the peace of Jerusalem.