

Blessing vs. Covenant

Scripture: Genesis 17:18

Genesis 17:18 KJV ¹⁸And Abraham said unto God, **O that Ishmael might live before thee!** ¹⁹And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, *and* with his seed after him. ²⁰**And as for Ishmael,** I have heard thee: **Behold, I have blessed him,** and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. ²¹**But my covenant will I establish with Isaac,** which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year.

Introduction

Ishmael was a product of Sarah's idea of how God intended to fulfill His promise. But it was a deviation from the promise. It was God's intent to fulfill His promise through Sarah, not through Hagar.

I. Ishmael was the child of man's ideas

Galatians 6:30 KJV ³⁰Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: **for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.**

- A.
- B.
- C.

II. Isaac was the child of God's promise

Genesis 22:2a KJV ²And he said, Take now thy son, **thine only son Isaac,** whom thou lovest,

- A.
- B.
- C.

III. Application of this lesson

Romans 8:8 KJV ⁸So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God

- A. God may bless your efforts to help Him
- B. God only recognizes the product of His promise
- C.

Conclusion