



Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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You will remember the promise was as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the sea shore.

2- Sarai to Sarah:

As part of this new start that would come with the promised son. We also have Sarai name changed as well to Sarah. Sarai means, "my lady; my princess" while Sarah means, "lady; princess; princess of the multitude." Notice **Genesis 17:15-18** *And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be. 16 And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her. 17 Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear? 18 And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee!*

3- Isaac Will Be the Son of Promise

As part of this renaming of Abraham and Sarah we also find that the name of the son that would be born to them would be Isaac. We will see the meaning of his name in a moment. **Genesis 17:19** *And 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.*

The covenant with Abraham is now clearly understood that it would be a son born to him by Sarah. Names have been changed to reflect the promise.

II- Sign of the Covenant:

Another new element of the covenant that is given to Abraham now is the sign of the covenant.

1- Sign Established:

Genesis 17:9-14 *And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations. 10 This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised. 11 And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you. 12 And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed. 13 He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant. 14 And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.*



Coordinates:
Genesis 17:1-19; 18:1-15

Sights to See:

- 1- As was typically the custom of the day with name changes that marked significant new directions in life, God changes Abram to Abraham.
- 2- The new name was more fitting for the promise. Father of the multitudes.
- 3- God's plan sometimes takes time to be fleshed out in the lives of men.
- 4- Just as those already under the covenant were circumcised, we that come under the covenant of grace by faith, should be baptized. Not for salvation but because of it.
- 5- God knows the heart that trust Him. He knows what is in all our hearts even before we do.
- 6- When God does something He does it right. Abraham was dead as far as being able to produce offspring but God allowed not only Isaac but the other six children to be born.
- 7- With God nothing is impossible.



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Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth. 7 And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetcht a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it. 8 And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat. 9 And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent. 10 And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him. 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. 12 Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also? 13 And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old? 14 Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son. 15 Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; for she was afraid. And he said, Nay; but thou didst laugh.

The men that can to see Abraham and Sarah were two angels and the Lord Jesus pre-incarnate in the appearance of a man. They kill the calf, bring the food and after they have eaten they ask where Sarah his wife was. She was in the tent listening from the tent door. When, as verse 13 says, “*the Lord*” asks why Sarah laughed Sarah out of fear denied she had. Most feel there was a great difference between the laughter of Abraham and Sarah. Abraham laughed for joy, Sarah with doubt.

John Gill said, “Not for joy of a son, and as pleased with it, believing so it would be; but as disbelieving it, and perhaps deriding it, and confuting it with a laugh, which, though it did not appear in her countenance, was secretly in her heart.”

She did not voice her doubt, perhaps cultivated by the long delay in the promise being fulfilled, but her inner voice spoke. She felt she was too old to have a child.

Now, did you notice that when the Lord asked where Sarah was it was not because He did not know. He knew now what was in her heart and mind, certainly he knew she was in the tent. The critical thing we need to see here is that God sees all things. He knows our hearts.

We also see that nothing is impossible with God. Barren wombs, long past time to bear children, no problem with God. Nothing is impossible with God. Abraham, past his prime was no problem for God. In fact Abraham would have an additional family of children after the death of Sarah. ***Genesis 25:1-2 Then again Abraham took a wife, and her name was Keturah. 2 And she bare him Zimran, and Jokshan, and Medan, and Midian, and Ishbak, and Shuah.*** With God nothing is impossible. Of special note here is that there were at least two sons in this group of which sprung nations. The promise however still did not pass through them, just as it did not through Ishmael, but through Isaac. No group has a claim of the promise of God except this lineage.