

Abram Gave Birth to Ishmael and the Arabs: Impatient Faith — the Terrible Wrong of Impatience Genesis 16:01–16

1. *Sara was childless and became impatient: The causes of impatience*

- a. An unfulfilled desire:
Sara craved a child
- b. A mistaken thought:
That God had kept Sara barren
— that God's promise
did not include her
- c. A worldly, carnal suggestion:
That Abram marry Sara's maid,
Hagar, and bear children

2. *Sara gave her maid to Abram: The terrible consequences of impatience*

- a. A wrong plan and method
- b. The collapse of faith
and patience
- c. Sinful behaviour:
By Abram, Sara and Hagar
 - 1) Immorality, adultery
and polygamy
 - 2) Spite, malice, insolence, scorn,
reproach, a haughty spirit
 - 3) Jealousy and blaming others
 - 4) Disturbed and severed
relationships

- 1 Now Sarai, Abram's wife,
had borne him no children.
But she had an Egyptian slave named Hagar;
- 2 so she said to Abram,
"The LORD has kept me from having children.
Go, sleep with my slave;
perhaps I can build a family through her."
Abram agreed to what Sarai said.
- 3 So after Abram had been living in Canaan
ten years, Sarai his wife
took her Egyptian slave Hagar
and gave her to her husband
to be his wife.
- 4 He slept with Hagar, and she conceived.
When she knew she was pregnant,
she began to despise her mistress.
- 5 Then Sarai said to Abram,
"You are responsible for the wrong
I am suffering.
I put my slave in your arms,
and now that she knows she is pregnant,
she despises me.
May the LORD judge between you and me."
- 6 "Your slave is in your hands," Abram said.
"Do with her whatever you think best."
Then Sarai mistreated Hagar;
so she fled from her.

<p>3. <i>The LORD saved the maid, Hagar:</i> <i>The solution or answer</i></p> <p>a. A confrontation with God</p> <p>b. Receiving the promises of God</p> <p>1) A special heritage: An innumerable seed</p> <p>2) A special assurance: God will always hear and meet the need of the distressed</p> <p>3) A son with a special nature: Independent, head-strong, self-willed, violently aggressive and at odds with others</p> <p>c. Worshipping and praising God: El Roi, “the God who sees me”</p> <p>d. Obeying God</p> <p>1) Hagar obeyed and returned</p> <p>2) Abram obeyed: Named the son Ishmael, as God had instructed</p>	<p>7 The angel of the LORD found Hagar near a spring in the desert; it was the spring that is beside the road to Shur.</p> <p>8 And he said, “Hagar, slave of Sarai, where have you come from, and where are you going?” “I’m running away from my mistress Sarai,” she answered.</p> <p>9 Then the angel of the LORD told her, “Go back to your mistress and submit to her.”</p> <p>10 The angel added, “I will increase your descendants so much that they will be too numerous to count.”</p> <p>11 The angel of the LORD also said to her: “You are now pregnant and you will give birth to a son. You shall name him Ishmael, for the LORD has heard of your misery.</p> <p>12 He will be a wild donkey of a man; his hand will be against everyone and everyone’s hand against him, and he will live in hostility toward all his brothers.”</p> <p>13 She gave this name to the LORD who spoke to her: “You are the God who sees me,” for she said, “I have now seen the One who sees me.”</p> <p>14 That is why the well was called Beer Lahai Roi; it is still there, between Kadesh and Bered.</p> <p>15 So Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram gave the name Ishmael to the son she had borne.</p> <p>16 Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore him Ishmael.</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------