



## “God’s Grace in the School of Faith”

10/27/24 Text: Genesis 21:1-21

### I. God’s grace in providing a son (vs. 1-7)

A. God fulfilled His promises (Gen. 17:1-6, 15-21; 18:1-15).

Genesis 21:1-2 - *And the Lord visited Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had spoken. <sup>2</sup> For Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.*

B. Abraham obeyed God (Gen. 17:9-14, 19)

Genesis 21:3-4 - *And Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him—whom Sarah bore to him—Isaac. <sup>4</sup> Then Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him.*

C. Sarah praised God’s miracle (Gen. 17:17; 18:12)

Genesis 21:5-7 - *Now Abraham was one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. <sup>6</sup> And Sarah said, “God has made me laugh, and all who hear will laugh with me.” <sup>7</sup> She also said, “Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? For I have borne him a son in his old age.”*

### II. God’s grace in preserving Ishmael’s family (vs. 8-21)

A. Ishmael “scoffed” at Isaac, vs. 8-9

B. Hagar and Ishmael are cast out of Abraham’s house, vs. 10-14

C. God provides for Hagar and Ishmael, vs. 15-21

### III. God’s grace through Christ (Galatians 4:21—5:1)

A. Summary of Galatians: many of the Galatian believers who came to belief in Christ during Paul’s first missionary journey bought into the false teaching that Gentile believers must submit to all the Jewish law before they can become Christians.

B. Paul uses the historical event of Isaac’s birth to bring about a deeper theological meaning.

C. Those seeking salvation by keeping the Jewish law are compared to the “son of the bondwoman.”

D. Those seeking salvation in Christ alone are “children of promise.”

Galatians 5:1 - *Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.*

### Next Week’s Sermon Text: Genesis 21:22-34

**If you were to share a key insight from today’s sermon with a friend, what would you say in a sentence or two?**

**Application Questions:** How was God faithful to His promises to Abraham regarding the birth of Isaac? How did Sarah praise the LORD at Isaac’s birth? What did Ishmael reveal about his heart when he “scoffed” at Isaac? Why was it necessary to cast out Hagar and Ishmael? How did God show His grace to Hagar and Ishmael in the wilderness? Why is it impossible for us to find salvation in the Jewish law? Describe the liberty found in Christ. How does the liberty found in Christ demonstrate God’s grace?

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