



A Princess to All the World

Genesis 11:27-21:27

Promised Land

A woman with long, dark, wavy hair is shown from the chest up. She is wearing a brown, textured top. Her gaze is directed upwards and to the right, with a thoughtful or hopeful expression. The background is a dark, textured, purple-blue color.

- God told Abram and Sarai to move to a land that He would show them.
- This land, Canaan, as it was called, was to become what we know as the “Promised Land.”
- Month after month, year after year, Sarai knew that there would be no multitude of offspring.
- Abram did not divorce Sarai as he believed the promise God made with him.
- When drought and famine struck the land, they chose to move to Egypt, where the Nile river basin promised infinite abundance.

Egypt

- Egypt had a promiscuous Pharaoh who would stop at nothing to have access to a beautiful woman.
- Abram asked Sarai to give herself to the Pharaoh so he would not have to be killed on her behalf.
- Sarai may have feared that Abram would divorce her if she did not follow his wishes.
- God punished Pharaoh and his whole household with a plague because he had taken another man's wife.
- Pharaoh kicked Abram and Sarai out of Egypt, and they returned to Canaan.

Hagar

- God appears to Abram again and tells him that his own flesh and blood will be more numerous than the stars.
- Sarai decides it's time to take matters into her own hands and offers her slave, Hagar, to Abram.
- Hagar becomes pregnant and Sarai becomes jealous.
- The name Sarai means "argumentative."
- Sarai takes matters into her own hands and mistreats Hagar who flees.

Princess

- The Bible instructs us that we should “wait in hope for the Lord.”
- God comes again and tells Abram, who is now 99 years old, that he will be the father of many nations.
- God changes Sarai’s name to Sarah which means “princess.”
- Sarah’s influence would extend far past the boundaries of Canaan, she was to become a “princess” to all the world.
- God tells Abraham that in a year’s time, Sarah will bear a son.
- One year later, Sarah gave birth to a son Isaac; the name means laughter.

Conclusion

- After decades of disappointment, Sarah ultimately received what she desired most, a son.
- Isaac was truly a gift from God, a reminder that God is never really “through” with us.
- If God could do this impossible thing for Sarah at the age of ninety, what will he do for us?
- Through all the disappointments of this life, we can always give thanks to God for HOPE.
- Genesis 18:14a, *“Is anything too hard for the LORD?...”*