

## ***“The Gospel in Galatians”***

### **Lesson #10 The Two Covenants**

Gal. 4:21–31; Gen. 1:28; 2:2, 3; 3:15; 15:1–6; Exod. 6:2–8; 19:3–6.

**Galatians 4:26** (NKJV) *but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all.*

#### **Covenant Basics**

The Hebrew word translated as “covenant” is berit. It occurs nearly three hundred times in the Old Testament and refers to a binding contract, agreement, or treaty between at least two parties. .

**Genesis 1:28** (NKJV) *Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”*

**Genesis 9:1–2** (NKJV) *So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. <sup>2</sup> And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the earth, on every bird of the air, on all that move on the earth, and on all the fish of the sea. They are given into your hand.*

**2 Samuel 7:12–16** (NKJV) *“When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. <sup>13</sup> He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ... <sup>16</sup> And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever.” ‘ ‘*

**Deuteronomy 4:13** *And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, even ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone.*

**Exodus 19:8** *And all the people answered together, and said, All that the LORD hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD.*

**\*Exodus 24:7** *And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the LORD hath said will we do, and be obedient.*

**Jeremiah 31:31–34** (NKJV) *“Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—<sup>32</sup> not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the Lord. <sup>33</sup> But this is the covenant that I will*

*make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. <sup>34</sup> No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”*

**Ezekiel 36:26–28** (NKJV) <sup>26</sup> *I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup> I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them. <sup>28</sup> Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.*

**Galatians 4:21–23** *Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law? (22) For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman. (23) But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise.*

**\*Hebrews 8:6** *But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.*

**Galatians 4:24–25** *Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar. <sup>25</sup> For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children.*

Hagar, the bond maid, bringing forth children in a state of slavery, answereth to Jerusalem that now is, bears a similitude to her present state of subjection; Not only in bondage to the Romans, but also to the empty ceremonial laws.

#### **The Abrahamic Covenant**

**Genesis 12:1–3** (NKJV) *Now the Lord had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, From your family And from your father’s house, To a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”*

**Abraham was wondering how God would fulfill His promise.**

**Genesis 15:2–4** (NKJV) *But Abram said, “Lord God, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup> Then Abram said, “Look, You have given me no*

offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!" And behold, the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir."

**Genesis 17:19–20** Then God said: "No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him. And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall beget twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation.

### Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar

**Genesis 12:15–16** (NKJV) The princes of Pharaoh also saw her and commended her to Pharaoh. And the woman was taken to Pharaoh's house. <sup>16</sup> He treated Abram well for her sake. He had sheep, oxen, male donkeys, male and female servants, female donkeys, and camels.

**Genesis 16:1–4** (NKJV) Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. And she had an Egyptian maidservant whose name was Hagar. <sup>2</sup> So Sarai said to Abram, "See now, the Lord has restrained me from bearing children. Please, go in to my maid; perhaps I shall obtain children by her." And Abram heeded the voice of Sarai. <sup>3</sup> Then Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar her maid, the Egyptian, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan. <sup>4</sup> So he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress became despised in her eyes.

Hagar an Egyptian slave likely came into Abram's possession as one of the many gifts Pharaoh gave to him in exchange for Sarai, an event associated with Abram's first act of unbelief in God's promise.

Ishmael was born as a result of unbelief.

**"Was born after the flesh"** - Ishmael was born according to the course of nature, his parents being both of a proper age, so that there was nothing uncommon or supernatural in his birth:

Hagar's is directly related to Abram's failure to believe God's promise.

### Spirit And Flesh

**Matthew 26:41** "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

**1 Corinthians 3:1** And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.

**Romans 7:14** For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

**\*Romans 8:1-2** There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. (2) For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

**Romans 8:4-6** That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. (5) For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. (6) For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

**Deuteronomy 10:16** Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked.

"The secret of true obedience is the clear and close personal relationship to God. All our attempts after full obedience will be failures until we get access to his abiding fellowship. It is God's holy presence consciously abiding with us that keeps us from disobeying Him. I must consciously include the Lord in every thought, activity, and conversation until the habit is established." --- Andrew Murray

### Hagar and Mount Sinai

**Gal 4:26** But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.

**Colossians 3:1–2** (ESV) If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

**\*Hebrews 12:22** (NKJV) But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels,

**Gal 4:27** For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband.

Hannah and Peninnah, Rachel and Leah. Solomons two mothers.

**1 Samuel 2:5** (NKJV) Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, And the hungry have ceased to hunger. Even the barren has borne seven, And she who has many children has become feeble.

**Exodus 2:6–8** (NKJV) And when she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby wept. So she had compassion on him, and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children." Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call a nurse for you from the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for you?" And Pharaoh's

daughter said to her, "Go." So the maiden went and called the child's mother.

**Exodus 19:3–6** (NKJV) *And Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel: <sup>4</sup> 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself. <sup>5</sup> Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. <sup>6</sup> And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel."*

**Deuteronomy 32:10–12** (NKJV) *"He found him in a desert land And in the wasteland, a howling wilderness; He encircled him, He instructed him, He kept him as the apple of His eye. As an eagle stirs up its nest, Hovers over its young, Spreading out its wings, taking them up, Carrying them on its wings, <sup>2</sup> So the Lord alone led him, And there was no foreign god with him.*

### **Ishmael and Isaac Today**

**Galatians 4:28–31** (NKJV) *Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise. <sup>29</sup> But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, even so it is now. Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman." So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman but of the free.*

**Genesis 21:8–10** (NKJV) <sup>8</sup> *So the child grew and was weaned. And Abraham made a great feast on the same day that Isaac was weaned. <sup>9</sup> And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, scoffing. <sup>10</sup> Therefore she said to Abraham, "Cast out this bondwoman and her son; for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, namely with Isaac."*

**Genesis 21:12–13** (NKJV) *But God said to Abraham, "Do not let it be displeasing in your sight because of the lad or because of your bondwoman. Whatever Sarah has said to you, listen to her voice; for in Isaac your seed shall be called. <sup>13</sup> Yet I will also make a nation of the son of the bondwoman, because he is your seed."*