

Sarah [Sarai] Wife Of Abraham [Abram]

Sarah, meaning princess, was the principal wife of Abraham and also his half-sister on his father Terah's side of the family [Genesis 20:12].

Sarah went with Abraham from Ur of the Chaldees, through Harran, to the land of Canaan, [Genesis 12:1-5].

Famine caused Abraham to move to Egypt [Genesis 12:10] and as Abraham feared that Sarah's outstanding beauty might endanger his life, Sarah posed as his sister, [Genesis 12:11-13].

Pharaoh was attracted to Sarah and took her into his harem, then suspected the truth, and Sarah and Abraham were sent away, [Genesis 12:14-20].

Sarah posed as Abraham's sister on a second occasion, at the court of Abimelech, King of Gerar, in accordance to her husband Abraham's instructions, [Genesis 20:1-13], a policy agreed to by Sarah.

This incident further increased wealth, for gifts were given to Abraham as compensation, [Genesis 20:14].

Sarah's barrenness was a continual reproach to her, and her response was the same as was a common practice at that time.

Any married woman who could not have children often gave a female servant to her husband in order to produce heirs. The children born to the servant women were considered the children of the wife, [Genesis 16:1-3].

Abraham acted along with this custom and his wife's request, this showed a lack of faith in what God had promised, [Genesis 15:18-20], a land for his descendants to inherit.

There is probably nothing harder than waiting, and one way Sarah coped was to begin helping God fulfil what He had promised.

She was too old to expect to have a child of her own, so she thought God must have something else in mind. From her limited viewpoint this could only be to give Abraham a son through another woman.

The plan seemed harmless enough, in the light of common practice of her day, and it worked well to start with but very soon Sarah wished she had been more patient.

Abraham slept with Sarah's servant Hagar and she conceived, as a result the relationship between Sarah and Abraham deteriorated very rapidly, [Genesis 16:4-6].

Sarah's treatment of Hagar caused her to flee from her mistress, but God had not forgotten Hagar in many ways the innocent party, [Genesis 16:7-16].

Hagar empowered by God's promise to her returned to the father of her child, Abraham.

Thirteen years later God appeared to Abraham and confirmed the covenant He had made with him and Sarah his wife, [Genesis 17:1-27].

God visited Abraham and Sarah again, [Genesis 18:1-2].

As was the custom, Abraham offered the visitors refreshments, [Genesis 18:3-8].

This visit was specifically for Sarah, [**Genesis 18:9-12**] and her response was a natural human one which in her shame she lied about, [**Genesis 18:13-15**].

What we learn from these responses of Sarah is that God is personally interested in our lives and there is nothing too hard for Him to do to respond to our needs, physically and spiritually.

Sarah's faith in the Creator God was greatly strengthened by these events in her life, so much as to be listed among those who are examples of faith, [**Hebrews 11:11**].

On the birth of her son Isaac, Sarah's reproach was removed.

Yet Sarah was incensed by Ishmael's derision at the feast to celebrate Isaac's weaning, that she insisted that Ishmael and his mother Hagar be cast out of the family circle and its inheritance, [**Genesis 21:8-11**].

Abraham was **not** happy to do this, yet God promised that Ishmael will be father of a great nation because he was Abraham's son, [**Genesis 21:12-14**].

Sarah died at the age of 127 years at Kiriath-Arba that is Hebron and was buried in a cave of Machpelah which Abraham bought in the land of the Hittites, [**Genesis 23:1-9**].

Sarah is mentioned along with Abraham in Isaiah 51:2, as trusting in God.

Sarah is also named as an example of a wife's proper regard for her husband, [1 Peter 3:6].