

# Genesis 21

## 2 kinds of laughter



Now the **LORD** was gracious to Sarah as he had said,  
and the LORD did for Sarah what he had promised.

Genesis 21:1

**PROMISE** *made*

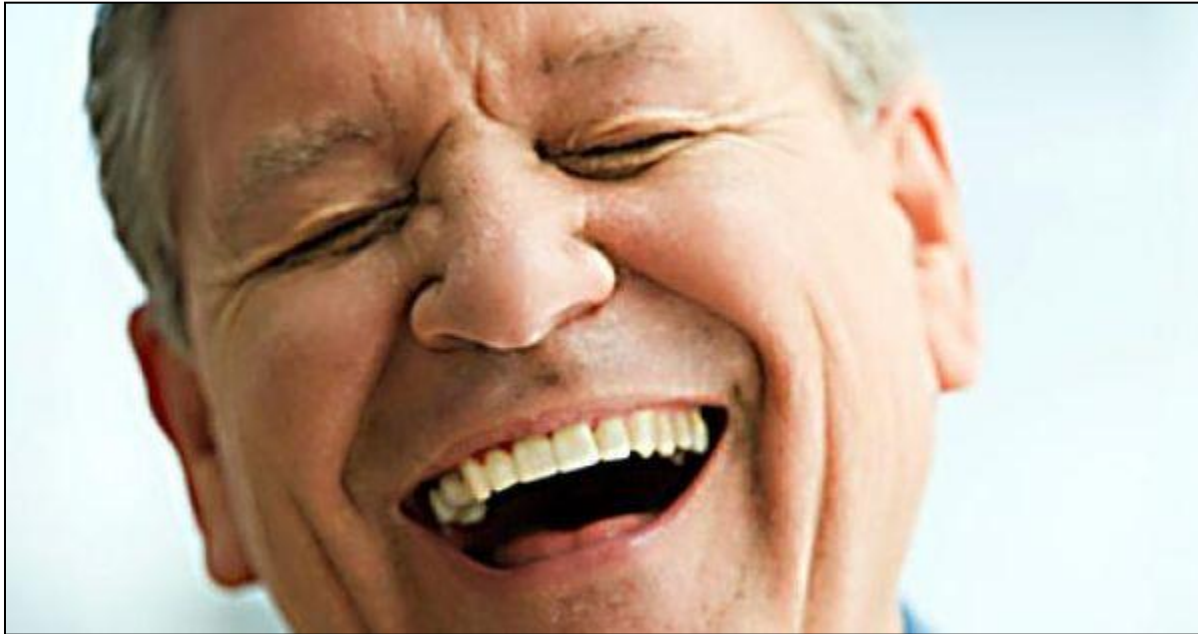
**PROMISE** *kept*

Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised him. Genesis 21:2



Abraham gave the name Isaac to the son Sarah bore him.

Genesis 21: 3

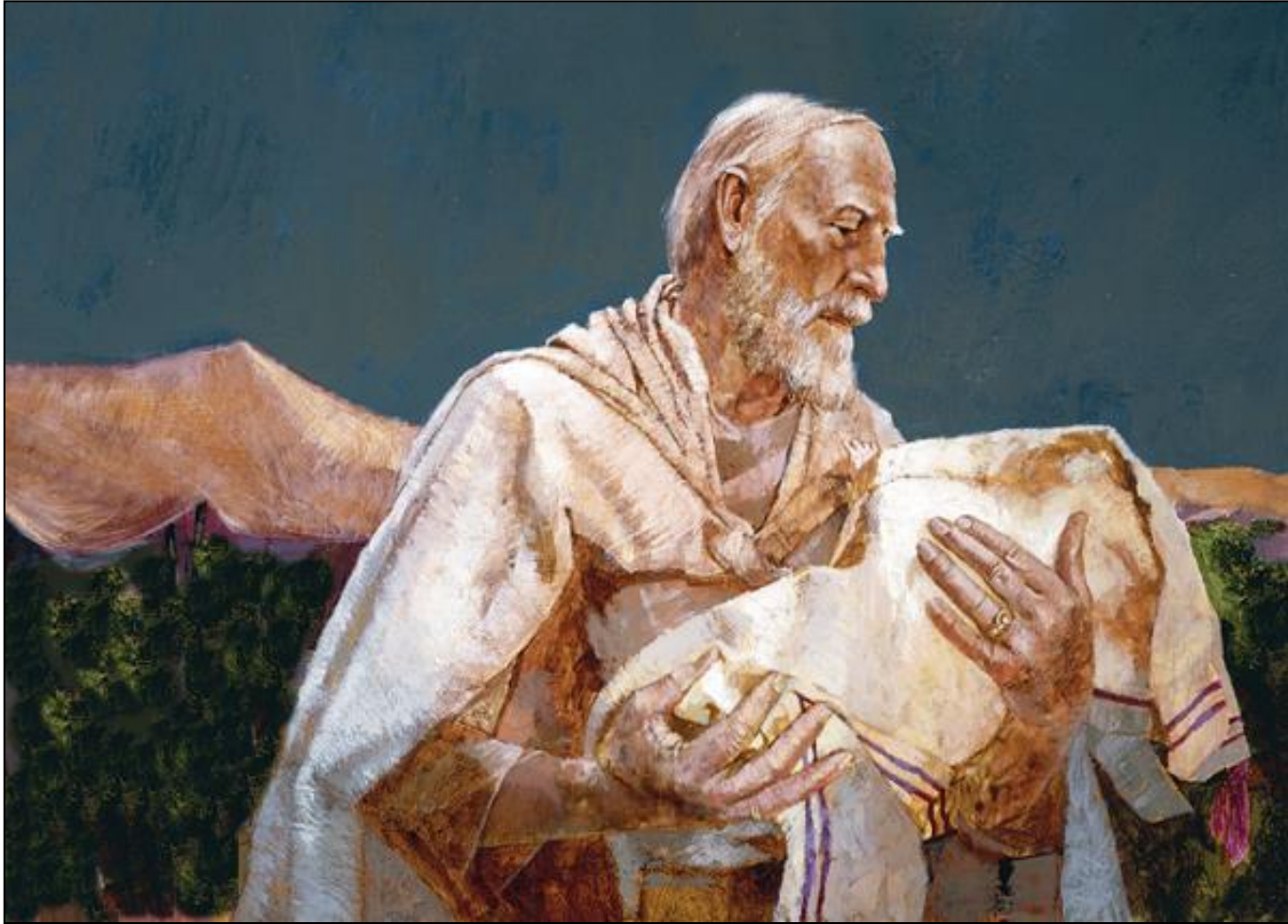


“He laughs”

**Isaac**

When his son Isaac was eight days old, Abraham circumcised him, as God commanded him.

Genesis 21:4



Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.

Genesis 21:5



What a wonderful surprise !

And she added, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."  
Genesis 21:7



It's supernatural !

Sarah said, "God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me." Genesis 21:6



They will laugh **with** me !



The child grew and was weaned, and on the day Isaac was weaned Abraham held a great feast. Genesis 21:8



**Something to celebrate**

But **Sarah saw** that the son whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham was mocking,      Genesis 21:9



**What did he do, and why did he do it ?**

and she said to Abraham, "Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that woman's son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac."  
Genesis 21:10



**What do you think to her actions ?**

The matter distressed Abraham greatly because it concerned his son.

Genesis 21:11



**Family problems !  
What might have been ?**

But God said to him, "Do not be so distressed about the boy and your slave woman. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned."

Genesis 21:12



**In spite of  
what is happening  
God is at work.**

**What is he doing?**

" I will make the son of the slave into a nation also, because he is your offspring. "

Genesis 21:13



“because he is your offspring”

Blessed for Abraham’s sake

**Early the next morning** Abraham took some food and a skin of water and gave them to Hagar. He set them on her shoulders and then sent her off with the boy. Genesis 21:14



## **Disinherited**

**Why such a limited quantity ?**

**At the age of about 17,  
what would be  
the affect on Ishmael ?**

She went on her way and wandered in the Desert of Beersheba.

Genesis 21:14





When the water in the skin was gone, she put the boy under one of the bushes. Then she went off and sat down about a bowshot away, for she thought, "I cannot watch the boy die."

Genesis 21:15-16



Heat-stroke and dehydration can be a killer.

And as she sat there, she began to sob.  
God heard the boy crying,          Genesis 21:17



What a mess again !

and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; **God has heard** the boy crying as he lies there.

Genesis 21:17



God intervenes in mercy

Lift the boy up and take him by the hand,  
for I will make him into a great nation."

Genesis 21:18



It's a promise – there is a future hope

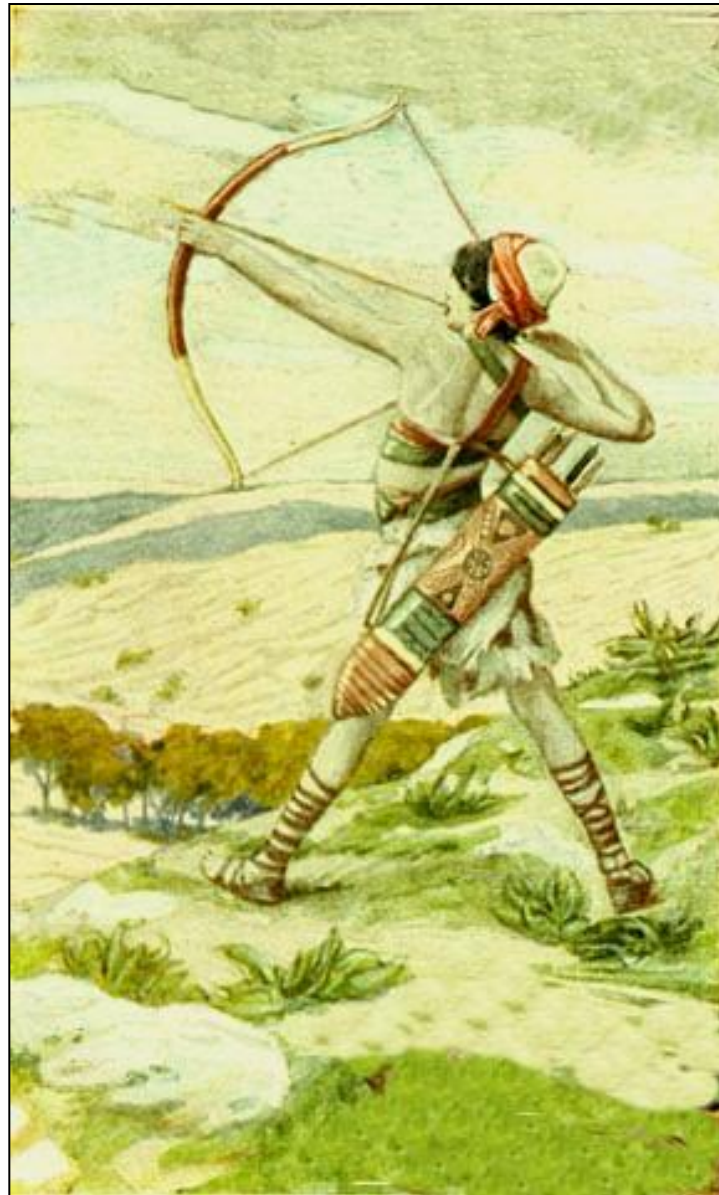
Then **God opened her eyes** and she saw a well of water.  
So she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a  
drink. Genesis 21:19



**What can you see ?**

God was with the boy as he grew up. He lived in the desert and became an archer.

Genesis 21:20



While he was living in the Desert of Paran,  
his mother got a wife for him from **Egypt**.

Genesis 21:21





For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman and the other by the free woman. His son by the slave woman was born according to the flesh, but his son by the free woman was born as the result of a divine promise.

Galatians 4:21-23



These things may be taken figuratively:  
The women represent two covenants.  
Galatians 4:24

**Hagar**



**The Old Covenant**

**Sarah**



**The New Covenant**

One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves: This is Hagar. Now Hagar stands for Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present city of Jerusalem, because she is in slavery with her children.

Galatians 4:24-25



But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is our mother.

Galatians 4:26



Now you, brothers and sisters, like Isaac, are children of promise. At that time the son born according to the flesh persecuted the son born by the power of the Spirit. **It is the same now.** But what does Scripture say? "Get rid of the slave woman and her son, for the slave woman's son will never share in the inheritance with the free woman's son." Therefore, brothers and sisters, we are not children of the slave woman, but of the free woman.

Galatians 4:28 -31





Born

*free* 

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5:1