

HAGAR IN THE WILDERNESS

Genesis 16 and 21:8-21

Though some horrible things happened to her, we'll see what God teaches Hagar and us "in the wilderness."

I. HAGAR IN THE WILDERNESS OF SHUR

- Genesis 16

A. THE RUCKUS (1-6)

1. Bad decisions (1-3)
2. Bothersome disrespect (4-6a)
 - a. Hagar: Despising Sarai
 - b. Sarai: Disgruntled with Abraham
 - c. Abram: Dismissing his responsibility
3. Brutal discord (6b) > Sarai's harshness and Hagar's rebellion

B. THE REVELATION (7-12)

1. Intervention (7-9)
 - a. Questions (7-8)
 - b. Correction (9)
2. Predictions (10-12)
 - a. You will be a matriarch (10)
 - b. You will have a son (11)
 - c. Your son will be unruly (12)
3. Instruction (11b) > Name your son Ishmael
 - a. The reason: Because the Lord has given heed to your affliction
 - b. The reality: God hears ...!
 - Abram and Sarai's plot (1-3)
 - Hagar's disrespect (4)
 - The couple's argument (5-6)
 - Sarai's harshness (6b)
 - That Hagar has no particular plans (8)
 - c. The record: Every time she called his name, Hagar would be reminded that God hears!

C. THE RESPONSE (13-16)

1. Amazement (13-14)
 - a. Calling God the One who sees! (13)
 - 1) He sees where she was (7)
 - 2) He sees her rebellion and unsubmitiveness (9)
 - 3) He sees her future (10)
 - 4) He sees her unborn son (11)
 - b. Establishing a lasting testimony (14)

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2. Obedience (15-16)
 - a. Returning home
 - b. Having and naming a son

D. SUMMARY: In the wilderness is where God taught Hagar that He hears and sees.

II. HAGAR IN THE WILDERNESS OF BEERSHEBA

- Genesis 21:8-21

A. BANISHED (8-13)

1. Ishmael's Mischief (8-9)
2. Sarah's Madness (10)
3. Abraham's Misgivings (11)
4. God's Message (12-13)

B. BURDENED (14-16)

1. Dismissed (14a)
2. Disoriented (14b)
3. Desperate (15-16)
 - No water (15a), strength (15b) or hope (16)

C. BLESSED (17-21)

1. God's Question (17a)
 - a. What is the matter with you Hagar?
 - b. Where is your faith?
2. God's Command (17b)
 - Fear not!
3. God's Care (17c-21)
 - a. Wonderfully (17-18)
 - 1) God still hears! (17c)
 - 2) God still sees (18)
 - b. Incredibly (19-21)
 - 1) God rescues (19)
 - 2) God guides (20-21)

D. SUMMARY: In the wilderness is where God reassured Hagar that He hears and sees and also revealed that He rescues and guides

CONCLUSION:

Hagar learned about God's perception and provisions in the wilderness
Might we do the same when God meets us there also.