

## 16:1-2

Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had born him no children. And she had an Egyptian maidservant whose name was Hagar. 2 So Sarai said to Abram, "See now, the LORD has restrained me from bearing children. Please, go in to my maid; This wasn't foreign to Abram or Sarai. Their dad had more than one woman in his life (chapter 11)...unless, of course, all but one of his wives was dead.

perhaps I shall obtain children by her." And Abram heeded the voice of Sarai. If this were God's idea, this was completely acceptable in that culture. This was still a sin if a sin is "falling short of God's glory" (Romans 3:23). Abram presumably knew God's design from his forefathers (Genesis 2). This is only 5<sup>th</sup> hand information to Abram. Abram did, though, capitulate to his wife...just like Adam.

To be fair, Abram did have to sever the animals and keep the birds off of them in the unilateral covenant of chapter 15...so maybe he felt like this was a worthy step to "help God" as well?

<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 <sup>h</sup>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 <sup>i</sup>despised in her <sup>2</sup>eyes.

<sup>5</sup> Then Sarai said to Abram, <sup>3</sup>"My wrong *be* upon you! I gave my maid into your embrace; Perhaps she thought she was doing Abram a favor to give him a son. It wasn't working out well with Sarai.

and when she saw that she had conceived, I became despised in her eyes. <sup>j</sup>The LORD judge between you and me."

<sup>6</sup> <sup>k</sup>So Abram said to Sarai, "Indeed your maid *is* in your hand; do to her as you please." And when Sarai dealt harshly with her, <sup>l</sup>she fled from her presence.

**7 Now the** Some people take this to mean there is only one when in the context we could say "Let's take the car" to our kids when we would never be thought to be saying "there is only one car in the whole world." Rather, it seems best to see that this is **the Angel of the LORD** particular to this episode.

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<sup>h</sup> Gen. 12:4, 5

<sup>i</sup> 1 Sam. 1:6, 7; [Prov. 30:21, 23]

<sup>2</sup> sight

<sup>3</sup> The wrong done to me be

<sup>j</sup> Gen. 31:53; Ex. 5:21

<sup>k</sup> 1 Pet. 3:7

<sup>l</sup> Gen. 16:9; Ex. 2:15

This is not Jesus all the time. Matthew 1 would find Jesus both in the womb of Mary and announcing His own birth to Joseph...at the same time. There are times when **the Angel of the LORD** is contextually a pre-incarnate appearance of Christ, but we need not always assume that it is so (Psalm 34:7, for example).

Verse 13 does seem that Hagar believes this is the **LORD**, and it could be that she is correct. She may have been simply making reference to His involvement through this **Angel**.

**found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, <sup>n</sup>by the spring on the way to <sup>o</sup>Shur. <sup>8</sup> And He said, “Hagar, Sarai’s maid, where have you come from, and where are you going?”**

**She said, “I am fleeing from the presence of my mistress Sarai.”**

**<sup>9</sup>The Angel of the LORD said to her, “Return to your mistress, and <sup>p</sup>submit yourself under her hand.” <sup>10</sup>Then the Angel of the LORD said to her, <sup>q</sup>“I will multiply your descendants exceedingly, so that they shall not be counted for multitude.” <sup>11</sup>And the Angel of the LORD said to her:**

**“Behold, you *are* with child,**

**<sup>r</sup>And you shall bear a son.** An Egyptian girl gets the first birth announcement from Heaven in the whole Bible! Jesus and John the Baptist, neither one, were the first [or Samson (Judges 13)].

**You shall call his name <sup>4</sup>Ishmael,** This means “God hears.” We will soon find out that He sees as well.

**Because the LORD has heard your affliction.**

**<sup>12</sup> <sup>s</sup>He shall be a wild man;**

**His hand *shall be* against every man,**

**And every man’s hand against him.**

**<sup>t</sup>And he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.”**

**<sup>13</sup>Then she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, You-Are-<sup>5</sup>the-God-Who-Sees;** Hagar believes she has been communicating with the **LORD**, then. Exodus 6:1-3 tells us that at this time they did not know God’s Name at this time. This is why people named Him after what He did. This is why it is ridiculous to say things like “we worship Him for Who He is; not what He does.” We know nothing of Him besides a revelation of His mighty acts.

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<sup>n</sup> Gen. 20:1; 25:18

<sup>o</sup> Ex. 15:22

<sup>p</sup> [Titus 2:9]

<sup>q</sup> Gen. 17:20

<sup>r</sup> Luke 1:13, 31

<sup>4</sup> Lit. *God Hears*

<sup>5</sup> Gen. 21:20; Job 24:5; 39:5–8

<sup>t</sup> Gen. 25:18

<sup>5</sup> Heb. *El Roi*