



## “Spiritual Logic”

The Scriptural Effect on Human Reasoning  
Genesis 16:1-6

*How I think affects my view concerning:*

### I. Contentment - “Abram hearkened to...Sarai” (vs. 1-2)

*What I think of :*

A. **Stubbornness** – “the Lord hath restrained me”

B. **Sway** – “I pray thee, go”

C. **Selfishness** – “that I may obtain”

### II. Customs – “took Hagar her maid” (vs. 3-4)

*What I think of contemporary:*

A. **Perspectives** – “after ...ten years in the land”

B. **Practices** - “gave to her husband”  
*Abortion, Divorce, Teenage birth-control, Prom, Clubbing,*

C. **Passions** - “was despised in her eyes”

### III. Conscience - “My wrong” (vs. 5-6)

*What I think of my :*

A. **Responsibility** – “my wrong be upon thee”

B. **Responsiveness** – “as it pleaseth thee”

C. **Restraint** – “Sarai dealt hardly with her”

## Sentence Sermon:

*“The Renewing of our Minds will Transform our Lives.”*

## Additional Verses

- *Romans 4:17-22*
- *Matthew 16:16-17, 22-23*
- *Genesis 15:1, 7-8; 17:15-18*
- *Exodus 4:13*
- *Acts 7:23-25*
- *Hebrews 3:12; 6:12; 11:17-18*
- *I Timothy 5:8*
- *Mark 1:10-12*
- *I Peter 1:6-8*

## Questions to Ponder:

- 1. Who takes center stage as chapter 16 opens?
- 2. Why might God put this event in the Bible?
- 3. What was at the root of Sarai’s problem?
- 4. Did God ever tell Sarai that she would specifically be a part of the promise?
- 5. Do you think it is significant that God begins this story with “Now Sarai Abram’s wife?” Why or why not?
- 6. What are a few reasons why the phrase “ten years in the land of Canaan” is included?
- 7. What words could be used to describe Abram throughout this story?
- 8. What are some of the dynamics that may have moved Hagar to despise Sarai after conception?
- 9. Was it wrong for Sarai to deal hardly with Hagar? Why or why not?
- 10. What are some life principles that can be gleaned for people of faith?

## INTRO:

### Include:

Impatience can lead to compounding harm. Notice the progression in this passage - impatience, immorality, adultery, [polygamy](#), scorn, jealousy, contempt, blame, selfishness, spite - the FRUIT OF IMPATIENCE AND INDIFFERENCE and lack of self-control.

#### v. 1.

- Now Sarai = Up to now she has been fairly quiet and cooperative....but now...
- Abram's wife = does God really recognize husband and wife relationships ?? Does it matter to Him?? YES !!
- Bare him no children = FACT but not the complete truth...why, because she has been promised by Almighty God in a clear Word of Revelation. SO, not YET !
- And she had an handmaid = sometimes our blessings, wealth, and possessions get in the way of our dependence upon God and His Word...we can circumvent God's will.
- An Egyptian = where does one get an Egyptian??? Why were you there in the first place?
- Whose name was Hagar = "flight"

#### V. 2

- And Sarai said to Abram = Woman to Man communication...clearly not a literal interaction...Abram forgot to hear what was really being said.
- Behold, now = this is how I feel about our predicament
- The Lord has restrained me = Stopped me from doing what I thought the plan was.
- From bearing = closed my womb
- I pray thee, go into my maid = Give up on the idea of my giving you a son and do the only thing left to do.
- It may be that I obtain children = The only way to get the job done is to have her do it.
- And Abram harkened to the voice of Sarai = does this indicate "Happy Wife, Happy Life" I THINK NOT !

#### V. 3

- And Sarai, Abram's wife = YES, this is his wife, no matter what custom or conventional wisdom says.
- Took Hagar her maid...10 yrs after = Hagar was settled in with her new family but now her home was going to be jumbled up.
- To be his wife = Can Sarai give Hagar to be Abram's wife??? YES and NO ...Yes in the custom of the day...but NO according to GOD.

#### V. 4

- After ...her mistress was despised in her eyes = Hagar was empowered by news of the conception. Sarai was then viewed as the third wheel.

#### V. 5

- My wrong be upon thee = Sarai blamed Abram....plenty of grief to pass around. The anti-Eve.
- I have given...unto thy bosom...she conceived...I was despised....the Lord judge. = She was clear on the facts but not so good at taking responsibility.

#### V. 6

- Behold thy maid is in thy hand = you have a free will...do what you wish.
- As it pleaseth thee = whatever makes you happy...you have the power over her
- Sarah dealt hardly with her = “Annaw” = same word found 15:13 “afflict”= “brow beat or demean”

1. *Giving a tenth when nine tenths is not enough.*
2. *Spending time in prayer when you don't have time already.*
3. *Paying your taxes when you know your government is blowing it.*
4. *Spending Sunday at church when you have a business to run....see “Chik Fila”*
5. *Taking a 1 million dollar a day loss because you do not want to pay for abortions of innocent unborn babies....see “Hobby Lobby”*
6. *Having devotions before meetings when there is too much business to deal with.*
7. *Believing the Bible when it says the way up the ladder is to go down...see if you want to be great in God's kingdom, be the servant of all.*
8. *Repay evil with good.*
9. *Love your enemies*
10. *Honor your father and mother*
11. *Don't provoke your children to wrath*
12. *Be content with food and clothing I Tim 6:8 but do not focus on that. Matthew 6:33*

### **Spiritual Logic :**