

Genesis 18

18:1-3

Then the LORD appeared to him by the terebinth trees of Mamre, 13:18 has Abraham living here since he was in his late 70's. Here we are more than 20 years later. 14:13 has one of Abraham's neighbors from here showing up to let Abraham know of some trouble taking place in Lot's life. 15:16, with 14:13, speaking of this place as the habitation of the Amorites, speaks of a day when the Amorites will be wiped out of the entirety of this same land. This is, furthermore (chapter 13), where Abraham built an altar and the LORD met with him there.¹ It was a special place, then, and it became habit to be around where God had first met him.

as he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day. 2 So he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men verse 22 seems to say one of these **men** was the LORD of verse 1. Furthermore, 19:1 identifies the two **men** who were not the LORD as "angels." So, Jehovah and two angels were called **men**.

were standing by him; and when he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground, 3 and said, "My Lord, if I have now found favor in Your sight, do not pass on by Your servant. One gets the idea here that Abraham is moving a tad too urgently to assume these were just human passersby. For one thing, how did they get through the, no doubt, surrounding camp?

18:9-12

Then they said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" So he said, "Here, in the tent." 10 And He said, Here is probably where Abraham became aware that he was talking to God. The "they" of verse 9 became **He** alone in verse 9. Some versions put "the LORD" instead of **He**, but the problem is that this is not a translation. One will not find "the LORD" in the original text. **"I will certainly return to you according to the time of life,** Some have said this is an Hebraic expression for "next spring." **and behold, Sarah your wife shall have a son."** (Sarah was listening in the tent door which was behind him.) **11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, well advanced in age; and Sarah had passed the age of childbearing.** Hebrew euphemism for "past menopause".

12 Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, in 17:17, Abraham laughed. This was either directly given to Moses by the Holy Spirit or Sarah later relayed this to somebody. **saying, "After I have grown old,** the NET Bible says "worn out." **shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?"** past the age of sex and resulting child bearing.

18:13-14

And the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I surely bear a child, since I am old?' 14 Is anything too hard for the LORD? The context requires a sort of finish to this sentence in our understanding: "is anything too hard for Jehovah Who promised it?" **At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son."**Romans 4:17 and following speaks of God breathing life into both Abraham and into Sarah's womb. We spoke in the previous chapter that this was the case back in Genesis 15, but we have two who are dying bringing life and Paul intimates that it was through faith.

¹Genesis 4 and Hebrews 11:4 seem to say the testimony that "God met with someone" was the fire He sent to devour their sacrifice.