

Genesis 16

Hagar is evidence that Africa played a key role in the redemption narrative. Hagar was an Egyptian woman.

Verses 1 – 4...After many years of Abram and Sarai not being able to have a child, they mutually agree to Plan B which was for Abram to have sex with Hagar in order to get her pregnant. Maybe they thought as we do today, God helps those who help themselves. Or, if you take one step, God will make two.

Verse 4... Hagar conceived. Hagar became the surrogate mother. Surrogacy is an arrangement often supported by legal agreement, whereby a woman agrees to bear a child for another person or persons, who will become the child's parent after birth. It is believe that surrogacy was popular during those days.

Verse 8... "Where have you come from and where are you going?" This is the question the angel of the LORD asked Hagar. What a great question!

Verse 11... **Ishmael** name means God hears. Psalm 34:4, 6, 15, 17.

Chapter 17

Verse 5...God changed Abram name (high father) to Abraham (father of a multitude).

Covenant means mutual compact to do or not to do something, a contract. It is believe by some biblical scholars that the term to "cut a contract" came from the ancient practice of cutting animals in halves when two people established a covenant each other as God and Abram did in Genesis 15.

Circumcision is the act of cutting the foreskin of a boy or a man. Circumcision was connected to the covenant God made with Abraham and the Hebrews.

Verse 15...God changed Sarai name (princess) to Sarah (My princess).