



Sarah

Genesis 21 : 1 - 7
Hebrews 11 : 11 - 12

Pentecost Methodist Church
12 November 2017

Sarah

- ▶ Only woman to have named changed by God as recorded in the Bible, from Sarai to Sarah.
- ▶ Only woman to have her age recorded in the Bible (127 years).
- ▶ One of 2 women “heroes of faith” in Hebrews 11.



*#1 Faith fills the gap between
our reality and God's promise(s)*

*“The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and **all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.**”*

–Genesis 12 : 1 - 3

*“The Lord said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, “Look around from where you are, to the north and south, to the east and west. All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever. **I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth**, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted.”*”

–Genesis 13 : 14 - 16

*But Abram said, “Sovereign Lord, **what can you give me since I remain childless** and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.” Then the word of the Lord came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but **a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.**” He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.””*

—Genesis 15 : 1 - 5

*“Now the Lord was gracious to Sarah as he had said, and **the Lord did for Sarah what he had promised.** Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised him.”*

–Genesis 21 : 1 - 2

*“And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because **she considered him faithful who had made the promise.** And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.”*

–Hebrews 11 : 11 - 12

*#2 Faith is about journeying with
God, not arriving at a destination*

*“Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe. As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, “I know what a beautiful woman you are. When the Egyptians see you, they will say, ‘This is his wife.’ Then they will kill me but will let you live. **Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you.**”*

—Genesis 12 : 10 - 13

*“Now Sarai, Abram’s wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian slave named Hagar; so she said to Abram, “The Lord has kept me from having children. **Go, sleep with my slave; perhaps I can build a family through her.**”*

–Genesis 16 : 1 - 2a

*“God also said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. **I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her.** I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her.”*

–Genesis 17 : 15 - 16

*“Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and **Sarah will have a son.**”*

–Genesis 18 : 13 - 14

*“Now Abraham moved on from there into the region of the Negev and lived between Kadesh and Shur. For a while he stayed in Gerar, and there **Abraham said of his wife Sarah, “She is my sister.”** Then Abimelek king of Gerar sent for Sarah and took her.”*

–Genesis 20 : 1 - 2

*“Now the Lord was gracious to Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah what he had promised. **Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised him.** Abraham gave the name Isaac to the son Sarah bore him.”*

–Genesis 21 : 1 - 3

*“Now the Lord was gracious to Sarah as he had
The child grew and was weaned, and on the day
Isaac was weaned Abraham held a great feast.*

*But Sarah saw that the son whom Hagar the
Egyptian had borne to Abraham was mocking,
and she said to Abraham, **“Get rid of that slave
woman and her son, for that woman’s son
will never share in the inheritance with my
son Isaac.”***

–Genesis 21 : 8 - 10

*“The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said, “I swear by myself, declares the Lord, **that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”**”*

–Genesis 22 : 15 - 18

#3 Faith is future-oriented, not anchored in the present/past

*“Now faith is confidence in **what we hope for** and assurance about **what we do not see**. This is what the ancients were commended for.”*

–Hebrews 11 : 1 - 2

*“These were all commended for their faith, yet **none of them received what had been promised**, since **God had planned something better** for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.”*

–Hebrews 11 : 39 - 40

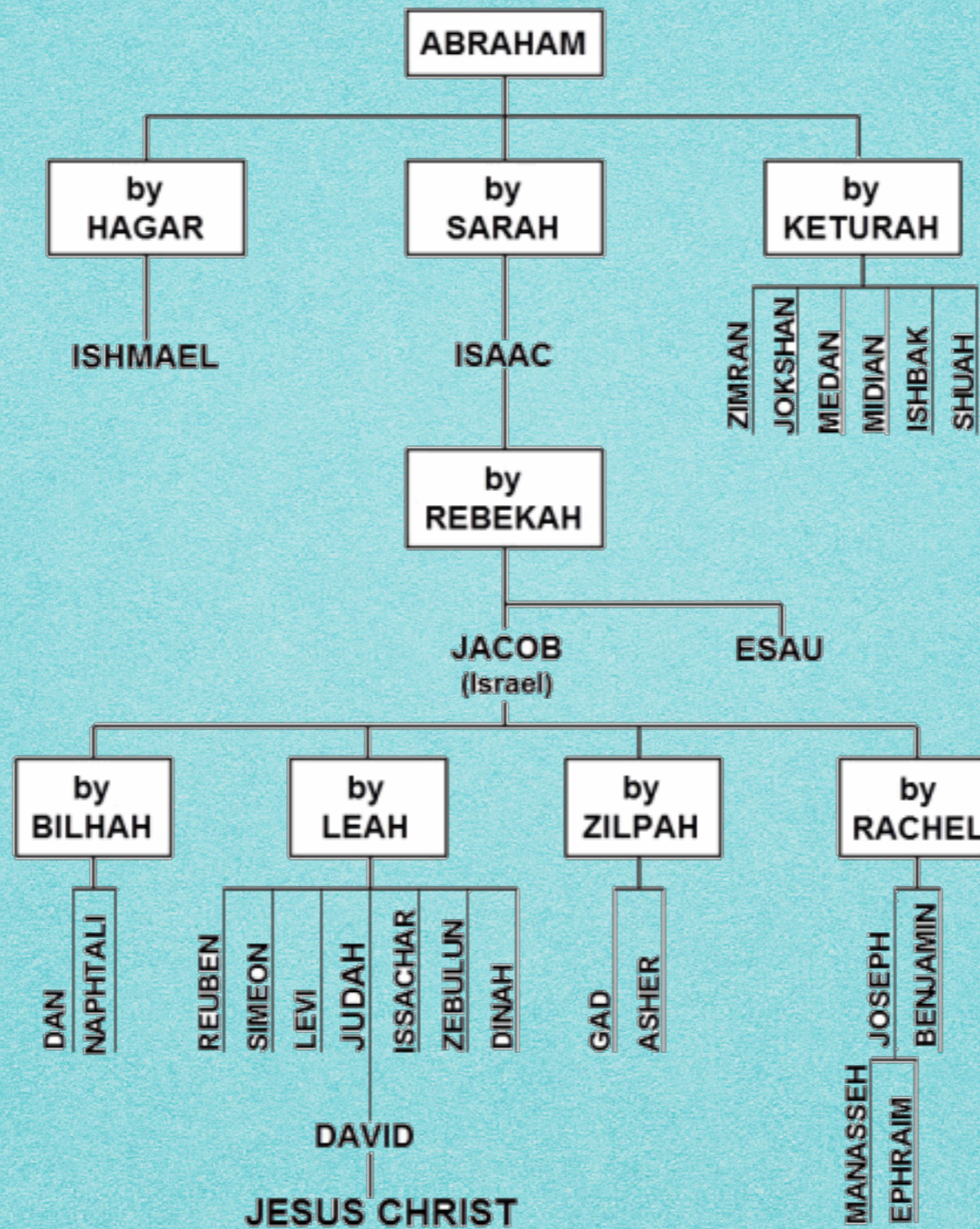
*“When his son Isaac was eight days old, Abraham circumcised him, as God commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Sarah said, “God has brought me laughter, **and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me.**” And she added, “Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.”*


–Genesis 21 : 4 - 7

*“For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman and the other by the free woman. His son by the slave woman was born according to the flesh, but **his son by the free woman was born as the result of a divine promise.** These things are being taken figuratively: The women represent two covenants. One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves: This is Hagar. Now Hagar stands for Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present city of Jerusalem, because she is in slavery with her children. **But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is our mother.**”*

–Galatians 4 : 22 - 26

Lineage from Abraham to Jesus





To trust God in the light is nothing,
but trust him in the dark—

that is faith.

C. H. SPURGEON