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So Hagar Bore Abram a Son and Abram Named Him Ishmael 16: 15-16

So Hagar bore Abram a son and Abram named him Ishmael DIG: What does this chapter tell you about ADONAI? About human nature? What lessons could Sarai, Abram and Hagar have learned from this experience?

REFLECT: What has been your experience when you have had to "help" the LORD discover His plan for your life?

So Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram gave the name Ishmael to the son she had born (16:15). After this experience, **Hagar** did return to Hebron, to **Abram** and **Sarai**, no doubt telling them about her experience with **ADONAI**. Without question there was a time of repentance and thanksgiving on the part of all three of them, and they apparently resolved to live together as amicably as they could with **the LORD's** help. When **the child** was born, **Abram**, in obedience to the revelation received by **Hagar**, named him **Ishmael** and raised **him** as **his son**. For the next thirteen years **Abram**, Sarai, **Hagar** and, as **he** grew up, **Ishmael**, all believed **he** was the **son** of promise. It was only some fourteen years later that **God** appeared to **Abram** and told him **Ishmael** was the **son** of the flesh, and not the **son** of promise **(15:5)**.

Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore him Ishmael (16:16). Moses notes important dates in the life of **Abram** under the direction of **the Holy**

Spirit. This date will be important to identify the difference in the ages of **Abram's** two sons.

As far as the Scriptures go, the next thirteen years would pass by in silence. It would have been easy to forget **the LORD's** promise to **Abram**. **He** prospered financially, **Ishmael** grew into manhood and the Land was at peace. **Abram** had apparently given up all hope that **he** and **Sarai** would have **a son** of their own. One can only imagine how difficult those years were for **Sarai**. Had **God** forgotten **her** suffering? However, **ADONAI** had not forgotten. And in the fullness of time, **He** would bring **Sarai a son**.[277]