

Waiting

Pragmatism

Gen. 16:1 ¶ Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. She had a **female Egyptian servant** whose name was Hagar.

Gen. 16:2 And Sarai said to Abram, "Behold now, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children. **Go in to my servant; it may be** that I shall obtain children by her." And Abram **listened to the voice of Sarai.**

go in to servant

- Gen 30:3-12 (the sin is not about adultery...)

it may be

- Gen 12:11-16 (...but unbelief)

listened to his wife

- Gen 3:17 (pragmatism is unbelief)

- Jn 18:12-14, 28-31; 19:31

(pragmatism caused rebekeh to deceive Isaac, it caused the deaths at Ai, it caused Israel to not drive out the nations in the promised land, it caused Israel saul, david and virtually every king to disobey the Lord - pragmatism also killed Christ)

Is not pragmatic

Gen. 16:3 So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife.

Gen. 16:4 And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, **she looked with contempt on her mistress.**

Gen. 16:5 And Sarai said to Abram, "**May the wrong done to me be on you!** I gave my servant to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. **May the LORD judge between you and me!**"

Gen. 16:6 But Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your servant is in your power; do to her as you please." **Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her.**

contempt

proverbs 30:21-23 (pragmatism is not pragmatic)

Prov 16:25 (results in death)

Rom 8:5-8 (pragmatism is unbelief)

Harshly

deut 26:5-7 (ironic like Egyptians here-

Gal 4:21-31 (way of slavery)

Patient obedience is

Gen. 16:7 ¶ The angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur (wall-Egyptian border).

Gen. 16:8 And he said, "Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am fleeing from my mistress Sarai."

Gen. 16:9 The angel of the LORD said to her, "**Return to your mistress and submit to her.**"

Gen. 16:10 The angel of the LORD also said to her, "**I will** surely multiply your offspring so that they cannot be numbered for multitude."

Gen. 16:11 And the angel of the LORD said to her, "Behold, you are pregnant and **shall** bear a son.

You **shall** call his name Ishmael (God hears), because the LORD has listened to your affliction.

Gen. 16:12 He **shall** be a wild donkey of a man, his hand against everyone and everyone's hand against him, and he **shall** dwell over against all his kinsmen."

Gen. 16:13 ¶ So **she called the name of the LORD** who spoke to her, "**You are a God of seeing,**" for she said, "Truly here I have seen him who looks after me."

Gen. 16:14 Therefore **the well** was called **Beer-lahai-roi** (belonging to the seeing one); it lies between Kadesh and Bered.

Gen. 16:15 ¶ And Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael.

Gen. 16:16 Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.

shall

- 2 Pet 3:8-15 (pragmatism is unbelief)

- Gen 40:12-41:1, 9-14 (patience is pragmatic

- His timing perfect - waiting works)

- Gal 5:1-24- (obedience is pragmatic

- His way is right - obeying works)

she called the name

- Jn 4:1-29 (grace is pragmatic)

(Rebekah is proposed to at a well; Rachel meets her husband Jacob at a well; Zipporah meets her husband Moses at a well; Hagar meets her true husband at a well (beer-lahai-roi belonging to the seeing one)

- Lk 1:28-38, 46-56 (His sight is what matters - trusting works)

Waiting

intro

pragmatism (results = truth) is killing the church (sunday morning - me church)

Problem:

Heb 10:32-35

Our biggest threat is not persecution but pragmatism

2 Cor 4:1-3

pragmatism is why preaching is so weak

why evangelism is so gimmicky

why discipleship is so programmatic

pragmatism is why prayer is so difficult

why church is so avoided

why bible reading is so neglected

why fellowship is so rejected

pragmatism is what makes divorce seem attractive

its makes pornography seem harmless

and abortion seem respectable

Psalms 73

and the worst danger of pragmatism is its seeming success

beware - pragmatic success is God's judgment not His blessing

a successful church built on pragmatism is a curse not a blessing

a popular faith built on compromise is curse not a blessing

Main Idea:

Pragmatism

is not pragmatic

patient obedience is

Implication:

patience is pragmatic - His timing is perfect - waiting works -

obedience is pragmatic - His way is right - obeying works

grace is pragmatic - His sight is what matters - trusting works

Application:

Luke 1:28-38, 46-56 one more lesson one more parallel

pragmatism is about what we see

grace is about what He sees

see the One who sees you -we see sorrow sin and shame- He sees the reason He came

(when love sees you)

<https://christcenteredchristianity.com/other-writings/pragmatism-and-the-truth/>

<https://www.challies.com/articles/challenges-to-the-church-pragmatism/>

<https://www.9marks.org/article/long-term-consequences-of-pragmatism-in-the-church/>

<https://www.9marks.org/article/pragmatism-pragmatism-everywhere/>