



SERMON NOTES

April 14, 2013

Scripture: Genesis 16:1-6 (NAS)

Topic: "Family Problems in the House of Faith"

Rev. Bruce Gardner

- 1 Now Sarai, Abram's wife had borne him no children, and she had an Egyptian maid whose name was Hagar.
- 2 So Sarai said to Abram, "Now behold, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children. Please go in to my maid; perhaps I will obtain children through her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.
- 3 After Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Abram's wife Sarai took Hagar the Egyptian, her maid, and gave her to her husband Abram as his wife.
- 4 He went in to Hagar, and she conceived; and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her sight.
- 5 And Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done me be upon you. I gave my maid into your arms, but when she saw that she had conceived, I was despised in her sight. May the LORD judge between you and me."
- 6 But Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your maid is in your power; do to her what is good in your sight." So Sarai treated her harshly, and she fled from her presence.

I. THE CHRISTIAN HOME

- A. It May Be The Source Of Great Blessing
- B. It Also May Be Fraught With Problems *Proverbs 25:24*
- C. The Pressures Of Society Push/Intrude

II. THE PRESSURE ON ABRAM AND SARAI

- A. Pressure To Have A Child
- B. Particularly A Son
- C. Abram's Name

III. SARAI'S PROPOSAL

- A. Culturally Approved
- B. A Means To Elevate Her Disgrace
- C. It Would Fulfill A Healthy Desire

D. God Had Even Promised A Child

IV. PROBLEMS WITH THIS APPROACH

- A. God Was Not Consulted
- B. Abram Relinquished His Leadership
- C. It Was An Unbiblical Means To The Desired End

V. BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES EVIDENCED HERE

- A. We Are Not To Give Way To Expedience Using Sinful Methods
- B. God's Stand Must Supersede Cultural Standards
- C. God Has Called The Man To Be A Leader In His Home