

THE HEALING OF SARAH

27/6/20

Sarah was Abraham's wife and was born on a timeline halfway between Adam and Christ. She had been incapable of having children and was 90 years before God healed her. She still had to wait 25 years after being specifically told she would be healed. To make matters more challenging, not only was she barren, but she also entered menopause... two major impossibilities at a natural level. Like all of us, she had to address the needs of the here and now, but at the same time was facing two seemingly impossible promises. This is how her story unfolds and how her ongoing faith gave them one of the most amazing testimonies in history.

Abraham and Sarah were given great promises, like no other people on earth. GEN 12:2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: *When these promises were made, she was totally incapable of being a mother of one, let alone the mother of millions.*

The word 'heal, healed, healing' is not recorded in the bible up to this point.

Ten years after this promise, she makes an error of judgment. GEN 16:1 Now Sarai Abram's wife bare him no children: and she had an handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar. **2** And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the Lord hath restrained me from bearing: I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her. And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai. **3** And Sarai Abram's wife took Hagar her maid the Egyptian, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife. **4** And he went in unto Hagar, and she conceived: and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes. *Hagar felt empowered and placed herself above God's plan for Sarah. As Sarah discovered; when we look through natural eyes, we can make poor choices that hinder real blessings.*

God changed Abram's 'high father' name to 'Abraham,' 'father of a multitude' and his wife's name from 'Sarai,' 'princess', to 'Sarah', 'mother of nations' (Gen 17)

The Lord appears in the form of three men. GEN 18:9 And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent. **10** And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him. **11** Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. **12** Therefore **Sarah laughed within herself**, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also? **13** And the Lord said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old? **14** **Is any thing too hard for the Lord?** At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son. **15** Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; **for she was afraid.** And he said, **Nay; but thou didst laugh.** *Like us, she was pressured by the reality of natural life, yet yearning for the unseen promises yet to be fulfilled. The battle between doubt, fear and faith is normal.*

Not surprisingly, her healing is interrupted with a distraction or two. Abraham was invited to negotiate with God over the future of Sodom and Gomorrah where his nephew Lot lived with his family. **GEN 18:19** For I know him (Abraham), that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; Sarah conformed to Abrahams spiritual calling, Lot's wife had other priorities... she lost her life. Genesis 20 also reveals that King Abimelech tried to take Sarah as his wife. However, Abimelech respected God... **GEN 20:17** So Abraham prayed unto God: and God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maidservants; and they bare children. *With everything restored it was now Sarah's turn.*

Sarah was one of the most beautiful 'old' women in the world, both Pharaoh and king Abimelech were smitten by her beauty, but she needed more than adoration.

The third time God returns and the promise is completed. GEN 21:1 And the Lord visited Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did unto Sarah as he had spoken. **2** For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. **3** And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bare to him, **Isaac** ('Laughter' ... ironically because Sarah doubted and laughed).

Sarah's faithful healing made our physical birth possible... Abraham's faith made our Spiritual rebirth possible.

Her story as recorded by God. HEB 11:11 Through **faith** also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, **because she judged him faithful** who had promised.

His story as recorded by God. ROM 4:19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: **20** He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; **21** And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. **22** And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness. *Our duty as faithful saints, is to provide the conclusion to the story of Sarah and Abraham.*

**Sarah lived another 37 years after Isaac was born and died (at 127) shortly before his marriage to Rebekah. God had promised them to become a great and prosperous nation (known today as the British commonwealth and the USA). Despite her physical and emotional shortcomings, God healed her and blessed her according to his promises. We can also get the promised results if we remain faithful and patient as she did. She could not possibly imagine the magnitude of God's promises that we see around us in the world today. She is the matriarch of our generation... the grandest of grandmothers and a faithful and fully blessed servant of God.*