

## Cherished Bible Stories

### Lesson 7



## The Story Of A Promised Son (Genesis 15-18, 21)

### Introduction

There may be no greater deterrent to faith than the passage of time. The believer in God must realize He has His own "schedule" (2 Pet. 3:8), and His promises do not diminish because time goes by. God always acts "in the fulness of time" (Gal. 4:4).

This story of a promised son to a childless couple helps us realize the certainty of the God who promises (Heb. 6:13-14, 17-19). It reminds us of the blessings we will enjoy if we'll wait for Him, and it warns us of certain heartaches if we devise our own "solutions" because we think His promises have been delayed.

*Read the story and be prepared to answer the following questions.*

- 1) What had God already promised Abram? (12:2) What appears to be Abram's thoughts about that "promise?" (15:2-3) What did God say in response? (15:4)
- 2) What was His "reassurance?" (15:5) How did Abram respond? (15:6) *Research:* look for all the times the phrase from 15:6 is used re: Abraham. What is the lesson to be learned?
- 3) What was Sarai's thinking about God's promise? (16:1-2a; cp. 11:30) How much time had already gone by since the promise? (16:3a) What was the first thing Abram did wrong in this situation? (16:2b; cp. 3:17)
- 4) How did Sarai's "solution" work out? (16:3b-5) What did Abram do about how things worked out? (16:6) What did God do for Hagar? (16:7-12)

