

Pastor Ron Case
7/24/16

“Hagar’s Keeper”

“Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand..” (Psalm 121:4-5)

The Hand You’re Dealt

Genesis 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 [Hagar] fled from her.”

Fright & Flight

Genesis 16:7-8 – (7) “The angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. (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.’”

Fruitfulness through Affliction

Genesis 16:9-12 – (9) “The angel of the LORD said to her, ‘Return to your mistress and submit to her.’ (10) The angel of the LORD also said to her, ‘I will surely multiply your offspring so that they cannot be numbered for multitude.’ (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, because the LORD has listened to your affliction. (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.’”

God is My Keeper

Genesis 16:13-15 – (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.’ (14) Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; it lies between Kadesh and Bered. (15) And Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael.”

God is with Me & Keeps Me in Every Season of Life
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Questions to Ponder:

(1) If God kept Hagar and Israel, how much more will he keep his children? (Jude 24-25)

(2) Am I having trouble “submitting to Sarai” i.e., acknowledging God in my present season? (Prov. 3:5-6; Col. 3:23-24; 1 Cor. 7:17, 20, 24)

(3) Was Jesus fruitful through affliction? (Heb. 12:5; Is. 50:6-8, 53:1-12)