

**What follows represents the unedited lecture notes of Pastor Merritt's teaching of the Book of Galatians. Please feel free to reproduce all or part for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

Galatians Lesson

8-6-2017

1. Last week I taught Gal 4:27 and when time expired we were about to review the *Doctrine of Ishmael*.
2. Let's first use the provisions of 1Jo 1:9 by silently naming sin to God and then we will see how Gal 4:21-27 looks by way of an expanded translation.

### **Expanded Translation**

**Gal 4:21 What? Are you telling me you want to be under the Mosaic Law? Have you not been listening to what the law says?**

**Gal 4:22 For you see it has been written in Gen 16:1-16 that Abram fathered two sons, one by his slave and the other by his wife Sarai."**

**Gal 4:23 But most assuredly indeed the son of the slave was born after the flesh in the ordinary way; but the other son, Isaac was born as a direct result of God's promise.**

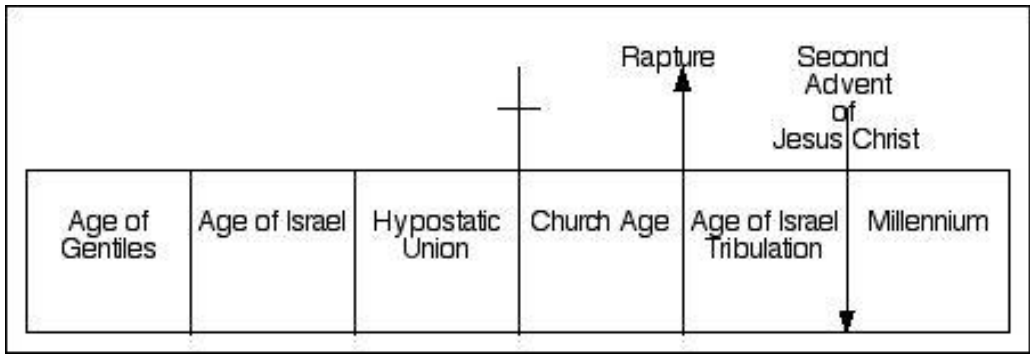
**Gal 4:24 What we have here must be taken figuratively, for the women represent two testimonies; One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves to the law: These are the followers of Hagar and her son Ishmael.**

**Gal 4:25 And now Jerusalem is just like Mount Sinai, because she and her children live in slavery to the law.**

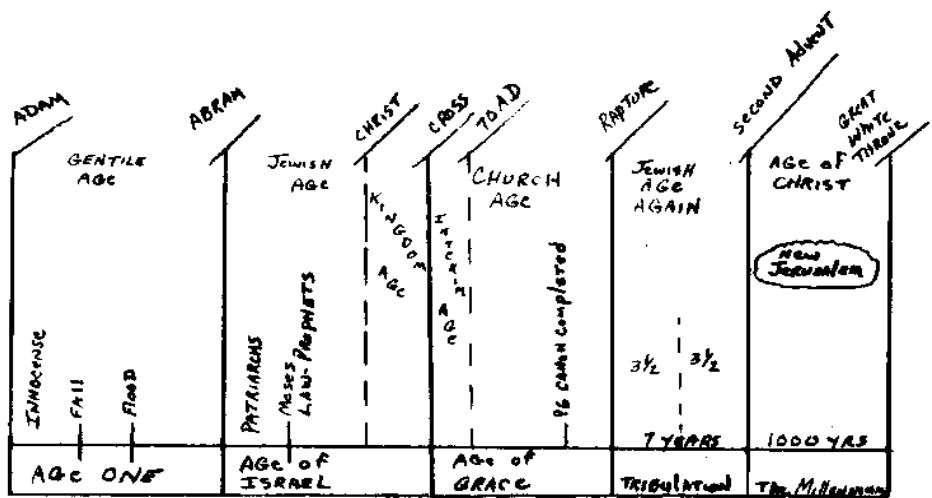
**Gal 4:26 But the heavenly Jerusalem from above is the mother of us all represents our freedom as members of God's forever family both in time and eternity.**

**Gal 4:27 For it has been written in Isa 54:1, Be happy and rejoice, O barren woman who at first bore no children; break forth and cry out loud Sarah, you who also bore no labor pains as did Hagar; Why rejoice? Because when Christ returns at the Second Advent you will have more children than Hagar.**

3. At the time of Paul's writing of the book of Galatians the descendants of Ishmael far exceeded the descendants of Isaac. This continues even today.
4. There are some 13,000,000 Jews in the world and some 450,000,000 Arabs, most of the Arabs being Muslims. At the Second Advent, God regathers all believers from the Gentile Age, the Age of Israel and the Tribulation and destroys all unbelievers thus fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah chapter 54. It is at this time the barren woman will sing.
5. Let's see how this looks in Chart form.

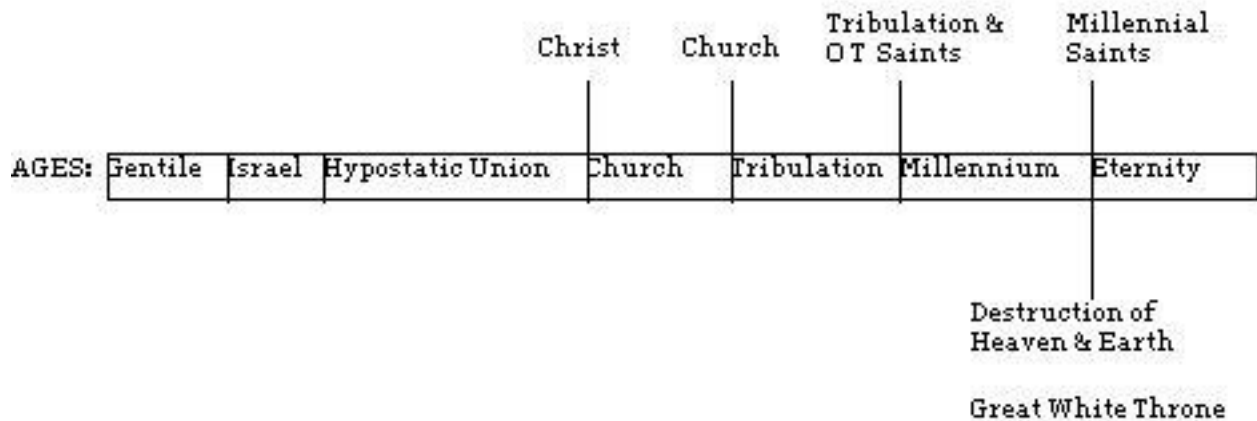


6. Let's take a look at a chart which shows more detail.



7. There is an order to the resurrection: Christ is first –Battalion One; then the Church Age believer-Battalion Two and then Battalion Three at the end of the Millennium.

ORDER OF THE RESURRECTIONS



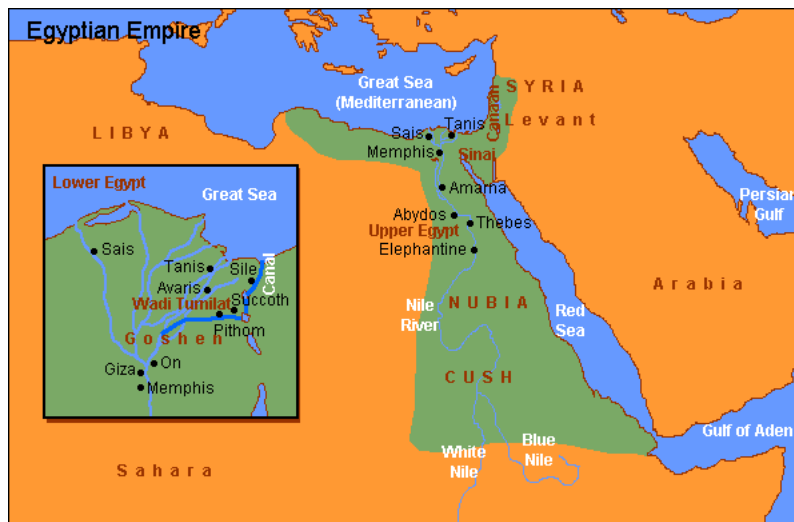
8. At the time of Paul's writing and even now; greater are the sons of Ishmael than the Sons of Isaak-Jews. Wait says Paul and Isaiah; when the Messiah comes and sets-up His rule in the land a "sea change" will occur.

9. Greater will be the sons of Abraham: all believers from the Gentile Age, the Age of Israel proper and Believers surviving the Tribulation than the zero number unbelievers because they are all destroyed at the last battle of the Armageddon Campaign.

10. To get an idea how vast were the number of Ishmael's children let's review the *Doctrine of Ishmael*.

### ***Doctrine of Ishmael***

1. Ishmael was the firstborn son of Abraham by Hagar, an Egyptian maid of his wife Sarah. Abraham was 86 at the time and had lived in Canaan for 11 years.



2. Sarah, the barren wife, in keeping with customs of her times as seen in the Babylonian law code of Hammurabi, gave her slave Hagar in marriage to Abraham to produce an heir for the family. Hammurabi was an ancient Babylonian King. (c. 1750) Code dealt with matters of contract, personal conduct and family matters.

3. When Abraham was 99 God renewed His covenant with him and enjoined circumcision of Ishmael as a sign of his membership in the covenant community.

4. God however, promptly announced that He would fulfill the divine promise through his wife Sarah, although Abraham looked on Ishmael with deep affection and prayed that he might be the promised heir (Gen 17:18).

Gen 17:18 And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee!

Gen 17:19 And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

5. When Ishmael was circumcised, Abraham and his household (those born to the men and women who had grown up in his employ and newcomers to the household through purchase from foreigners) were also circumcised.

5.1 Ishmael was 13 years old at the time of his circumcision. Many Arab tribes still circumcise their youths at the age of 13.

6. Fourteen years after the birth of Ishmael, Isaac was born to Sarah and Abraham. The jealousy that had long separated Sarah from Hagar came to a breaking point at the time of the weaning of Isaac.

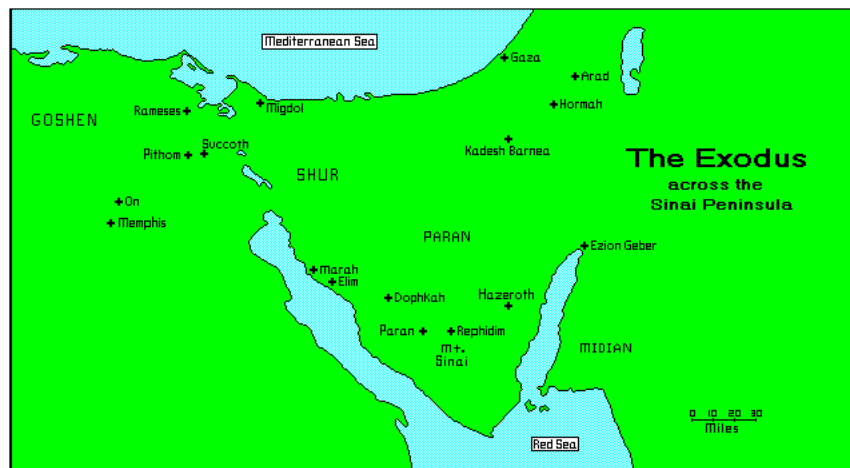
7. Sarah insisted, contrary to the customs of the times as evidenced by Abraham's displeasure (Gen 21:11), that Hagar and Ishmael leave to live in the wilderness of Beersheba, and later in the wilderness of Paran.

Gen 21:10 Wherefore she said unto Abraham, Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac.

Gen 21:11 And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight because of his son.

Gen 21:12 And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called.

Gen 21:13 And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he is thy seed.



7.1 There is no record in the Scripture or elsewhere of animosity developing between Ishmael and Isaac. For example both sons tended to the burial of Abraham in the cave of Machpelah (Gen 25:9).

Gen 25:9 And his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, which is before Mamre; *(a city two miles north of Hebron.)*

8. While Isaac was his sole heir, Abraham endowed the sons of his concubines (Hagar and Keturah) while he was still living (Gen 25:6).

Gen 25:6 But unto the sons of the concubines, which Abraham had, Abraham gave gifts, and sent them away from Isaac his son, while he yet lived, eastward, unto the east.

9. Therefore Ishmael received some of Abraham's material goods. Keturah's sons were sent away eastward toward Jordan and Iraq, whereas Ishmael went to the southwest toward Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

10. Hagar took for Ishmael an Egyptian wife and he became the father of 12 sons and a daughter called Mahalath (Gen 28:9) or Bashemath (Gen 36:3). She became one of the wives of Esau.

Gen 28:9 Then went Esau unto Ishmael, and took unto the wives which he had Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael Abraham's son, the sister of Nebajoth, to be his wife.

Gen 36:2 Esau took his wives of the daughters of Canaan; Adah the daughter of Elon the Hittite, and Aholibamah the daughter of Anah the daughter of Zibeon the Hivite;

Gen 36:3 And Bashemath Ishmael's daughter, sister of Nebajoth.



11. The names of Ishmael's sons were Nebajoth, Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam, Mishma, Dumah, Massa, Hadad, Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah (Gen 25:13-15).

End Lesson Taught 8-6-2017

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