

AdSS5 –Abraham’s wait for a son

(1) Background: God had told Abraham:

“...he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir.” (Gen 15:4)

(2) Sarai had no child. She wanted Hagar, her maid, to bear Abraham’s child. In this way, she could be said to have a child. (Gen 16:1-2)

(3) Abraham agreed and took Hagar. Hagar conceived a child. (Gen 16:4)



(4) Hagar despised Sarah because Sarah was unable to bear Abraham a child. (Gen 16:4,5)

(5) Recap:

- Abraham did not follow God's will for a son to be born by Sarah.
- There was impatience as Abraham was in his 80s and Sarah 70s.



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Source: <https://lampbiblepictures.co.uk/product/hagar-ishmael/>

- Abraham and Sarah rushed to have a child based on their own humanly thought method. This was a sin as they had gone against God's will.
- The sinful act then gave rise to trouble. Hagar despised Sarah and there was conflict between the two women.



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(7) In response to Hagar's despising her, Sarah dealt harshly with Hagar. Hagar ran away. (Gen 16:6)

(8) An angel persuaded Hagar to return to Sarah. (Gen 16:9)

(9) Hagar returned and bore Abraham a son, Ishmael. Abraham was 86 years old.
(Gen 16:15, 16)

(10) Video: 1:59:50-2:11:03

(Viewers are cautioned on the inaccurate parts of the video)

(Source: The Bible Stories, Abraham
By Lube Production)

(11) Other biblical examples eg. Jacob, David and Solomon.

(12) Spiritual Lesson:

- The consequences of sin. In adultery:
 - Husband and wife fight
 - Wife and mistress fight
 - Children will suffer the consequences:
 - (a) loss of sense of security
 - (b) loss of trust in the parents
 - (c) fear and uncertainties in a broken family
 - (d) fear of having to support and fend for themselves
 - (e) emotional and psychological scars later in life

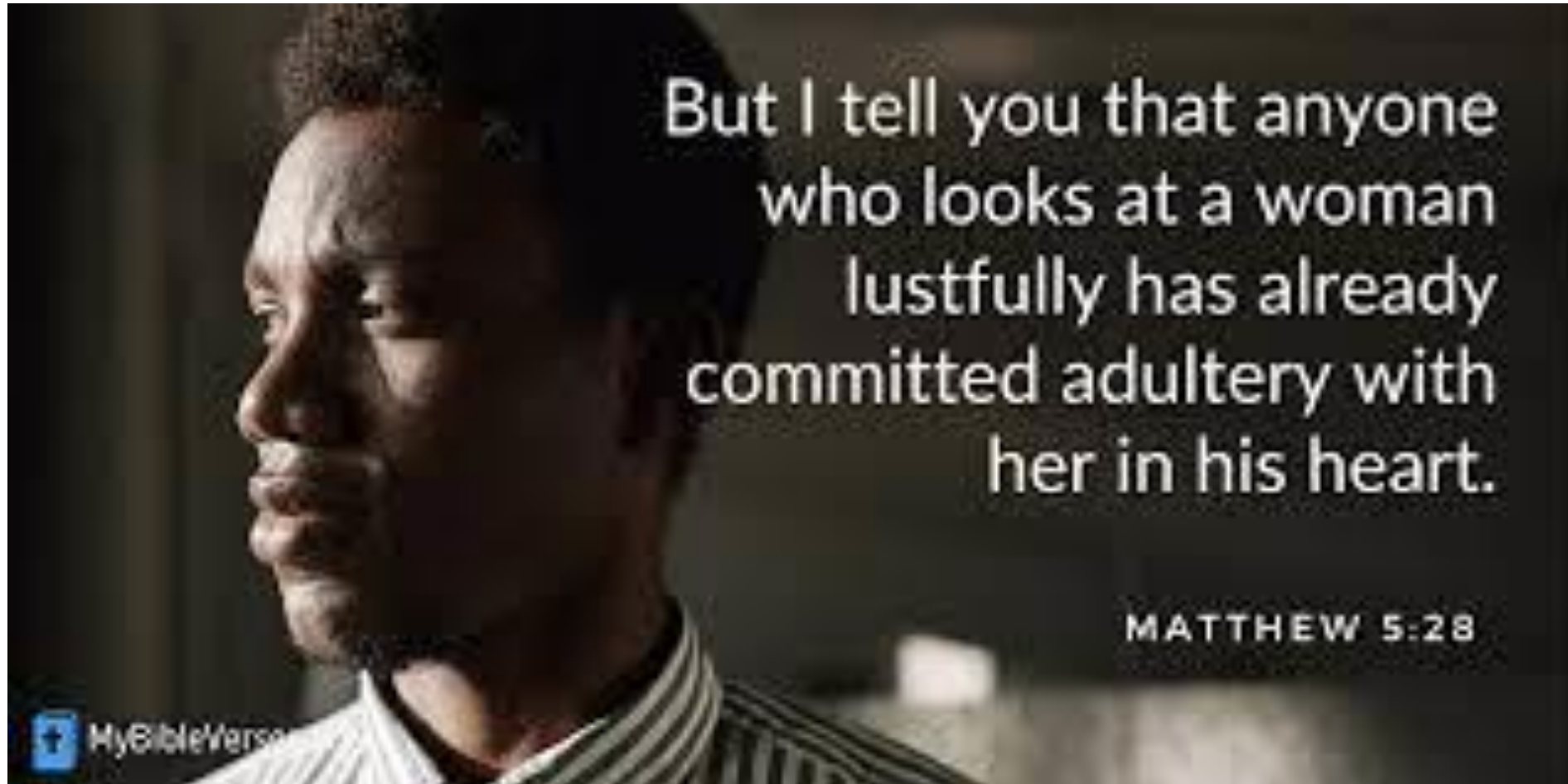


- children of the wife and children of the mistress
- fighting over inheritance between wife and mistress

(13) Sexual sins

Examples-

- Cohabitation
- Pornography



Source: <https://mybibleverses.org/lust/>

(14) Sarah relied on her own way.

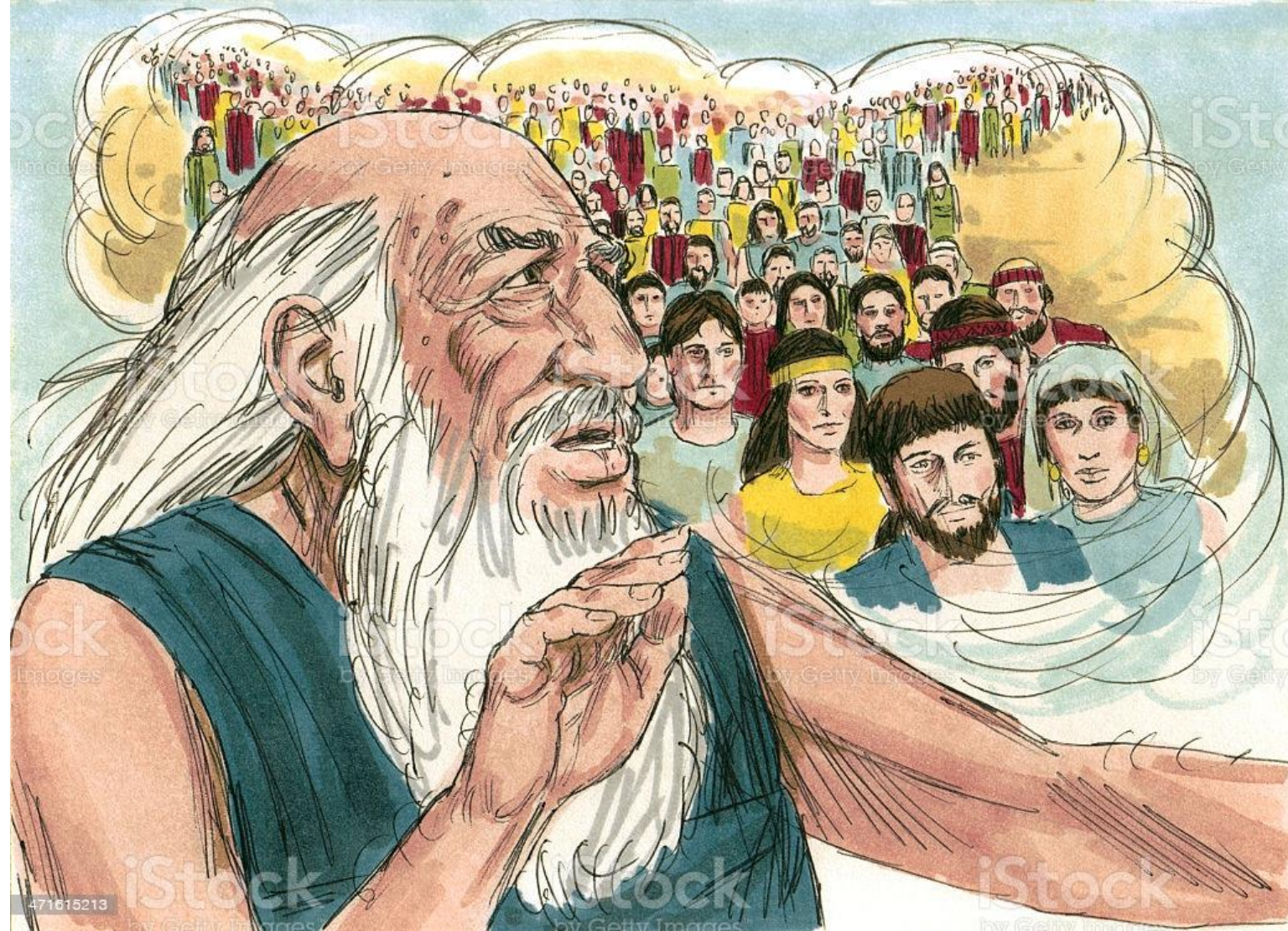
*Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding;
In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths*

MEANING OF PROVERBS 3:5-6

(15) God appeared to Abraham when he was 99 years old. (Gen 17:1)

God's covenant with Abraham: "You will be the father of many nations." (Gen 17:4)

(16) Abraham must keep God's covenant to circumcise every male child. (Gen 17:10)



Source: <https://www.istockphoto.com/photo/abraham-thinks-about-descendants-gm471615213-25574181>

(17) God would bless Sarah and give her a son. (Gen 17:16)

(18) Abraham's doubt:

“The Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear?” (Gen 17:17)

(19) God's assurance for Sarah to have a son (Gen 17:19)



Source: <https://goodnewsshared.wordpress.com/2020/12/27/abraham-gave-the-name-isaac-to-the-son-sarah-bore-him/>

(20) God would also bless Ishmael (Gen 17:20)

(21) God reiterated that Sarah would have a son, Isaac, when Sarah was 90 years.(Gen 17:21)

(22) Spiritual Lesson:

(a) Do not doubt the power of God.

(b) If it is God's will, he will bring "impossible" events to pass.

(c) Examples of God's power.