

Abraham and Sarah

Genesis 11-23

Sarai A.

Terms to know

Covenant

A formal, solemn, and binding agreement

Abram

Exalted ancestor

Abraham

Ancestor of a multitude

Four main summaries

01

Hagar &
Abraham

Birth of Ishmael

02

Abraham &
Sarah

Birth of Isaac

03

Abraham and
Lot

Destruction of
Sodom and
Gomorra

04

Abraham and
Isaac

Sacrifice of Isaac

Note



Abram

Abraham's original name is Abram, but God changes it when he makes a covenant



Sarai

The same as Abraham her name changes to Sarah when God makes a covenant with her

Abraham and Hagar

As Sarah is infertile, she had Abraham make a child with her slave Hagar. In a fit of jealousy, she runs Hagar out of camp. An Angel appears to her and God makes a covenant with her. God promises that from her son her offspring will multiply.

Genesis 16:5-11



Hagar and Ishmael by Benjamin West 1776

Abraham and Sarah



Abram's Counsel to Sarai
(1896–1902) by James Tissot

When Sarah and Abraham are old, God promises them that his wife Sarai will bear him a son, who will be named Isaac. Isaac is promised an everlasting covenant. This is also where he changes her name from Sarai to Sarah

Genesis 17: 15-16

Abraham and Lot



Sodom and Gomorrah afire by Jacob de Wet II,

Sodom and Gomorrah

God decides to destroy these cities for their reputation of being sinners. Abraham pleads with God to show Mercy and God sends Angels to warn Lot and his family.

Abraham and Isaac

He asks Abraham to take Isaac up to the land of Moriah and sacrifice him as a burnt offering.

At the last moment an Angel appears to stop Abraham. Because Abraham has faith he is blessed.

Genesis 22: 15-18



The Sacrifice of Isaac
by Caravaggio

Connections to literature and History



"Both jaws, like enormous shears, bit the craft complete swain."

—Fa

Moby Dick

The novel is filled with many allusions to the Bible. The main character is a Sailor named Ishmael

American History

English Pilgrims and Protestants thought of themselves as similar to Abraham.

"We are entered into covenant with [God] for this work. Now if the Lord shall please to hear us, and bring us peace to the land we desire, then hath He ratified this covenant and sealed our commission"

- John Winthrop 1630

Takeaways

Abraham is at the center through his covenant with God his descendants are seen as “chosen people”

“I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offsprings after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you” Genesis 17:6-7

He is considered the first prophet and is referenced in majors religions such as Christianity, Judaism, and Islam

Muslims consider themselves the descendants of Ishmael

Abraham and Sarah’s family are seen as the founders of the Jewish people In Christian and Jewish tradition