

The Covenant again

- a. God appears (again) to Abram
 - a. Who is single, no heir and no protection
 - b. Number the stars if you can
 - c. Note tie to Hebrews, reckoned to him as righteousness Ro
 - d. d.Sacrifice seals the deal (note- when something does not make sense, pray about it

Ch 16 – 17 Hagar and a wrong turn

- a. relationship of Sarai and Hagar
- b. What this and is not: it is a sign of God's Mercy (Ishmael" – lit. God has mercy
 - a. It is not a prophesy of Islam
 - c. 17: walk before me and be blameless
- b. Signs of the Covenant The granting of a name – exalted one becomes "Father of Nations" Note also v. 15 Sarai (barren) becomes Sarah ("princess")
- c. The granting of descendants: Issac (God names him too)
- d. Abraham chuckles Isaac "laughter"
- e. The sign of circumcision in the flesh of the foreskin
- f. Blessings granted to Ishmael - A does not understand all this

Ch 18 the angelic visitors

- a. Note that there are three of them
- b. Angels or God Himself? This is not yet defined
- c. Note the importance of hospitality in the Middle East
- d. Make rolls: prob pita but we note the use of leavening
- e. Note Sarah laughing
- f. A walks with them part of the way
- g. Note the deliberation of God on informing Abraham: God as teacher
- h. The sin of Sodom _ some sins cry out to God
 - i. Infanticide, patricide, matricide **Willful Murder**: Taking innocent life, referenced by Cain's blood crying out (Gen 4:10). **The Sin of Sodom**: Sexual perversion and impurity, as described in Genesis 18. **Oppression of the Poor**: Exploiting, harming, or treating unjustly the vulnerable, such as widows and orphans.
Defrauding Workers of Their Wages: Withholding or cheating laborers of their earned pay (James 5:4).

The debate between God and A. he Is now in a covenant
Tzadikim: ten righteous men walk the earth
Ten are needed to pray (minion)

i.