



GENESIS: THE FOUNDATION FOR EVERYTHING

A person is silhouetted against a starry night sky. The Milky Way galaxy is visible, stretching across the sky from the bottom center towards the top. The person is standing on a small rock or mound of earth. The overall scene is dark and atmospheric, with the stars providing a bright, ethereal light.

HIDE AND SEEK: WHY WE NEED TO BE FOUND

GENESIS 16:7-16

GENESIS: THE FOUNDATION FOR EVERYTHING

Genesis 6:1-6:

- I. The world's wisdom deceives our hearts
- II. The world's wisdom defiles our relationships
- III. The world's wisdom demands our allegiance

Three acts of God highlight...

- His sovereign grace
- His sovereign power, and
- His sovereign providence

...in the mess these people have made.

I. God Seeks

God's seeking causes us to stop running away from Him.

I. God Seeks

FLEEING

God seeks us because we are lost. God must find us and overtake us because we are rebelling and running away from reality.

We need to remember that...

God designs our trials

to reveal our hearts to us...

and to then conform us to Jesus.

I. God Seeks

FLEEING

FOUND

The Bible tells us that “*the angel of the Lord found her...*”

I. God Seeks

FLEEING

FOUND

Notice what the verse tells us Hagar is putting her hope in:

- “*fleeing*” = fleeing from reality (abuse, hardship)
- “*spring of water*” = well to provide life in the desert
- “*Shur*” = feeling to Egypt, her old life (familiar)

I. God Seeks

FLEEING

FOUND

“Many are the plans in a man’s heart, but the counsel of the Lord, it will stand.”

(Prov. 19:21)

“Man’s steps are ordained by the Lord, how then can man understand his way?”

(Prov. 20:24)

I. **God Seeks**

FLEEING

FOUND

The problem and its solution became her life.

I. God Seeks

FLEEING

FOUND

1. Something irritates us, hurts us, or brings suffering of some kind into our life.
 - A relational problem
2. Reason selfishly
 - “If I can’t overpower my circumstances, I’ll work to change and control them.”
3. Work to change the circumstances
 - Run away

II. God Speaks

God speaking truth into your life brings wisdom and clarity, and that truth brings you to stop rebelling against Him.

II. God Speaks

SEARCHES (v. 8)

“...where have you come from, and where are you going?”

“I am fleeing from...”

“The mind of the man plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.” (Prov. 16:9)

II. God Speaks

SEARCHES

COMMANDS

God's word telling her to return and submit to Sarai's authority are not suggestions; they are commands.

II. God Speaks

SEARCHES

COMMANDS

God's truth can be hard, but never heartless.

II. God Speaks

SEARCHES

COMMANDS

COMFORTS (v. 10-12)

Ishmaelites became the modern-day Arabs and their respective nations. They follow Mohammed's teaching in claiming their own descent from Abraham.

There are four characteristics which will define Ishmael and his Arab descendants:

1. Wild donkey refers to wandering and to a stiff-necked spirit.
2. He and his descendants will be war-like or adversarial in nature.
3. They will invite and incite war and strife from their neighbors.
4. Living "*to the east*" refers to what became known as Midian.

II. God Speaks

SEARCHES

COMMANDS

COMFORTS

HEARS [SAVES] (v. 13-14)

III. God Saves

God saving us from ourselves brings us to new life with Him

REPENT (v. 9)

“Return to your mistress...”

III. God Saves

God saving us from ourselves brings us to new life with Him

REPENT

SUBMIT

“...and submit yourself to her authority”

For her to accomplish this will require something that she cannot produce for herself: humility and death to self.

In the power of the Spirit, Hagar can choose to:

- obey the Lord
- put off pride
- repent of her fear of man
- put on the fear of the Lord

III. God Saves

God saving us from ourselves brings us to new life with Him

REPENT

BELIEVE

- Trust God at His Word
- Obey Him
- Wait on the Lord

III. God Saves

God saving us from ourselves brings us to new life with Him

REPENT


BELIEVE

WORSHIP

Renaming of the well to Beer-lahai-roi, "*the well of the living one who sees me,*" reflects a change of heart and perspective in Hagar toward the Lord and toward life.

Scripture teaches us that God cannot be thwarted;
His design for your life will be accomplished,
and in His wisdom He wastes nothing, so that
**all things do indeed work together for good
to those who love God and
are called according to His purposes.**



A person is silhouetted against a night sky filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy. The person is standing on a rock in the foreground. The text "GRACE CHURCH" and "WILLIAMSBURG" is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font.

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