

Re-Write

A Series on the Book of Genesis











RonCole.net

Cole's Aircraft
Analysis App









Genesis 17:1 NKJV

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless.



Genesis 15:2-3 NKJV

But Abram said, "Lord GOD, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and **the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?**" [3] Then Abram said, "Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!"



They Waited...



Waiting

Phase #1



Genesis 16:2 NKJV

So Sarai said to Abram, "See now, the LORD has restrained me from bearing children. **Please, go in to my maid; perhaps I shall obtain children by her.**"

And Abram heeded the voice of Sarai.



Genesis 17:15-16 NKJV

Then God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name.

[16] And I will bless her and also **give you a son by her;** then I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples shall be from her."



Timeline

Abraham's Waiting Timeline

Genesis 12-21 • Total: 25 years (ages 75-100)
Age 75 • Promise

Age 99 • Announcement

11 yrs

13 yrs

1 yr

Age 86 • Ishmael

Age 100 • Isaac



Seasons of Waiting



Something Better



We Shouldn't Only Believe God's Promises



**We Should Believe His
Timing and Wisdom**



**We Value The Things
We Don't Easily Get**



Isaiah 60:22 NLT

The smallest family will become a thousand people,
and the tiniest group will become a mighty nation.

At the right time, I, the LORD, will make it happen."



Genesis 17:17 NKJV

Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said in his heart, "Shall a child be born to a man who is one hundred years old? And shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?"



Wondering

Phase #2



Genesis 17:18 NKJV

And Abraham said to God, "Oh, that Ishmael might live before You!"



Our Plans vs God's Plans



Gordon J. Wenham, *Genesis Vol. 2*

...he is so overcome by the announcement that he can hardly think straight. The way he frames his doubt, "Can a man . . . give birth?" combines two different constructions for a double-barreled question (see n. 17.c.)... **Probably the confused syntax reflects Abraham's inward confusion.** He is so overcome by the announcement that he changes the sentence structure in midstream.



**We May Not Know What the
Future Holds**



**We Can Know Who
Holds the Future**



Faith



Genesis 17:18-19 NKJV

And Abraham said to God, "Oh, that Ishmael might live before You!" [19] **Then God said: "No,** Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him.



Writing

Phase #3



Giving Up the Pen



God Can Write Better Stories



“God, Let’s Write It Together.”



God Can Take the Worst of Us



And Turn It Into Something Beautiful!



Ellen White, *Ministry of Healing*

Many are unable to make definite plans for the future. Their life is unsettled. They cannot discern the outcome of affairs, and **this often fills them with anxiety and unrest.**



Ellen White, *Ministry of Healing*

We have not wisdom to plan our own lives. **It is not for us to shape our future.** “By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.” Hebrews 11:8.



Ellen White, *Ministry of Healing*

Christ in His life on earth made no plans for Himself. He accepted God's plans for Him, and day by day the Father unfolded His plans. So should we depend upon God, that our lives may be the simple outworking of His will. **As we commit our ways to Him, He will direct our steps.**



Ellen White, *Ministry of Healing*

Too many, in planning for a brilliant future, make an utter failure. **Let God plan for you.** As a little child, trust to the guidance of Him who will “keep the feet of His saints.” 1 Samuel 2:9.



Ellen White, *Ministry of Healing*

God never leads His children otherwise than they would choose to be led, **if they could see the end from the beginning** and discern the glory of the purpose which they are fulfilling as co-workers with Him.



Better Than I



Better Than I

I thought I did what's right

I thought I had the answers

I thought I chose the surest road

But that road brought me here



Better Than I

So I put up a fight
And told you how to help me
Now just when I have given up
The truth is coming clear



Better Than I

You know better than I

You know the way

I've let go the need to know why

For you know better than I



Better Than I

If this has been a test
I cannot see the reason
But maybe knowing I don't know
Is part of getting through



Better Than I

I try to do what's best
And faith has made it easy
To see the best thing I can do
Is put my trust in you



Better Than I

You know better than I

You know the way

I've let go the need to know why

For you know better than I



Better Than I

I saw one cloud and thought it was a sky
I saw a bird and thought that I could follow
But it was you who taught that bird to fly
If I let you reach me will you teach me



Better Than I

For You know better than I

You know the way

I've let go the need to know why

I'll take what answers you supply



Better Than I

You know better, you know better

You know better than I



Waiting. Wondering. Writing.

Phase of Life



Better Than I

If this has been a test
I cannot see the reason
But maybe knowing I don't know
Is part of getting through



Better Than I

I try to do what's best
And faith has made it easy
To see the best thing I can do
Is put my trust in you



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