

16:9-12

The Angel of the LORD said to her, “Return to your mistress, If she does not do this then she will most certainly return to Egypt from whence she came (since she was already headed south), and then her decedents would not have been able to get Joseph there (37:28). Furthermore...this is amazing to conceive...Judah would have died in famine (50:20) and we would have had no Savior (humanly speaking Jesus must have come the way that He came), and we would all die in our sins and go to Hell.

and submit yourself under her hand.” The Messenger **of the LORD** was sending her back to an austere situation. There is a lesson here for the believer. Some wonder why the New Testament doesn't seek to abolish slavery, but the reader should consider primarily why the Gospel cannot empower a slave? It can!

11 And the Angel of the LORD said to her: “Behold, you *are* with child, And you shall bear a son. An Egyptian girl gets the first birth announcement from Heaven in the whole Bible! Jesus and John the Baptist, neither one, were the first [or Samson (Judges 13)]. It is also the first time a **child** is named before his/her birth.

You shall call his name⁴**Ishmael,** This means “God hears.” We will soon find out that He sees as well.

12 He shall be a wild the other times it is used it is translated “donkey” (**wild** ass of a **man**);

And he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.” We will find out that Ishmael will have 12 sons.

16:13

Then she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, You-Are-⁵the-God-Who-Sees; Hagar believes she has been communicating with the **LORD**, then. Exodus 6:1-3 tells us that at this time they did not know God's Name at this time. This is why people named Him after what He did. This is why it is ridiculous to say things like “we worship Him for Who He is; not what He does.” We know nothing of Him besides a revelation of His mighty acts.

⁴ Lit. *God Hears*

⁵ Heb. *El Roi*