

Study Notes and Questions for Genesis 15-16

Chapter 15

- What does “After these things” refer to in 15:1?
- What promise did God give to Abram in 15:1?
- What concern did Abram express to the Lord in **verses 2 and 3** and why was he concerned?
- What promise did God give to Abram in **verse 5**?
- What was Abram’s response?
- Based on the number of times Genesis 15:6 is quoted in the New Testament, explain why this verse is so critical in terms of explaining the heart of Christianity.
- Why did God tell Abram to gather animals in **verse 9**?
- How does Jeremiah 34:18–19 shed light on what these covenant images stood for?
- What is most significant about the way this covenant was made?
- What promises did God make in this covenant?

Chapter 16

- Why is **verse 1** of this chapter critical to understanding the problem that Sarai was facing.
- What did Sarai recommend to Abram and why?
- How did Sarai’s plan backfire?
- How did Abram choose to deal with Sarai’s plan gone awry?
- What was Hagar’s response to Sarai’s treatment of her?
- What did the Lord tell Hagar to do?
- How do you think Hagar felt about going back to Sarai and submitting herself to her?
- What prophecy did the Lord give about the child Hagar was carrying?
- What does the name Ishmael mean and why is that name significant?
- What name did Hagar give to the Lord who met her and why?
- How old was Abram when Ishmael was born?