

THE HOLY BIBLE

TELEPLAY EDITION

Episode 1006

"Separations"

by

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Based on the novel by God

TEASER

EXT. BETHEL, CANAAN - DAY

SUPER: "2022 Anno Mundi"

Great herds of cattle, sheep, and goats graze upon the vegetation. HERDSMEN watch over the flocks and herds. Between these herds, a great line seems to be drawn, separating them.

Several herdsmen of Abram and Lot stand facing each other.

ABRAM HERDSMAN

You cannot graze here, or the herds will mix.

LOT HERDSMAN 1

Where are we to go, then? Our herds and flocks will strip this area in a day.

ABRAM HERDSMAN

That is for you and your master to decide, but this area belongs to my master, Abram, and the herds of your master, Lot, cannot graze here.

LOT HERDSMAN 1

But we know our herds and will keep them apart.

ABRAM HERDSMAN

We cannot take that risk. Graze on your own land.

Abram's Herdsman walks away, leaving Lot's Herdsman fuming.

LOT HERDSMAN 1

All right, men, just move the herd eastward.

The herds and flocks of Lot slowly move away from Abram's. Another Herdsman runs up to Lot Herdsman 1.

LOT HERDSMAN 2

Where are we to go?

LOT HERDSMAN 1

If we are to stay here, we have to find out where Lot wishes us to have his herds graze. I'll go ask him.

LOT HERDSMAN 2

We'll be right here.

Lot Herdsman 1 runs across the land to where several tents are setup. The Herdsman approaches the closest tent.

LOT HERDSMAN 1

I'm sorry to bother you, Master Lot, but we have a problem.

Lot exits his tent and looks at the Herdsman.

LOT

What is it?

LOT HERDSMAN 1

It's your livestock. We're trying to share with your uncle Abram's livestock, and it just isn't possible.

LOT

Isn't there enough room for both?

LOT HERDSMAN 1

No. If you look at the land Abram's herds are using, it is just enough for them. They actually don't have any to spare.

LOT

So they have enough land as we don't?

LOT HERDSMAN 1

Well, we have a lot of livestock.

LOT

We all do. Look, the big problem they have is that they don't want the herds to mix, right?

LOT HERDSMAN 1

Yes.

LOT

So, when their herds move over, just move in where they left. If they aren't using a piece of land, then we can. We also have the Canaanites' land on our borders. God promised the land to Abram, so why not? All these things are the blessings of Abram passed on to me through him. The land is ours. Use it.

LOT HERDSMAN 1

Is that wise?

LOT

Do you have a better idea?

LOT HERDSMAN 1

No.

LOT

Then do it. If Abram's herds move, then graze upon that land again. If his herds come back, move onto the Canaanites' land. We have to take what we can get here. If you have any problems, come see me.

LOT HERDSMAN 1

Yes, sir.

Lot re-enters his tent, and the Herdsman returns to the fields.

END TEASER

ACT ONE

EXT. BETHEL, CANAAN - DAY

The herds graze further apart, but the one's in the east, Lot's, are receiving a lot of grief from the inhabitants of the land. They are chased off of plots of land.

INT. ABRAM'S TENT - DAY

Abram sits inside his tent with two Canaanites, HAVILAH and JAVAN. He tries to be kind and attentive to him, but they are clearly wearing his nerves.

HAVILAH

We thought little of your occupying this land, but if this invasion of our areas does not stop, we will muster our troops and drive you out.

JAVAN

Our lands are ours to graze on, not yours.

HAVILAH

Well? Are you going to do something about this or not?

JAVAN

If not, we will consider it a hostile act on your part by allowing it.

ABRAM

Please, gentlemen. I have heard you clearly. As I understand it, these flocks are those of my nephew, Lot. I have sent for him to-

JAVAN

His or yours is irrelevant to us.

HAVILAH

We will drive you both out. We don't care whose fault it is.

ABRAM

I assure you-

HAVILAH

Just take care of it.

Havilah and Javan exit the tent. They violently bump into Eliezer as he is entering.

ELIEZER

Excuse me.

JAVAN

Who asked you?

Eliezer enters and stands before Abram.

ABRAM

Did you find him?

ELIEZER

Yes, I asked Lot to come as quickly as possible. He said he would be following shortly.

ABRAM

Good.

Eliezer continues standing before Abram. Abram looks deep in thought.

ELIEZER

Is there anything else you need?

ABRAM

Sit down Eliezer.

Eliezer sits.

ABRAM

You don't have to be so formal all the time. We've known each other for twenty-five years now.

ELIEZER

(relaxing)

Yes, we have.

ABRAM

What do you think of all this?

ELIEZER

All what?

ABRAM

Canaan. It's been an adventure.

ELIEZER

I will admit the prospect of leaving Babel was frightening, and then leaving your father, Terah behind in Haran to come out here on your own...well...I thought you were out of your mind.

Abram laughs.

ABRAM

You were probably right.

Eliezer smiles.

ELIEZER

But the need to leave Babel was clear. Nimrod did try and kill you three times.

ABRAM

He did.

Abram pauses a moment, as if to collect his words.

ABRAM

I want to make sure you know something. You are not a slave to me. You don't have to stay. If at some point, you wish to go, you may do so.

ELIEZER

Really?

ABRAM

Yes.

ELIEZER

I have been in servitude my entire life. What would I do?

ABRAM

Whatever you want to do.

Eliezer ponders this for a moment. Finally, he looks at Abram.

ELIEZER

Abram, my life is with you. I will continue to give my service willingly.

ABRAM

I was hoping you would.

Lot enters.

ELIEZER

Excuse me.

ABRAM

I'll see you later, Eliezer.

Eliezer pauses for a moment, and looks to Abram.

ELIEZER

Yes, you will.

Eliezer exits. Lot sits in front of Abram.

LOT

What's going on?

ABRAM

Many things. I hear troubling reports from the Canaanites that your herds are grazing on their land.

LOT

So?

ABRAM

I also hear that our herdsmen are fighting amongst each other because your livestock are grazing on the land of mine.

LOT

I don't have enough land. I don't have any choice.

ABRAM

But you are making me a stench to the people of this land. Did you order your herdsmen into the fields of these people?

LOT

Yes.

ABRAM

Lot, we are strangers to these people. Why would you do this?

LOT

I told you: I have no choice. Besides, what about God's promise that this land will be yours?

ABRAM

That will happen in God's time, not mine.

LOT

But what about today?

Abram thinks for a moment. Finally, he stands.

ABRAM

Come with me.

He leaves the tent. Lot follows.

EXT. CANAAN OVERLOOK - DAY

Abram and Lot stand on a small mount overlooking Canaan and the Jordan River.

ABRAM

Let's not have any quarreling
between you and me, or between your
herdsmen and mine, for we are
brothers. The whole land stands
before you. If you go to the left,
I'll go right. If you go to the
right, I'll go left.

LOT

You would give me the choice of
where to go?

ABRAM

I leave it for you.

Lot looks out to the ground. The River Jordan flows through a fertile part of the country with good grazing grounds near the city of Sodom.

He looks to where they have been. While the plains of Canaan are still fertile, they are not as choice as the plains of the Jordan.

LOT

I will take the plain of the Jordan
and leave Canaan for you.

ABRAM

Very well. You go east, and I will
go west. Even though we are parting
company, we are still family. Don't
be afraid to come to me for anything
you may need.

LOT

I won't. Thank you.

The pair embraces for a moment.

LOT

Well, I believe I will get my family
and herdsmen and flocks together and
we will set off.

ABRAM

God will be with you, Lot.

LOT

He is with you, uncle.

Lot departs. Abram looks out over the land.

GOD

Abram.

Abram falls to his knees and bows.

ABRAM

Yes, Lord.

GOD

Lift up your eyes from where you
are and look north and south, east
and west.

Abram rises and looks.

GOD

All the land that you see I will
give to you and your seed forever.
I will make your seed like the dust
of the earth, so that if anyone
could count the dust, then your
seed could be counted. Go, walk
through the length and breadth of
the land, for I am giving it to you.

Abram rises and walks down the hill.

EXT. ABRAM'S ENCAMPMENT - DAY

Sarai meets Abram as he enters his encampment. In the distance,
Lot is leaving.

SARAI

What happened?

ABRAM

Lot and I went to the mountain, and looked over the land. I gave him his choice of where he wished to go. He chose the Jordan. We will inhabit elsewhere.

SARAI

Where do we plan on going next?

ABRAM

Hebron. It will help to distance us from Lot.

Abram walks to his tent. Hagar meets him as he comes out.

HAGAR

(apologetically)

Excuse me, sir.

SARAI

Abram?

Sarai follows Abram to the tent. Hagar stops her.

HAGAR

Was there anything I could do for you, right now?

SARAI

No, Hagar, thank you. I'll summon you if I need anything.

HAGAR

Yes, ma'am.

Sarai enters the tent.

INT. ABRAM'S TENT - DAY

Abram stands in the tent, facing away from the door.

SARAI

What else happened up there?

Abram turns to her.

ABRAM

God spoke to me again.

SARAI

Oh?

ABRAM

He affirmed the ownership of this land as ours. He said to look in all directions and everything I see is mine.

SARAI

Did he say, "It belongs to Abram?" or...

ABRAM

Ok, he didn't say it was mine. He said it was for my seed again.

SARAI

Your seed. By whom?

ABRAM

Sarai, there has only ever been you. Be faithful. The child will be ours.

SARAI

No, it will yours. From your body. God has never said it would come from mine.

Abram looks at her, unable to answer. Sarai leaves the tent. Abram walks out after her.

EXT. ABRAM'S ENCAMPMENT - DAY

Abram stops and looks around.

ABRAM
(calling out)
Sarai!

He looks around. Hagar is sitting under a tree, relaxing. Abram walks to her.

ABRAM
Hagar, did you see where Sarai went?

Hagar points to a lone woman behind the tents. Abram goes to her.

ABRAM
Sarai.

SARAI
(crying)
What's wrong with me?

ABRAM
There is nothing wrong with you.

SARAI
How can you say that? I am still barren. I am almost beyond child-bearing years. What's going to happen to me when I get too old to actually have children?

ABRAM
Nothing is impossible with God. You are my wife, and it will be through you.

SARAI
I...I mean...you can't...I don't want to talk about it right now.

Sarai gets up and walks away. Abram lets her go this time. He walks to another tent.

ABRAM
Eliezer.

Eliezer, Abram's servant from Nimrod, emerges from the tent.

ELIEZER

Yes, sir.

ABRAM

Spread the word. We're moving.

ELIEZER

Right away.

Eliezer runs off. Abram looks after Sarai who has stopped again.

EXT. CANAAN - DAY

Abram leads his band of men, flocks, and possessions across the expanse of Canaan southwest to Hebron.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. PALACE OF ELAM - DAY

THREE KINGS (NIMROD of SHINAR, ARIOCH of ELLASAR, and TIDAL of GOIIM) walk across the courtyard into the ornate palace of KEDERLAOMER.

INT. PALACE THRONE ROOM - DAY

The three kings enter the throne room and kneel before KEDERLAOMER, a very conceited looking man, dressed ostentatiously.

KEDERLAOMER

Rise, my subjects.

The three kings rise. Kederlaomer stands over them.

KEDERLAOMER

Bera, the king of Sodom, has decided to rebel against me, and with him he has Birsha of Gomorrah, Shinab of Admah, Shemeber of Zeboiim, and Bela of Zoar. I have maintained control over these areas as well as yours for thirteen years. Haven't I been good to you?

THREE KINGS

Yes, my king.

KEDERLAOMER

Do I not work to keep your lands safe from invaders?

THREE LANDS

Yes, my king.

KEDERLAOMER

Now that I have been good to you, it is time for you to work for me. Call up your armies so we may ride against Bera, king of Sodom. Tidal of Goiim, what forces do you have?

TIDAL

I have maintained the forces by your
law of two thousand, my lord.

He walks from Tidal to the other kings, who bow their heads at
his approach.

KEDERLAOMER

Well done. Arioeh, king of Ellasar,
what are your forces?

ARIOCH

By your law, oh king, I have forces
numbering two thousand at your
disposal.

KEDERLAOMER

Excellent.

Kederlaomer moves to Nimrod and looks down upon him, haughtily.

KEDERLAOMER

And Nimrod of Shinar of the land of
Ur. Surely you recall when I, with
Terah, was one of your princes.

NIMROD

I do.

KEDERLAOMER

And now, I rule over you.

NIMROD

Yes, my lord.

KEDERLAOMER

Nimrod, my slave, prince of MY
hosts, what forces do the Chaldeans
have at my disposal?

NIMROD

By your law, my lord, I have two
thousand men ready at your command.

KEDERLAOMER

Well done, Nimrod. I shall allow you
to survive one more day.

Kederlaomer returns to his throne and sits.

KEDERLAOMER

Gather your forces and meet my two
thousand at the Valley of Siddim
near the Salt Sea. It is there that
Bela has drawn his battle lines
and challenged me.

THREE KINGS

Yes, my king.

The three kings bow and exit.

EXT. VALLEY OF SIDDIM - DAY

Eight thousand men stand across from each other, ready to
attack. Holes appear to be interspersed within the ranks.
Kederlaomer walks across the forward rank of the company. He
looks off into the distance at the armies of the five kings, led
by the king of Sodom.

Tidal runs up to him.

TIDAL

My lord, the armies are ready.

KEDERLAOMER

Are we prepared to handle the tar
pits?

TIDAL

If we can spot them in time, but we
lost several men to them already.

KEDERLAOMER

It is of no consequence. We will
still outnumber them. Go to the
rear. Let's get this over with.

TIDAL

Yes, my lord.

Tidal runs to the rear of the formation to where the other kings await.

KEDERLAOMER

(calling out across the army)

It's time to take back what is ours.
Destroy them all. Drive them out.
To war!

The company responds with a cheer. Kederlaomer walks over to a prince of the armies.

KEDERLAOMER

Take them in.

PRINCE

Yes, my lord.

Kederlaomer walks to the rear of the army.

PRINCE

Charge!

The armies rush through the Valley of Siddim. Many fall into the tar pits sporadically placed throughout the field. Some spot the holes and navigate around them.

Bela's armies stand ready to receive Kederlaomer's. The armies clash together, but Kederlaomer's number far overwhelms Bela's. Bela retreats across the valley behind them, and once again, many fall into the tar pits.

Kederlaomer's armies cheer at the defeat of their enemies. Kederlaomer and the Three Kings ride up into the throng.

KEDERLAOMER

We have defeated our enemies.
Their cities are ours for the
plunder. Sodom is first!

The army cheers.

EXT. PLAINS OF THE JORDAN - DAY

Nestled within groves of trees on the well-watered plain of the Jordan river, Sodom is a walled city bustling with activity. UNIC, a servant of Abram, walks into the city.

EXT. SODOM - DAY

Unic walks through the city streets. Men lie on the ground, emaciated. What appears to be a bloodied bed sits in the city of the town square. Unic is accosted by several men.

MAN 1

Did you pay the entry tax?

UNIC

What entry tax?

MAN 2

The tax on the entry to Sodom is mandatory for all visitors.

UNIC

I carry nothing with me.

MAN 1

What is this?

The man snatches Unic's provision bag and run off. Unic shakes his head.

UNIC

It was empty anyway.

Unic continues walking. The men are dissatisfied with his empty bag and throw it at him, hitting him in the head. Unic shakes his head again, and picks it up. He walks to a house and knocks. Lot answers.

LOT

Unic. Come in.

UNIC

Gladly.

Unic enters the house. Lot closes the door.

INT. LOT'S HOUSE - DAY

LOT'S WIFE brings Unic food as he sits at the table.

UNIC

Thank you.

Lot's wife nods and leaves the room. Lot sits with Unic.

UNIC

How can you live here?

LOT

I stay out of their lives. They stay out of mine.

UNIC

But the stories I've heard come out of here...

LOT

Like what? I'll tell you if they're true.

UNIC

I hear tales of this horrible festival four times a year where everyone goes down to a valley and each man enjoys the wife of his neighbor and virgin daughters-

LOT

Yeah, that one's true.

Lot takes a drink.

LOT

We do not participate.

UNIC

For that I am grateful. What of the story of strangers coming to town and everyone gives him silver and gold, but then keeps him in town until he dies of hunger. When he is dead, not only does everyone get back their silver and gold, but take his clothes and possessions, too.

LOT

Never take anything from anyone.

Lot takes another drink. Unic looks at him expectantly. Lot sighs.

LOT

That's true too.

UNIC

Abram sent me to inquire as to your welfare.

LOT

I am doing well.

Lot drinks again. Unic looks like he expects more of this.

UNIC

That's it?

LOT

My flocks are doing well. We have ample land. I have no complaints.

UNIC

No complaints?

LOT

No.

UNIC

At all?

LOT

No.

UNIC

And you have nothing else to add?

LOT

No. Abram may check on me as often as he desires, but I am doing well.

UNIC

Ok.

Unic gets up.

UNIC

May I trouble you for some provisions for my return trip?

LOT

Certainly.

Unic hands Lot his bag. Lot goes into the kitchen area and fills it with provisions.

UNIC

Thank you.

LOT

Give my best to my uncle.

UNIC

I will. Thank you.

Lot shows Unic to the door. He opens it.

LOT

I would suggest running for the edge of the city as fast as possible so you leave with enough provision to make it back to Abram.

UNIC

Will do.

Unic exits.

EXT. SODOM - DAY

Unic looks around. He looks to the gate. Within the city, some men have noticed him and move in his direction. Unic sprints for the city gate. The men chase him. He draws closer to the gate. The men draw closer to him.

EXT. PLAINS OF THE JORDAN - DAY

Unic bolts out the city as fast as possible and he keeps running. The men stop at the edge of the city, and turn back.

Unic runs for some distance and stops. He turns back to find no one chasing him anymore. He sighs in relief until he sees a large group of men approaching the city. Unic drops to the ground and watches as they invade the city.

Screams permeate the air.

EXT. SODOM - DAY

The army kills at will. They raid houses. Lot and his family are brought out. They are led out of the city.

EXT. PLAINS OF THE JORDAN - DAY

Unic watches as Lot is forced out of the city along with many other Sodomites. He climbs to his feet and runs off.

EXT. HEBRON - DAY

Abram walks through the great trees of Mamre in his camp with Eliezer.

ABRAM

Eliezer, I'm baffled.

ELIEZER

How so?

ABRAM

God promised offspring to me, and yet Sarai remains barren. At present, you alone stand to inherit all that I have unless she conceives.

ELIEZER

God has been faithful to you, Abram.
I'm sure he'll fulfill his promise
in time.

ABRAM

I'm beginning to wonder when...and
how.

They look up to find Unic running towards them, completely out
of breath.

ABRAM

Unic? What's wrong?

UNIC

Lot...in Sodom...invaded...took
...as prisoner.

Unic collapses.

ABRAM

Eliezer, gather all the men together.
I'll try and get as much as I can
from Unic.

ELIEZER

Right away, sir.

Abram carries Unic into his tent, nearby.

INT. ABRAM'S TENT - DAY

Abram lays Unic down on his bed. He gets some water and gives
him a drink. Unic drinks lightly.

ABRAM

Easy, Unic. Don't gulp.

Unic drinks and nods, indicating he is done.

ABRAM

Do you know anything about where
they went?

UNIC

A little.

EXT. ABRAM'S TENT - DAY

Abram exits his tent and meets Eliezer at the entrance.

ELIEZER

We have 318 men ready.

ABRAM

They will be enough.

ELIEZER

Where did they go?

ABRAM

Unic said they crossed the Jordan
and went north towards Damascus.

ELIEZER

My home town.

ABRAM

We're going to have to move quickly.
They have some time ahead of us,
but since they are leading prisoners,
they will be slowed.

ELIEZER

Then we'd better get going.

ABRAM

Agreed.

Abram walks over to Sarai.

ABRAM

Unic came back with news of Lot
being kidnapped. We're going after
his capters. Unic is asleep in
our tent.

SARAI

I'll take care of him.

They embrace briefly.

ABRAM
I'll be back soon.

SARAI
Be careful.

ABRAM
I will.

Abram runs over to the men. He signals them to follow. They run after him eastward toward the Jordan.

EXT. EAST OF THE JORDAN - DAY

The men have stopped for a moment to look at the ground. Eliezer runs up to Abram. The other men are scoping around a large trampled area.

ELIEZER
It looks like they rested here for a moment.

ABRAM
Can you tell where they went?

ELIEZER
We're checking around the perimeter of the trampled area to see where the group may have gone to.

MAN
Here!

Abram and Eliezer run over to where the man called out.

ELIEZER
What is it?

MAN
The tracks lead off in this direction.

ABRAM
Still north.

ELIEZER

Yes, but veering to Hobah.

ABRAM

Let's go.

The troop runs off again, following the tracks.

EXT. HOBAB - NIGHT

Abram and Eliezer look over a ridge at Kederlaomer's encampment of a few thousand troops. They also see the prisoners from Sodom and the booty as well. They move back down behind the ridge.

ELIEZER

There are more of them than there are of us.

ABRAM

That's an understatement.

ELIEZER

What are we going to do?

ABRAM

Take half the men east, and I'll go west. Find the tents of the leaders. Route them and the rest will scatter.

ELIEZER

Yes, sir.

EXT. KEDERLAOMER'S CAMP - NIGHT

Kederlaomer stands at his tent with Tidal and a Prince of his armies.

KEDERLAOMER

Have you placed guards around the encampment?

PRINCE

Yes, my lord.

TIDAL

You ordered many of the troops sent home. Was that wise?

KEDERLAOMER

Do not question my authority, slave. Who would stand against us?

At this, a cry raises from one of the borders. And then from another.

KEDERLAOMER

What's going on?

A man runs up to him.

MAN

My lord, we're under attack!

KEDERLAOMER

Well, fight them.

At this, the men all run in a dozen different directions. The prisoners sit still and watch the pandemonium. Abram runs up to them and spots Lot.

LOT

Abram!

ABRAM

Sorry it took so long to reach you.

LOT

It's ok.

Abram runs off to join the men. Kederlaomer and the Three Kings watch as their army falls apart around them. Abram and Eliezer lead the men straight for the tents of the kings.

Nimrod sees Abram running toward him. His eyes widen.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

From the king's dream in "From Babel to Canaan," Fire Abram approaches Nimrod with a drawn sword. Nimrod flees through the line of troops. Fire Abram throws the egg which hits him in the back of the head and turns into a river, swallowing the troops. Nimrod flees with the other three kings.

END FLASHBACK

NIMROD

Run!

KEDERLAOMER

Yes!

Kederlaomer, Nimrod, Tidal, and Arioch all flee with their troops.

As the last of the troops disappear into the night, Abram and his men cheer.

ABRAM

Eliezer, how many did we lose?

ELIEZER

None!

ABRAM

God delivered them into our hands.
We couldn't lose.

ELIEZER

Do you think the king will reward us?

ABRAM

In the name of the Lord God Most High
I will accept nothing belonging to
him, not even a thread or the thong
of a sandal, so he will not be able
to say, "I made Abram rich."

EXT. VALLEY OF SHAVAH - DAY

Abram leads his men along with all the people and property of Sodom and meets Bera, the king of Sodom, in the Valley of the Kings.

BERA

Thank you. Thank you so very much.
We are forever in your debt.

ABRAM

Don't thank me. Give your thanks
to the God of all creation who
went with us into battle.

BERA

Please, give me the people, but keep
all the goods for yourself.

ABRAM

I have raised my hand to the Lord, God
Most High, Creator of heaven and earth,
and have taken an oath that I will
accept nothing belonging to you, not
even a thread or the thong of a sandal,
so that you will never be able to say,
"I made Abram rich." I will accept
nothing but what my men have eaten and
the share that belongs to the men who
went with me-to Aner, Eshcol and Mamre.
Let them have their share.

BERA

As you wish, but do not answer so
quickly. Wait until we leave, and then
decide.

ABRAM

As you wish.

Bera moves off to greet his people. The king of Jerusalem,
MELCHIZEDEK, walks up to Abram with provisions of bread and
wine.

MELCHIZEDEK

God was with you on your journey?

ABRAM

He was.

Abram looks at Melchizedek, almost disbelieving.

ABRAM

You know the God of heaven? The
Lord God who created all mankind?

MELCHIZEDEK

I know the God of Shem, Noah, and
the God who created Adam, the first
man.

ABRAM

Who are you?

MELCHIZEDEK

I am the king of Salem and priest
and servant of God Most High.

ABRAM

May you be forever blessed.

Melchizedek places his hand on Abram's shoulder.

MELCHIZEDEK

Blessed be Abram by God Most High,
Creator of heaven and earth.
And blessed be God Most High, who
delivered your enemies into your
hands.

ABRAM

Amen.

Abram walks over to Bera.

ABRAM

King Bera, I have changed my mind.

BERA

Excellent. Will you take everything
I have offered?

ABRAM

No. Give me a tenth of everything.

BERA

It is yours.

ABRAM

Prepare it for departure. Send it
with Melchizedek.

BERA

Melchizedek? Of Salem?

ABRAM

He is a priest of God Most High.
Consider it my gift to God for
all He has given me.

BERA

As you wish.

Abram walks back to Melchizedek.

MELCHIZEDEK

God will give you what he promised.

Abram is taken aback by this statement.

ABRAM

(recovering)

Go in peace.

Abram walks to Eliezer and his men and they depart.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. ABRAM'S TENT - NIGHT

Abram sits inside his tent, head in thought. Sarai sits up in bed.

SARAI

Are you ok?

ABRAM

Yes.

SARAI

What are you doing?

ABRAM

Just thinking.

He turns to her and smiles.

ABRAM

I'm fine.

SARAI

When are you coming to bed?

ABRAM

Soon. Go to sleep.

She lays back down and sleeps.

ABRAM

When? When will it happen? Will
it happen?

GOD

Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your
shield, your very great reward.

ABRAM

O Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus? You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.

GOD

This man will not be your heir, but a son coming from your own body will be your heir.

The tent flaps open of their own accord. Abram rises and walks outside.

EXT. ABRAM'S ENCAMPMENT - NIGHT

Abram stops outside his tent. The tent flaps close.

GOD

Look up at the heavens and count the stars-if indeed you can count them. So shall your offspring be.

ABRAM

I believe you.

GOD

I am the Lord, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you the land to take possession of it.

ABRAM

O Sovereign Lord, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?

GOD

This coming evening, just before the sun sets, bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon. Arrange them in the custom of today and I will pass between them confirming my oath with you.

EXT. HEBRON HILLSIDE - SUNSET

Abram places halves of the heifer, goat and ram opposite each other on the ground. He places the dove and pigeon opposite each other.

He stands back and waits. Vultures fly down to the carcasses. Abram drives them away. He stands back again.

The sun passes below the horizon. Abram collapses into a sleep. As Abram sleeps, God speaks to him.

GOD

Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years. But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions. You, however, will go to your fathers in peace and be buried at a good old age. In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure.

Darkness reigns as Abram wakes back up. A smoking firepot with a blazing torch appears on the ground. Abram watches as it passes between the pieces.

GOD

To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi River of Egypt to the great River, the Euphrates - the land of the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites, Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaites, Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites and Jebusites.

Abram looks upon this display in absolute awe.

EXT. ABRAM'S ENCAMPMENT - HEBRON - DAY

SUPER: "2033 Anno Mundi"

Abram sits outside his tent. Sarai walks up behind him. She appears to have been crying. Abram looks at her.

ABRAM

Sarai, what is it?

SARAI

Look, I know that the Lord has promised to give you offspring to inherit this land.

ABRAM

He confirmed it with me 11 years ago by covenant.

SARAI

And the offspring was to come from your own body?

ABRAM

Yes. I had feared Eliezer was to inherit my estate, but the Lord showed me otherwise. We are to have children.

SARAI

No, you are to have children.

ABRAM

What are you saying?

SARAI

I don't see any other way for our children to inherit this land- they may not come through your servant, but maybe they are supposed to come through mine.

ABRAM

What?

SARAI

Hagar!

Hagar exits the tent behind him and stands behind Abram. Abram stands, taking all this in.

SARAI

The Lord has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my maidservant; perhaps I can build family through her.

Abram looks from Sarai to Hagar. Hagar doesn't meet his gaze.

ABRAM

Hagar, do you agree to this?

HAGAR

I live to serve my mistress.

ABRAM

You have been my wife for forty-five years. My offspring should come through you.

Sarai clearly doesn't like what she's saying, but feels she has no choice. Her voice cracks worse, and the tears flow more as she continues.

SARAI

It's not going to happen, Abram! God has decided I am not worthy to build a family for you. Perhaps-

Sarai pauses a moment to collect herself.

SARAI

Perhaps, she will be worthy and although our children won't come through me, hers will count as mine, and we will have them finally.

ABRAM

Are you sure?

Her face says no, but she nods. She steps back to the tent and opens the flap.

SARAI

Go, now. Sleep with her so that
the promise of God may be fulfilled.

ABRAM

Very well. If that is your wish.

She nods again. Abram enters the tent with Hagar. Sarai releases the flap. She runs away from the tent a fair distance, collapses to the ground, bawling.

EXT. ABRAM'S ENCAMPMENT - DAY

SUPER: "Three months later"

Activity continues in the camp as it always has. Abram discusses something with Eliezer. Sarai carries water from a nearby well.

INT. HAGAR'S TENT - DAY

Hagar feels of her stomach. She smiles.

HAGAR

Can it be true? I have conceived.

Hagar steps outside the tent

EXT. ABRAM'S ENCAMPMENT - DAY

Hagar looks across the land to see Sarai carrying the water.

HAGAR

This can only be that I am better
before God than Sarai my mistress,
for all the days that my mistress
has been with my lord, she did not
conceive, but the Lord has caused
me in so short a time to conceive
by him.

Hagar proudly struts across the camp to Abram. He looks up at her. She smiles. He smiles and stands. Sarai looks over to them. She puts down her water and walks over.

HAGAR

My lord Abram, I have conceived.

ABRAM

Praise the Lord. Sarai! Did you hear, Hagar is pregnant. After so many years, we are to have a family.

Sarai is not as enthusiastic as Abram.

SARAI

Isn't that nice?

HAGAR

You know, of course, that the Lord found favor with me where he did not with you.

SARAI

Does he?

HAGAR

He does. I am the wife who bears children. You are now the maid who does the work.

SARAI

I have been his wife for many years. A position you will not soon fill.

HAGAR

A position I filled in three short months.

Sarai is clearly angered. She leaves the scene.

HAGAR

Go on. Be gone.

ABRAM

Hagar, I will not have you speak to Sarai in such a manner.

Hagar is shut down, unable to respond. Abram follows Sarai.

Sarai stops away from Hagar. Tears flow again.

SARAI

(broken, to herself)

This is surely nothing else but
that she must be better than I
am.

Abram approaches.

ABRAM

Sarai.

SARAI

(frustrated)

You are responsible for the wrong
I am suffering. When you prayed
to the Lord for children, why
didn't you pray for me so that I
would have your children? Why did
it have to be her?

She wipes away the tears.

SARAI

Now, when I speak to her in your
presence, she despises my words
and mocks me because she has
conceived, and you say nothing to
her!

Abram remains speechless in response.

SARAI

May the Lord judge between you and
me for what you've done to me.

Sarai turns away from him, pouting. Abram takes a few moments to
collect his thoughts. Slowly, he walks to Sarai, placing his
hands on her shoulders, lovingly.

ABRAM

Your servant is in your hands. Do
with her whatever you think best.

Sarai smiles, almost in evil satisfaction.

EXT. ABRAM'S ENCAMPMENT - DAY

Sarai is chasing Hagar out of the camp.

SARAI

Go on! Get out of here!

Hagar runs in fear until she stumbles to the ground. Sarai stands behind her.

HAGAR

Mistress, please. You would not throw a woman with child into the wilderness.

SARAI

Such is the fate of servants who disrespect their mistresses. You have no place here until you learn respect.

HAGAR

I am sorry.

SARAI

Get out of here!

Hagar gets to her feet and runs away.

EXT. SPRING OF SHUR - DAY

Hagar runs until she reaches a well. No one can be seen for miles around her. She collapses to the ground, crying. She looks back where she came from, regretfully.

A man suddenly walks up beside her. He is clothed in white.

ANGEL

Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from, and where are you going?

Hagar looks up at him. Her face is a wreck of tears and dirt.

HAGAR

I'm running away from my mistress,
Sarai.

The angel draws water from the well and produces a cloth. He dips it in the water and gently cleans off her face.

ANGEL

Go back to your mistress and submit to her. I will so increase your descendants that they will be too numerous to count. You are now with child and you shall have a son. You will name him Ishmael for the Lord has heard of your misery. He will be a wild donkey of a man; his hand will be against everyone and everyone's hand against him, and he will live in hostility toward all his brothers.

Hagar looks into the angel's eyes.

HAGAR

You are Lahai Roi. I have now seen the One who sees me.

ANGEL

Go now, and return.

Hagar nods, rises to her feet, and walks back.

EXT. ABRAM'S ENCAMPMENT - DAY

Hagar walks humbly into the camp to Abram and Sarai. She keeps her head bowed, not looking into their eyes.

HAGAR

An angel of the Lord came to me, mistress. He told me to return and submit to you. I am in your hands.

Sarai looks at Hagar, emotionless.

SARAI

If the Lord told you to return, then
I will accept you again as my servant.

Hagar nods.

HAGAR

If it please my mistress, I have
more to tell. The Lord had much to
say about this child...

INT. HAGAR'S TENT - DAY

SUPER: "2033 Anno Mundi"

Hagar is in the throes of childbirth. Sarai works with another
maidservant in order to deliver him.

EXT. HAGAR'S TENT - DAY

Abram paces outside the tent with Eliezer. The screams of Haagr
can be clearly heard.

SARAI (O.S.)

Come on, Hagar! Push!

Hagar screams again.

ELIEZER

It is times like this that I am
grateful to be a man.

ABRAM

It certainly is the most
unpleasant part of the process.

SARAI (O.S.)

One more!

Hagar gives a final scream and then silence. Abram and Eliezer
look to the tent in anticipation. A baby's cry cuts the silence.

Sarai exits the tent with the baby in her arms, afterbirth still
on him, only just wiped off.

SARAI

Congratulations, my husband, we
have a son.

Abram smiles. Sarai, finally, smiles back. Abram puts out his
arms and takes the baby. Abram and Sarai faun over him for a
moment before Abram turns to Eliezer.

ABRAM

(proudly)

Eliezer, this my son. My son,
Ishmael.

Eliezer smiles and gazes on the child.

ELIEZER

Well hello, Ishmael.

The three gaze upon the baby as we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

Source Material:

From the Bible: Genesis 13:5-16:16

From Extra-Canonical Works: The Book of Jashar 15:35-16:36