

- h) That smoking pot of fire with a brilliant flame coming from it represented the Lord and the two halves represented the Lord and Abram. They were making a covenant.
 - i) This was done to ratify that covenant so that Abram would know he was going to get the land.
 - j) He ratified the covenant by performing that ceremony.
- f. Birth of Ishmael (16)
- 1) We are told that 10 years had gone by since Abram had come to the land of Canaan and there is still not the slightest indication that Sarai is going to have a child.
 - 2) Sarai decides that she doesn't want to wait on the Lord and she is going to take matters in her own hand because the Lord is going to slow.
 - i) She has an Egyptian handmaid named Hagar.
 - ii) She wants Abram to take her maid and have a baby by her and she'll build her family through her.
 - iii) Abram agreed to her suggestion.
 - iv) Hagar is given to Abram.
 - a) Hagar becomes pregnant.
 - b) Hagar despises Sarai
 - c) Sarai complains to Abram and he tells Sarai to do to her whatever she wants.
 - d) Sarai mistreated her so much that she left and went to the road called the way to Shur.
 - v) Hagar comes to a well and the Lord appears to her and tells her:
 - a) I want you to go back and submit to Sarai.
 - b) You are carrying a baby boy and his name is going to be Ishmael.
 - c) Ishmael is going to be "a donkey of a man, his hand will be against everyone, and everyone's hand will be against him, and he will live in hostility toward all his brothers" (16:12).
 - d) Ishmael is going to have many descendants (16:10).
 - vi) She obeys the Lord and goes back, submits to Sarai, and has a baby boy.