



FOUNDATIONS

THE GREAT DIVIDE

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GENESIS 21

**THROUGH WHOM DOES GOD WORK TO FULFILL
HIS PROMISES AND COVENANT WITH US?**

GENESIS 21:8

“THE CHILD GREW AND WAS WEANED, AND ON THE DAY ISAAC WAS WEANED ABRAHAM HELD A GREAT FEAST.”

- **A DAY OF CELEBRATION.**
- **A DAY OF JOY.**
- **A DAY THAT WOULD SUDDENLY TURN DARK**



1. A GLORIOUS DAY TURNS DARK.

GENESIS 21:9

**“BUT SARAH SAW THAT THE SON WHOM HAGAR
THE EGYPTIAN HAD BORNE TO ABRAHAM WAS
MOCKING...”**

**WHAT BEGAN AS A CELEBRATION
BECAME A MOMENT OF CONFLICT.**

GALATIANS 4:28—29

**“YOU, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, LIKE ISAAC, ARE
CHILDREN OF PROMISE.”**

**“THE SON BORN ACCORDING TO THE FLESH
PERSECUTED THE SON BORN BY THE POWER OF
THE SPIRIT.”**

WORDS CAN WOUND

GALATIANS 4:29

**“THE SON BORN ACCORDING TO THE FLESH
PERSECUTED THE SON BORN BY THE POWER OF THE
SPIRIT.”**

THE WOUNDS WE CANNOT SEE



**WE MUST BE GENTLE AND LOVING WITH
OUR WORDS.**

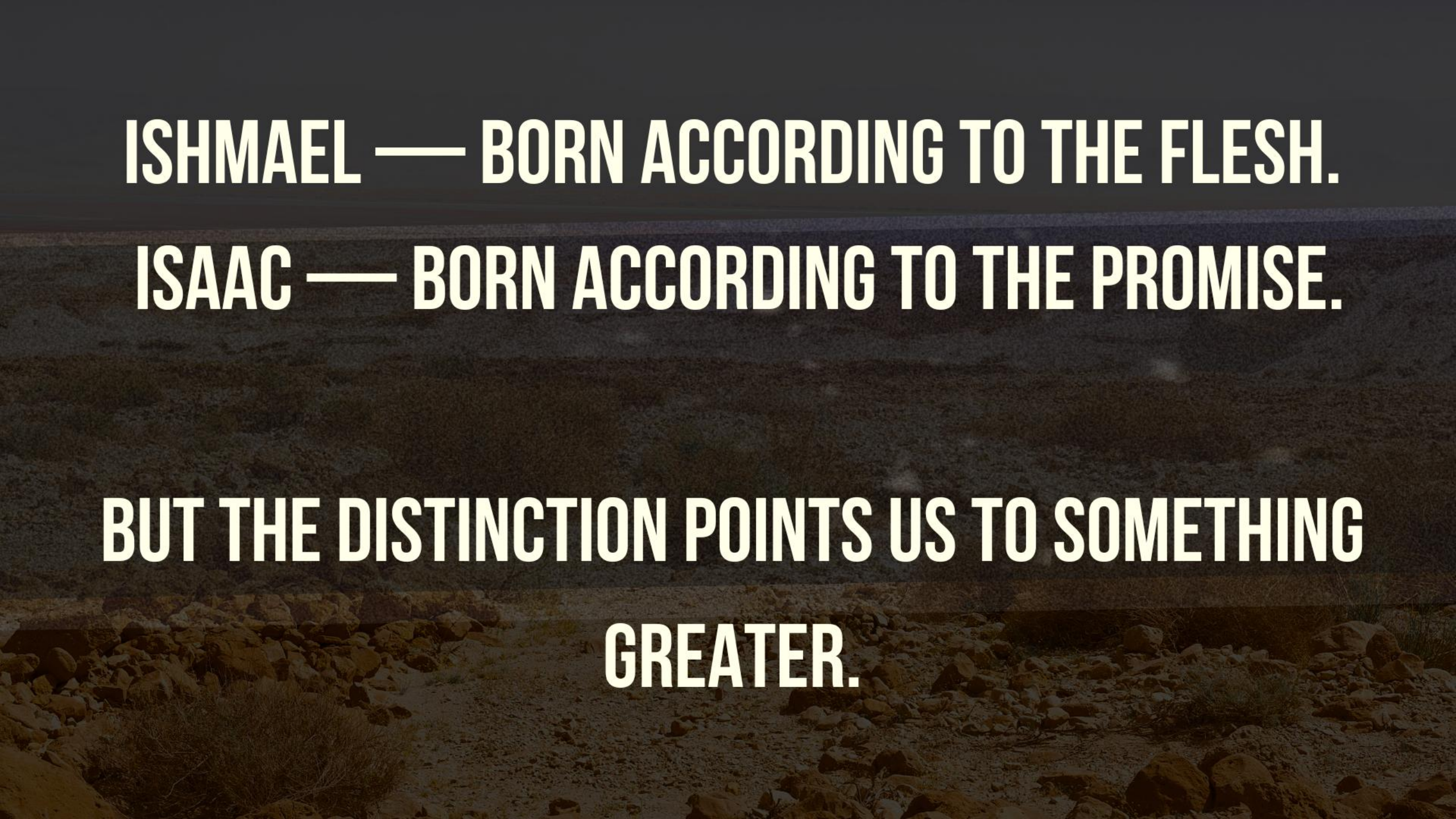


2. DESIGNATION OF THESE TWO BOYS.



“BORN ACCORDING TO THE FLESH”

“BORN BY THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT”

The background of the image is a dark, atmospheric landscape. The foreground is filled with numerous small, light-colored rocks and patches of dry, brownish vegetation. A faint, horizontal line of light suggests a distant horizon or a body of water under a dark sky. The overall tone is somber and contemplative, with a color palette dominated by dark blues, greys, and earthy browns.

ISHMAEL — BORN ACCORDING TO THE FLESH.

ISAAC — BORN ACCORDING TO THE PROMISE.

**BUT THE DISTINCTION POINTS US TO SOMETHING
GREATER.**

FROM ISAAC TO JESUS
JESUS CHRIST, THE SAVIOUR,
COMES THROUGH THE LINE OF ISAAC.
ISAAC WAS BORN THROUGH GOD'S
INTERVENTION.
JESUS WAS BORN THROUGH THE SPIRIT.



JOHN 3:3

**“NO ONE CAN SEE THE KINGDOM OF GOD
UNLESS THEY ARE BORN AGAIN.”**

BORN OF THE SPIRIT

JOHN 3:5—6

**“NO ONE CAN ENTER THE KINGDOM OF GOD UNLESS
THEY ARE BORN OF WATER AND THE SPIRIT.”**

**“FLESH GIVES BIRTH TO FLESH, BUT THE SPIRIT
GIVES BIRTH TO SPIRIT.”**

**THE ANSWER IS NOT FOUND IN THE SEED OF
ISHMAEL.
IT IS FOUND IN JESUS.**

**3. WE HAVE BEEN CREATED, HAVE
BEEN RECREATED,
WILL BE RECREATED.**

ROMANS 8:9—11

“THE SPIRIT OF GOD LIVES IN YOU...”

“THE SPIRIT GIVES LIFE...”

**“HE WHO RAISED CHRIST FROM THE DEAD WILL
ALSO GIVE LIFE TO YOUR MORTAL BODIES...”**

CREATED. RECREATED. ONE DAY, RECREATED



4. GOD STILL PROVIDES

GENESIS 21:17–18

“GOD HAS HEARD THE BOY CRYING...”

**“LIFT THE BOY UP AND TAKE HIM BY THE HAND, FOR I
WILL MAKE HIM INTO A GREAT NATION.”**

GOD PROVIDED FOR ISHMAEL.

GOD WAS WITH HIM AS HE GREW.



**BUT SALVATION COMES THROUGH CHRIST
ALONE.**

WHAT MAKES A TRULY GREAT NATION?

DEUTERONOMY 6:4-5

**“HEAR, O ISRAEL: THE LORD OUR GOD, THE LORD IS
ONE.”**

**“LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART
AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL YOUR
STRENGTH.”**

DEUTERONOMY 6:12

“BE CAREFUL THAT YOU DO NOT FORGET THE LORD, WHO BROUGHT YOU OUT OF EGYPT, OUT OF THE LAND OF SLAVERY.”

The background is a wide-angle photograph of a desert landscape. The foreground is filled with dry, brownish-yellow scrub bushes and patches of light-colored, rocky soil. In the middle ground, there are rolling hills and a winding path that leads towards the horizon. The sky is a pale, hazy blue. At the very top of the image, there is a horizontal row of 12 dark gray, rounded rectangular shapes, resembling the sprocket holes of a film strip.

**WILL WE CHOOSE THE LORD OUR GOD
AND HIS WAYS?**