



## CHRIST IN STRANGE PLACES

### **The Strange Visitor**

11.26.2023

Genesis 18:1-15

Sergio Gomes

### **Genesis 18:1-15**

The Lord appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground. He said, “If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by. Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree. Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant.”

“Very well,” they answered, “do as you say.” So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. “Quick,” he said, “get three seahs of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread.” Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he

stood near them under a tree. “Where is your wife Sarah?” they asked him. “There, in the tent,” he said.

Then one of them said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son.” Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, “After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?” Then the Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Will I really have a child, now that I am old?’ Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son.” Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, “I did not laugh.” But he said, “Yes, you did laugh.”

## **Old Promises**

### **Awkward Laughs**

### **Possible Impossibilities**

## **Old Promises**

Genesis 18:1 “...in the heat of the day.”

Genesis 3:8 “...walking in the garden in the cool of the day.”

Genesis 18:9 “Where is your wife Sarah?”

Genesis 3:9 “Where are you?”

Genesis 18:10 “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son.”

Genesis 3:15 “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; *he will crush your head*, and you will strike his heel.”

## **Old Promises - The Advent of Christ**

### **Awkward Laughs**

Plausibility Structures - Our own set truths of the world that we navigate in that defines the truths, rules, and roles we play within them.

**Genesis 18:9**

“Where is your wife Sarah?” they asked him. “There, in the tent,” he said.

**Genesis 18:11**

Sarah was already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing.

**Genesis 18:12**

“After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?”

**Possible Impossibilities****Genesis 18:14**

Is anything too hard for the Lord?

**Genesis 18:14**

Is anything too *wonderful* for the Lord?

**Genesis 21:1-2**

Now the Lord was gracious to Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah what he had promised. Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised him.