

Have you ever received something that was promised to you much later than you had expected it? Did you laugh when it finally happened? Did you feel ashamed that you gave up hope on the promise? Did you experience joy and wonder of the gift long forgotten?

Did it remind you that God is faithful to his word and promises? Was there a condition that was meant to be met before you could receive his promise?

These were the questions running through my mind as I read this passage and tried to put myself in Sarah's shoes (or bare feet?).

I was also struck by the pattern that emerged so relevant to the birth of our Savior. Isaac was a foreshadow of the Messiah to come, Jesus Christ.

- Both were specially promised sons.
- Both conceptions were miraculous.
- Both were born after a period of delay.
- Both mothers were given assurance by truth of God's omnipotence.
- Both were given names rich with meaning before they were born.
- Both births occurred at God's appointed.
- Both births were accompanied by great joy.

December 4

Genesis 21.1-7

Friday

Jesus, thank you for the reminder that you are the promised one. Each year as we celebrate your birth, we are reminded anew that God was and always will be faithful in delivering what he has promised. It may not be in our timing or to our satisfaction but there is joy in the wait and the assurance that we will receive that gift one day. Amen.

Alison Brinkman

Sarah



The Promise | Renáta Fucíková | 1996