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**“Am I in the Place of God?”**  
**Observing God’s Involvement in Life & Death**  
(Genesis)

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**30:1-2** <sup>1</sup> Now when Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister, and said to Jacob, "Give me children, or else I die!" <sup>2</sup> And Jacob's anger was aroused against Rachel, and he said, "**Am I in the place of God**, who has withheld from you the fruit of the womb?"

**I. God \_\_\_\_\_ Life – Creation**

**II. God \_\_\_\_\_ Life – Conception**

**A. \_\_\_\_\_ by God (“male & female”)**

**1:27** So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

**B. \_\_\_\_\_ by God (“be fruitful...”)**

**1:28** Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

**9:1** So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth."

**9:7** And as for you, be fruitful and multiply; Bring forth abundantly in the earth And multiply in it."

**C. \_\_\_\_\_ by God**

**1. The opening & closing of the womb**

**20:17-18** <sup>17</sup> So Abraham prayed to God; and God healed Abimelech, his wife, and his female servants. Then they bore *children*; <sup>18</sup> for the Lord had closed up all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.

**29:31-32** When the Lord saw that Leah *was* unloved, He opened her womb; but Rachel *was* barren. <sup>32</sup> So Leah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Reuben; for she said, "The Lord has surely looked on my affliction. Now therefore, my husband will love me."

**30:1-2** (above)

**2. The giving & withholding of children**

**25:21** Now Isaac pleaded with the Lord for his wife, because she *was* barren; and the Lord granted his plea, and Rebekah his wife conceived.

**3. The promises given to people and their descendants**

**17:6-7** <sup>6</sup> I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup> And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you.

**4. The number, timing, & gender of offspring**

**21:1-2** <sup>1</sup> And the Lord visited Sarah as He had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as He had spoken. <sup>2</sup> For Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.

**D. \_\_\_\_\_ by God (“blessed them...”)**

**22:15-17** <sup>15</sup> Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, <sup>16</sup> and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only *son*-- <sup>17</sup> blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which *is* on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.

**28:3** "May God Almighty bless you, And make you fruitful and multiply you, That you may be an assembly of peoples; (Isaac to Jacob)

**E. \_\_\_\_\_ by God (“Is there anything too hard for the Lord?”)**

**18:14** Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son."

**F. \_\_\_\_\_ to God (“...which the Lord God gave me”)**

**4:1** Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, "I have acquired a man from the Lord."

**4:25** And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth, "For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed."

**III. God \_\_\_\_\_ Life – Provision**

**IV. God \_\_\_\_\_ Life – Termination**

**7:21** And all flesh died that moved on the earth: birds and cattle and beasts and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every man.

**9:6** Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man.

**50:15-21** <sup>19</sup> Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for **am I in the place of God?**

**1 Sam 2:6** The Lord kills and makes alive; He brings down to the grave and brings up. (Deut 32:39; 2 Kings 5:7; John 11:25)