

Now here is the way he draws that type out of Genesis. He says that Abraham is the image of a perfect Christian, and the life of Abraham is to show us how a Christian is to live. Sarah is the image of Christian wisdom, and Hagar is the image of philosophy or ~~human~~ human wisdom.

Now, he says that Abraham lived with Sarah for a long time. But there were no children. And so he says that a Christian, so long as he confines himself to the study of divine wisdom and religion alone, won't, will never bring forth any great or excellent gifts, excellent proofs. But Abraham, then, with the consent of Sarah, took to him Hagar, and Clement says that ^{this shows that a} Christian should embrace the wisdom of this world, or the philosophy, and that Sarah, or divine wisdom, will not withhold her consent. Lastly, after Hagar had borne Ishmael to Abraham, he resumed his intercourse with Sarah and of her begat Isaac. The true import of which is, that a Christian, after once having thoroughly grounded himself in human learning and philosophy, will, if he then devotes himself to the culture of human wisdom, be capable of propagating the race of true Christians, and of rendering essential service to the Church.

You see how this lesson can be drawn, in the story of ~~Hag~~ Hagar and of Sarah. If the stories in the Old Testament are not historical records of something that happened, or even if they are, the main purpose of them is to give us illustrations from which we can draw truths. Many learned and able writers ^{have used} ~~used~~ this method, finding the name of Able, for instance, "emptiness" prefigures our Lord's humiliation. The occupation of Able prefigures Christ's office of the great shepherd of the sheep. The withdrawal of Isaac from his father's house into the Land of ~~Masa~~ Moriah, shows Christ, ~~being~~ led out of the temple to Calvary. Adam's awakening out of sleep, Adam is a figure of Christ, so his awakening out of sleep shows Christ's resurrection from the dead. Samson's meeting a young lion by the way and what follows, represents Christ meeting Paul on the way to Damascus, with the