The birth of Isaac is an example of God keeping His promises after a long time.

Hebrews 11:10-11 (NIV) - For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise.

God is never in a hurry to fulfill His promises.

God never loses track of a promise He has made.

There are over 7,000 promises in the Bible.

Is the promise universal in application? *(John 3:16; Romans 10:13)*

Is the promise conditional? *(Luke 9:23; James 4:10; 1 John 1:9)*

Is the promise personal in nature? *(Acts 16:31; Acts 18:10)*

When God's promises are fulfilled, past mistakes can still carry lingering consequences.

Genesis 21:8-10 (NIV) - The child grew and was weaned, and on the day Isaac was weaned Abraham held a great feast. But Sarah saw that the son whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham was mocking, and she said to Abraham, "Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that woman's son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac."

When God's promises are fulfilled, God may still ask for more.

Genesis 22:2 (NIV) - Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love — Isaac — and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you."

When God's promises are fulfilled, your past mistakes may carry on for generations.

Genesis 26:1 (NIV) - Now there was a famine in the land — besides the previous famine in Abraham's time — and Isaac went to Abimelek king of the Philistines in Gerar.

Genesis 26:12 (NIV) - Isaac planted crops in that land and the same year reaped a hundredfold, because the Lord blessed him.

NOTES

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