

God Gives the Seed, God Gives the Sacrifice

Genesis Chapter 15

Gen 15:1 The Shield vs 1-6

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great."

- "The Word of the Lord came" In the Bible how does it come:
 - Personal Appearance of God (Adam, Abram, Jacob, Moses, Joshua, Solomon,) Titus 2 & 3 God's love and Salvation appeared to all men
 - By an audible voice (David, Nebuchadnezzar, Jesus & John the Baptist, Peter, John)
 - By visions and dreams (Job, Abram, Jacob, Joseph, Iddo the seer, Zachariah, Daniel, Nebuchadnezzar, Ezra, the Prophets, Pau, young men and old men)
 - By the ministry of angels (Hagar, Abraham, Camp of Israel in Exodus, Balam & his donkey, Gideon, Manoah & her Husband, David, Elijah, Zecharia, Joseph & Mary, Zacharis, Philip, Corneillus, Peter in Jail, John, 7 churches in Revelation)
 - By the Holy Spirit on the mind of man (Moses, Balaam, Saul, Jeremiah, Daniel, All Believers 1 Cor 2:16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.)
 - By making a passage of Scripture alive (Jesus used scripture in His argument towards whomever he spoke, Paul, All Believers Gal 3:22 "But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe." 2 Tim 3:16 "All scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:")
 - By the ministry of a pastor, teacher, evangelist, prophet, apostle Eph4:11 "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;"
- On the heels of a great victory where Abram does not take any spoils of war but gives glory to God alone, God assures Abram and tells him that "I, the LORD am your victory and reward.
- We need to be a people who put ourselves in the position of allowing God to be our victory and reward. What does that feel/look like:
 - Fear What if God doesn't do this for me?
 - Need of Protection What if others cause this not to happen?
 - Need of Compensation or Satisfaction What are my motives?

Gen 15:2 The Seed vs 2-6

Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will You give me, since I am childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"

Gen 15:3 And Abram said, "Since You have given no offspring to me, one born in my house is my heir."

Gen 15:4 Then behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "This man will not be your heir; but one who will come forth from your own body, he shall be your heir."

Gen 15:5 And He took him outside and said, "Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."

Gen 15:6 Then he believed in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.

- *A Shield, A Reward* What good is it compared to an heir? A Son!
- *Eliezer of Damascus* - a good man, Abrams right hand man.
Genesis 24 send to seek wife for Isaac But he was not a son!
- *David Guznik* "Did Abram's question mean he doubted God? Yes. But there is a difference between a doubt that denies God's promise and a doubt which desires God's promise. Abram wants to believe and is looking to God to strengthen his faith."
- *Verse 4* Repeats promise (Gen 12 & Gen 13)
Repeated because we need to hear it over & over
- *God often tells us a portion of his plan for us. It is certain. It is conveyed to evidently that we often misunderstand timing. Abram's promise was yet 15 years off. God may show you a plan. It may very well be a number of years off.*
Hebrews 6:11-12 "And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end, so that you will not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises."
- *Look to heaven see the stars one of those stars will be the Bright and Morning Star Rev 22:16*
- *Vs 6*
 - 2 types of righteousness Our own effort. Gods Accounting We cannot accomplish the 1st, so we must seek the 2nd.
 - *Abram Believed the Lord. Put his trust in!!!*
 - 1st mention of Believe 1st mention of righteousness Rule of 1st mention defines words
 - i. "What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." (Romans 4:1-3)
 - ii. "Does this blessedness then come upon the circumcised only, or upon the uncircumcised also? For we say that faith was accounted to Abraham for righteousness. How then was it accounted? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised." (Romans 4:9-10)
 - iii. "And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness." Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead.' (Romans 4:19-24).
 - iv. "Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?; just as Abraham "believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham." (Galatians 3:5-7)
- *Not Believing in God but Believing God James 2:19 "demonic faith"*

Gen 15:7 **The Sacrifice** vs 7-21

And He said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess it."

Gen 15:8 He said, "O Lord GOD, how may I know that I will possess it?"

- *You and I realize that if God said it it is done. Yet, you and I need assurance. Abram needed assurance. God didn't. But God goes ahead and meets that need that is found in Abram. God meets that need that is us.*
- *Abram is just like us. God said it we believe it. But then we start to reason with in ourselves and we are then not so sure.*
- *"How may I know" -- Mark 9:24 father w/ possessed boy "I do believe, Lord help my unbelief"*

Gen 15:9 So He said to him, "Bring Me a three year old heifer, and a three year old female goat, and a three year old ram, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon."

Gen 15:10 Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, and laid each half opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds.

- *Jeremiah 34:18-20 a practice of that culture*

Gen 15:11 The birds of prey came down upon the carcasses, and Abram drove them away.

- *While waiting for God's promise "the birds (evil typology) come to prevent covenant*

Gen 15:12 Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, terror {and} great darkness fell upon him.

Gen 15:13 {God} said to Abram, "Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, where they will be enslaved and oppressed four hundred years.

Gen 15:14 "But I will also judge the nation whom they will serve, and afterward they will come out with many possessions.

Gen 15:15 "As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you will be buried at a good old age.

Gen 15:16 "Then in the fourth generation they will return here, for the iniquity of the Amorite is not yet complete."

- *Before the covenant is official, God lets Abram know the rest of the story concerning his descendants*

Gen 15:17 It came about when the sun had set, that it was very dark, and behold, {there appeared} a smoking oven and a flaming torch which passed between these pieces.

Gen 15:18 On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram,

- *"made" is Hebrew "karath" to cut God literally Cut a covenant with Abram*
- *Smoke and fire similar to the Exodus account*
- *Passing thru the bloody pieces states that the party is agreeing that the same slaughter would happen to them if they keep not the terms of the covenant.*
- *Only God passed thru the cut parts Unilateral Covenant This was a covenant based upon God alone not on who Abram is or what he does. He simply believes God.*
- *God did the same with us through the bloody body of Jesus. Our covenant is Unilateral. It is based upon who God is not on who we are or what we do. We simply believe God.*

saying, "To your descendants I have given this land, From the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates:

Gen 15:19 the Kenite and the Kenizzite and the Kadmonite

Gen 15:20 and the Hittite and the Perizzite and the Rephaim

Gen 15:21 and the Amorite and the Canaanite and the Girgashite and the Jebusite."

- *"For a very brief time, under Solomon (1 Kings 8:65) and possibly again under Jeroboam II (2 Kings 14:25), the children of Israel ruled all this territory, as a token of the final and permanent possession they will have in the future." (Morris)*

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