

April 26, 2020

Genesis 15

“Abraham – A Life of Faith: God, How Do I Know?”

I. God gave Abram assurance. (v. 1)

1 After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I [am] your shield, your exceedingly great reward." - **Genesis 15:1 NKJV**

II. Abram responded with a question. (vv. 2-3)

2 But Abram said, "Lord GOD, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house [is] Eliezer of Damascus?" 3 Then Abram said, "Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!" - **Genesis 15:2-3 NKJV**

III. God reassured Abram with a promise. (vv. 4-5)

4 And behold, the word of the LORD [came] to him, saying, "This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir." 5 Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be." - **Genesis 15:4-5 NKJV**

IV. Abram is commended for his faith. (v. 6)

6 And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness. - **Genesis 15:6 NKJV**

V. God gave Abram a reminder. (v. 7)

7 Then He said to him, "I [am] the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to inherit it." - **Genesis 15:7 NKJV**

VI. Abram responded with another question. (v. 8)

8 And [Abram] said, "Lord GOD, how shall I know that I will inherit it?" - **Genesis 15:8 NKJV**

VII. God expanded on His promise. (vv. 12-16)

12 Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, horror [and] great darkness fell upon him. 13 Then He said to Abram: "Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land [that is] not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. 14 "And also the nation whom they serve I will

judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions. 15 "Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. 16 "But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites [is] not yet complete."

- **Genesis 15:12-16 NKJV**

VIII. God sealed a covenant. (vv. 9-11, 17-21)

9 So He said to him, "Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." 10 Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, down the middle, and placed each piece opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. 11 And when the vultures came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away...

17 And it came to pass, when the sun went down and it was dark, that behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those pieces. 18 On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates-- 19 "the Kenites, the Kenezites, the Kadmonites, 20 "the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, 21 "the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites." - **Genesis 15:9-11, 17-21 NKJV**

IX. So what do we take away?

- It is okay to ask God questions.
- God provides us assurance
 - Read God's word. The promises are there repeated over and over.
 - 21 and [Abraham was] fully convinced that what [God] had promised He was also able to perform. 22 And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness." 23 Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, 24 but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, - **Romans 4:21-24 NKJV**
- God has sealed a covenant with us.
 - 25 In the same manner [He] also [took] the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink [it], in remembrance of Me." - **1 Corinthians 11:25 NKJV**