

**Series "In The Beginning...God"**  
**"The Promised Land"**  
**Genesis 15:7-21**  
**Study-36**

**The Abrahamic Covenant is an Unconditional Covenant.** The covenant is recorded in **Genesis 12:1-3**. The Covenant Ceremony is Recorded in **Genesis 15**.

**Promised Land** - represents "*inheritance, promises, and blessings from God*"  
*Can't Separate The People of Israel From The Land Of Israel, Both Equally Make The Covenant!*

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "God's Promise Land Included The Furnace Of Affliction Upon His People And Judgement Upon The Nations."

- 1. Verses 7-11 God's Reassurance**
- 2. Verses 12-1 God's Detailed Promise**
- 3. Verses 17-21 God's Promise**

**1. Verses 7-11 God's Reassurance:**

**Genesis 15:7 And He said to him, Context – And** Abram after 10 years of waiting for a son, has a lapse of faith. God's Word comes to him with assurance. God repeats His promise of descendants as the stars of the sky. Abram's response to God's Word was to believe **Genesis 15:6** Which teaches "Justification By Faith"

**He said to him, "I am the LORD** Yahweh "*I Am*" or "*He That Is*" *The Self-Existent God, Having No Beginning And Having No End!*

**who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans,**

**God Would Repeat These Same Words To The Nation Of Israel When Giving The Mosaic Covenant: Exodus 20:2**

God had told Abraham that He would give the land of Canaan to him and his descendants (**Genesis 12:7; 13:15, 17**), **Divine Drama of "Salvation Took Place"** The land of Israel **The Messiah Returns To Reign On Earth.**

**to give you this land to possess it."** God settled the matter of Abram's heir, now God proceeds to reaffirm His promise of the inheritance of land.

**Genesis 15:8 He said, "O Lord GOD, how may I know that I will possess it?" Context –** Abram believed God's promise of a son, **Genesis 15:5-6**

**Abram's question was not a sign of unbelief, he was discouraged and thought it was time for God to act! Made a request for a token of assurance (Abram wanted further clarification) Mark 9:24**

**"A Sign" became characteristic of Israel. Pharisees and Sadducees - Matthew 16:1,4**

**Zacharias** (Father of John the Baptist) **Luke 1:18-20**

**Paul said, 1 Corinthians 1:22 For indeed Jews ask for signs**

**Matthew 7:7-8 (Pure Heart can ask the Lord)**

**What is described in 15:9-17 was known in Abram's day as "Cutting A Covenant." Genesis 15:18** The word **made** – "*cut*" "*to cut a covenant*"

**Genesis 15:9 So He said to him,** It was God who initiated it.

**three-year-old heifer, and a three-year-old female goat, and a three-year-old ram,** the 3 years of age is prime for animal sacrifice. **Genesis 3** through the sacrifice of an animal God covers Adam and Eve with animal skins. (Symbol of the cross) **Acts 10:43**

**Genesis 15:10 Only God passed through the pieces because God alone would see the covenant through. Jeremiah 34:18-20**

**Genesis 15:11 birds of prey came down upon the carcasses, birds** - in Scripture speak of "*enemies, evil, wickedness and demonic opposition*" **(Jesus' Sower & The Seed) Matthew 13:19**

**and Abram drove them away.** Abram spent his time fighting off the birds of prey. (Covenant was sure but it would take a long time) **(Ephesians 6:10-19)**

## **2. Verses 12-16 God's Detailed Promise:**

**Genesis 15:12 the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram;** Deep sleep fell upon Adam **Genesis 2:21** - God was creating Eve for Adam, slept so that (God could work) **Genesis 15:12** - Abraham - deep sleep (God could reveal to Abram)

**Daniel 8:18; 10:9** – Daniel - deep sleep (God showed what must be done)

**and behold, terror and great darkness fell upon him.** Abram is getting a preview of future sin, adversity, darkness of Jesus Christ upon the cross, **2 Corinthians 5:21**

**Genesis 15:13 God said to Abram, "Know for certain** the context is the sacrifice, it is through the understanding of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ that God reveals knowledge. **Amos 3:7 (Abram 1<sup>st</sup> Prophet Given A Covenant)**  
**1 John 5:20**

**that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs,** Egypt. Jacob and his family went to Egypt to be protected by Joseph (1876 BC to the Exodus 1446 BC).

**where they will be enslaved and oppressed** Pharaoh made Israelites slaves and afflicted them greatly **Exodus 1:11-12**

**four hundred years** was a time of longsuffering of God. God was working in the heart of His people and at the same time was giving Egypt time to come to Him. **Acts 7:6; Exodus 12:40** The thirty years was the period of time that Israel was treated well

**Genesis 15:14** God sent the ten plagues upon Egypt by which God broke the pride of Pharaoh and caused him to release Israel, **Exodus 5-15**

**Ezekiel 30:25-26; Exodus 12:35-36**

**Genesis 15:15 1<sup>st</sup> Promise To The Righteous To Be United With Their Loved Ones After Death: "As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; 1 Thessalonians 4:17-18**

**you will be buried at a good old age.** Abram would die at 175 years old (**Genesis 25:7**), which means Abram walked with God for a Century (12:4).

**Genesis 15:16 "Then in the fourth generation they will return here,** Generation (Abram's time) – 100 years, God's timing. 400 years would pass. **Genesis 46:2-44**

**for the iniquity of the Amorite is not yet complete."** The gross sin (Predominate Sin Was Sexual Perversion) God was not merciful. **2 Peter 3:9**

### **3. Verses 17-21 God's Promise:**

**Genesis 15:17 It came about when the sun had set,** it had been a long night and day **Genesis 15:5, 12 Now when the sun was going down,** spent the day driving away the birds from the sacrifice.

**that it was very dark,** it was not only night but very dark. Note, at the darkest hour God appears! **Mark 6:48**

**God's Appearance – God's Testing's: and behold, there appeared a smoking oven** – Theophany, appearance of Jesus Christ. (**Exodus 3:2**) a **smoking oven** - *furnace* – *to refine gold, silver* was also a symbol of the nation's suffering in Egypt **Deuteronomy 4:20; Isaiah 48:10; (1 Peter 1:7)**

**Any person used by the Lord must endure the furnace.**

**Light Of Deliverance: and a flaming torch** – During the 40 years of the wilderness, God was a pillar of fire by night. **Exodus 14:19-20; 1 John 1:5**

**God Alone Passed Through, Confirming His Promise: which passed between these pieces.** God alone would bring the fulfillment of the covenant, promise.

**Daniel 3:25**

**Genesis 15:18 God's Promise: On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram,** The word **made** – "*cut*" to "*cut*" a covenant meant to establish or make a covenant. every covenant was always set in blood. **Hebrews 9:18**

**Perpetual Occupation Of The Land: saying, "To your descendants, I have given this land,** given to Israel, but Israel never fully enjoyed it. **Genesis 13:15**

**Boundaries Of The Land: From the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates: Picture The Promise Land Boundary:**

**300,000 square miles.** The **Israelites claimed 30,000 square miles 10%.**

**Genesis 14:21-23 "GOD GIVES HIS BEST TO THOSE THAT LEAVE THE CHOICE TO HIM" Daniel 2:44**

**Verses 19-21 Ten Nations Of The Land: Genesis 15:19-21**

**Five Nations Singled Out: Deuteronomy 20:17**

#### **Application:**

1. Abram Took His Confusion To The Lord In Prayer. A Pure-Hearted Child Of God Can Seek God For Clarification. God Is Not Obligated To Respond To Our Whims.
2. Is Our Faith In The God Of Abram, The God Of Our Passage? Or The God Of Our Imagination? If We Have The God Of The Bible, We Will Be Able To Stand Tall, Even Until The Sin Of Our Culture Reaches Its Full Measure.