

SOJOURN: FAITH and RIGHTEOUSNESS

TEXT: Genesis 15:1-21

A Promise MADE:

- 1) **God reveals WHO HE IS and WHAT HE WILL DO for US:** Genesis 15:1. See also: Genesis 17:1; 26:24; Psalm 3:3, 18:2
- 2) **BUT we SEE and LIVE within broken REALITY – so we have HOLY DISCONTENTMENT:** Genesis 15:2–3
 - a) **Abram is LONGING for the PROMISE:** Genesis 12:1–2
 - b) **Abram is LONGING for a GOD-SHAPED and GOD-SIZED WORK:** Hebrews 11:10, 16. See also: Hebrews 13:14
 - c) **He’s SEEKING the INVASION of God’s KINGDOM:** Matt. 6:9b–10
- 3) **God PROMISES...**
 - a) **SATISFACTION – An HEIR:** Genesis 15:4
 - b) **SIGNIFICANCE – A PEOPLE:** Genesis 15:5 See: Gen. 13:16; 22:17
 - c) **SECURITY – A PLACE (HOME):** Genesis 15:7, 18b–19b

A Promise SEALED:

- 1) **God ANSWERS us IN our DOUBTS:** Genesis 15:8
- 2) **He uses TANGIBLE ELEMENTS:** Genesis 15:9–10
- 3) **He brings HOLY WEIGHT to the MOMENT:** Genesis 15:12
- 4) **He UNVEILS some DETAILS of His PROMISE:**
 - a) **TRIALS shall arise:** Genesis 15:11
 - b) **SOJOURNING and SLAVERY:** Genesis 15:13. See: Acts 7:6-7
 - c) **JUDGMENT and JUSTICE:** Genesis 15:14, 16
 - d) **PEACE and LONGEVITY:** Genesis 15:15
- 5) **He MANIFESTS His PRESENCE (He SHOWS UP):** Genesis 15:17
 - a) **He “CUTS” a “COVENANT” with Abram:** Genesis 15:18
 - b) **He COMMITS Himself (See Jeremiah 33:19-25; 34:18-20)**
 - c) **He ALONE walks through the pieces – A COVENANT of GRACE!**

A Promise BELIEVED: Genesis 15:6

- 1) **FAITH is ACTIVE TRUST – not mere INTELLECTUAL BELIEF:** Heb. 11:1
 - a) **Faith is NOT based on VISIBLE REALITIES:** 2 Corinthians 5:7 See also: Hebrews 11:13-14
 - b) **Faith believes, against IMPOSSIBLE ODDS, that God’s WORD will come TRUE:** Romans 4:18
 - c) **Faith GROWS and GLORIFIES GOD as we REST in God’s ABILITY to DO ALL He has PROMISED:** Romans 4:20–2
- 2) **FAITH is REQUIRED to PLEASE GOD:** Hebrews 11:6

- a) **EVERYTHING that does NOT come from FAITH is SIN:** Ro 14:23
 - b) **OUR WORKS can’t SAVE us or JUSTIFY US before God:** Romans 3:20. See also: Galatians 2:16, 3:11
 - c) **Abraham’s WORKS could neither SAVE him nor BLESS him:** Romans 4:2, 13–15
 - d) **By DEPENDING completely on God’s GRACE, Abram is COUNTED RIGHTEOUS before God:** Romans 4:5. See: Rom. 4:22
- 3) **Through FAITH in JESUS, WE, like Abram, are SAVED:** Rom. 4:23–25
 - a) **By FAITH, we have a RECONCILED RELATIONSHIP with God:** Romans 5:1
 - b) **By FAITH, we REST in God’s GRACE and are FILLED WITH JOY as we LOOK TOWARD Christ’s glorious return:** Romans 5:2
 - c) **By FAITH, we are INDWELT and EMPOWERED by CHRIST’S HOLY SPIRIT:** Galatians 3:5–6. See also: Galatians 3:13-14
 - d) **By FAITH, we GAIN A NEW IDENTITY as God’s PROMISED CHILDREN:** Galatians 3:7. See also: vs. 9, 26-29; Luke 19:9
 - e) **By FAITH, we enter into the COVENANT of God’s BLESSING:** Galatians 3:8–9
 - 4) **IF our FAITH is weak or absent, we can TRUST HIM to CREATE and SUSTAIN IT:** Mark 9:24b. See also: Ephesians 2:8

A Promise KEPT: Nehemiah 9:7-8. See also: Exodus 12:36, 23:31; Deuteronomy 10:22; Psalm 105:42-44; Hebrews 11:12

- 1) **God ALWAYS keeps HIS PROMISES:** Numbers 23:19. See also: 2 Timothy 1:13; Titus 1:2, Heb. 6:18
- 2) **In JESUS, all the PROMISES of God are OURS:** 2 Corinthians 1:19–20

“Gospel In Life” questions for REFLECTION & APPLICATION

- 1) **BELIEVE:** WHAT TRUTHS did God REVEAL to me through His Word today about HIM and/or MYSELF?
- 2) **ASSESS:** HOW do these truths ENCOURAGE and/or CHALLENGE (convict) ME?
- 3) **PROCESS:** WHY is this message GOOD NEWS (GOSPEL) to ME today? (CONNECT the GOSPEL story to MY present story)
- 4) **CHANGE:** WHERE will I APPLY (BELIEVE, REPENT, DO) this message in MY own life this week?
- 5) **PROCLAIM:** WHO does God want ME to share these truths with?
- 6) **PREPARE for NEXT WEEK:** Read Genesis 16:1-16

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