**Genesis 15: Abrahamic Covenant**

**-Pastor Dan**

*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.”* Genesis 15:1

**Q: Why Would Abram be Afraid?**

*“Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your* ***shield****, your exceedingly great* ***reward****.”* Genesis 15:1 NKJV

***2****But Abram said, “Lord God,* ***what will You give me****, since I am childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?”*Genesis 15:3

**God’s Clarifies His Promise To Abram: “You” Will Have An Heir!**

***3****Abram also said, “Since You have given me no son, one who has been*

*born in my house is my heir.”****4****Then behold, the word of the Lord came to him, saying, “This man (Eliezer) will not be your heir; but one who will come* ***from your own body shall be your heir.”***Genesis 15:3-4

**God’s Patience With Abram: Repeats The Promise!**

***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****.”* Genesis 15:5

***6****Then* ***he believed in the Lord;*** *and* ***He credited it to him as righteousness.***

 Genesis 15:6

**CREDITED** means: to take something that belongs to someone and credit to another’s account.

**Doctrine: Justification by Faith Alone**!

[See Rom 4:2-5, 9, 22; Gal 3:6-7; James 2:22-23]

***19****For just as through one man’s disobedience [his failure to hear, his carelessness] the many were made sinners, so* ***through the obedience of the one Man the many will be made righteous***

***and acceptable to God and brought into right standing with Him.***

 Romans 5:18-19 Amplified Version

***7****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.”* Genesis 15:7

***8****But he said, “Lord God,****how may I know that I will possess it****?”****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, and laid each half opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds.* Genesis 15:8-11

**The sign of ancient covenants** often involved the cutting in half of animals, so that the pledging parties could walk between them, affirming that the same should happen to them if they broke the covenant (Jer 34:18, 19).

The Abrahamic Covenant is an unconditional covenant.

God alone moves between the halves of the animals.

***11****And birds of prey came down upon the carcasses, and Abram drove them away.* ***12****Now when the sun was going down,****a deep sleep fell upon Abram****; and behold, terror and great darkness fell upon him.* Gen 15:11-12

***13****Then 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 for****four hundred years****.* ***14****But I will also judge the nation whom they will serve, and afterward they will come out with many possessions.*

***15****As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you will be buried at a good old age.****16****Then in the fourth generation they will return here, for the wrongdoing of the Amorite is not yet complete.”* Genesis 15:13-16

***17****Now it came about, when the sun had set, that it was very dark, and behold, a* ***smoking oven*** *and a* ***flaming torch****appeared which passed between these pieces.* ***18****On that day the****Lord made a covenant with Abram****, saying, “To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates….* Genesis 15:17-21