

## FINALIZING THE COVENANT ~ Genesis 15:1-21

→ Scripture Reading Genesis 15:1-6

### INTRODUCTION

→Picture The Flying Wallendas...

### SHIELDED BY GOD ~ Genesis 15:1-6

[1] After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward." [2] But Abram said, "O Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" [3] And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir." [4] Then the word of the LORD came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son coming from your own body will be your heir." [5] He took him outside and said, "Look up at the heavens and count the stars--if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." [6] Abram BELIEVED the LORD, and he CREDITED it to him as RIGHTEOUSNESS.

**Hebrews 11:8-9 (NIV) By FAITH Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, **OBEYED and went**, even though he did not know where he was going. [9] **By FAITH** he made his home in the promised land LIKE A STRANGER in a foreign country; he lived in tents...**

Genesis 5:6 is the John 3:16 of the Old Testament and for this reason the New Testament writers use it to illustrate salvation by FAITH. Wiersbe

### APPLICATION

→God wants to be the ONE and ONLY source of Safety and Security in our Lives

**Hebrews 4:12-13 (NIV)** For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. [13] Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

### THE BLOOD PATH ~ Genesis 15:7-10

[7] He ALSO said to him, "I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it." [8] But Abram said, "O Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?" [9] So the LORD said to him, "Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon." [10] Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half.

→Blood Path Picture

### APPLICATION

#### SURRENDER TO GOD'S PLAN BY...

- ACCEPTING that God is SOVEREIGN
- BELIEVING His plan is a GOOD plan
- TRUSTING in His TIMING
- Take ALL our Doubts and Fears STRAIGHT to Him

### PROPHECY AND PROMISES ~ Genesis 15:11-21

[11] Then birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away. [12] As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him. [13] Then the LORD said to him, "Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years. [14] But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions.

#### YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL... (Prophetic statement)

- be STRANGERS in another country vs. 13
- be ENSLAVED and MISTREATED for 400 years vs. 13
- see ME PUNISH that nation vs. 14
- leave there with Great WEALTH vs. 14

[15] You, however, will go to your fathers in peace and be buried at a good old age. [16] In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure."

**2 Peter 3:9** (NIV) The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

**Psalms 19:1-2** (NIV) The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. [2] Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.

**Romans 1:20** (NIV) For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--his eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

[17] When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking firepot with a blazing torch appeared and passed between the pieces.

[18] On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates-- [19] the land of the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites, [20] Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaites, [21] Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites and Jebusites."

→ **Blood Path**

→ **Map**

### **Here is the Progression in God's Promise of the LAND to Abram...**

12:1 - The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and **GO to the LAND I WILL SHOW YOU.**

13:15 - **ALL THE LAND** that you see **I WILL GIVE** to you and your offspring forever.

15:18 - On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, "To your descendants **I GIVE THIS LAND...**

## **TAKE AWAY ??**

**Romans 4:1-5** (NLT) Abraham was, humanly speaking, the founder of our Jewish nation. What did he discover about being made right with God? [2] If his good deeds had [justified] made him ACCEPTABLE to God, he would have had something to boast about. But that was not God's way. [3] For the Scriptures tell us, "Abraham BELIEVED God, and God [credited] COUNTED him as RIGHTEOUS because of his FAITH." [4] When people work, their wages are not a GIFT, but something they have earned. [5] But people are COUNTED as RIGHTEOUS, **NOT because of their work**, but because of their FAITH in God who FORGIVES SINNERS.

### **IF YOU HAVE NEVER ACCEPTED JESUS AS SAVIOR...**

➤ **RECEIVE His Forgiveness**

**John 1:12** (NIV) Yet to all who RECEIVED him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the RIGHT to become CHILDREN of God-

➤ **put your FAITH and TRUST in HIM**

**Ephesians 2:8-9** (NIV) For it is by GRACE you have been saved, through FAITH-and this not from yourselves, it is the GIFT of God - not by works, so that no one can boast.

### **IF YOU HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS...**

- LIVE in the shadow of the Cross
- OBEY God's Word
- TRUST God to CONTINUE His Good work in you