

## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

GENESIS 15 • FEBRUARY 7, 2021

# *The* PATRIARCHS ABRAHAM

## THE UNCONDITIONAL ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

---

### WARM UP

Have you ever trusted God in a difficult situation and enjoyed a victory only afterwards to experience fear? What was the fear about? How did you process it and what did you learn?

1. **What in Abram's immediate past might cause him to experience fear and feel the need for protection and for some kind of reward or recompense?** How did God answer this fear? V1. Wouldn't 10,000 troops and a boat load of wealth have been a better solution? Why? Why not? In what way does God promise to be your shield and very great reward?

Abram's relationship with God was "secured by faith and sealed by blood"

BRAD BELL

2. **List the ways in vs 2 - 9 that show God knows and engages us in our concerns about how His promises actually work in our lives?**

3. **Where would you say the problems Abram expressed to God came from?** Evil unbelief? Confusion? Genuine faith but with uncertainty? Emotionally down after a hard battle? Other? Why? Share a recent time when you verbalized your fears and questions directly for the ears of your Savior.

Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you." So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

GALATIANS 3:8-9

4. **What new information did Abram receive in this chapter about God's promise of Land, Descendants and Blessing?** How would this revelation clarify and challenge Abram's faith? How did it affect Joseph's faith hundreds of years later? (Gen 50:24-25, Heb 11:22) Did either of these men live to see it? What promises do you deeply believe even though you might not see it in this life? Cf Heb 11:6

5. **God sealed the Abrahamic covenant in a formal blood contract v17-18.** Normally both parties of a contract agree to their part of the conditions and both pass through the middle of the slaughtered animals. **What does it mean in this case that God alone passes through the pieces while**

**Abram was actually asleep?** How is this comparable to our salvation? Cf Eph 2:4-10

6. It says that Abram believed God and He credited it to him as righteousness v 6. **How does crediting righteousness to us differ from God recognizing that we are righteous in ourselves?** Read and discuss Rom 4:4-6. How can God the righteous judge justify (declare righteous) the wicked, i.e. thief on the cross? What gives you deep joy and security in God's way of salvation?

### CONCLUDING CHALLENGE

Using Scripture - How would you help a not yet Christian see that a relationship with God is not based on our performance but given by God's grace and received through faith? Role play this with each other.