

Genesis 15

Chapter 15 of 50 · 21 Verses · Authorized King James Version

God's Covenant with Abram

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.

² And Abram said, Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus?

³ And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir.

⁴ And, behold, the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir.

⁵ And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.

⁶ And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

⁷ And he said unto him, I am the LORD that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it.

⁸ And he said, Lord GOD, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?

⁹ And he said unto him, Take me an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon.

¹⁰ And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another: but the birds divided he not.

¹¹ And when the fowls came down upon the carcases, Abram drove them away.

12 And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him.

13 And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not their's, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;

14 And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.

15 And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age.

16 But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.

17 And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces.

18 In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:

19 The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites,

20 And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims,

21 And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Believe — אָמֵן (Aman)

To believe, trust, be faithful

The Hebrew **aman** (אָמֵן) means to believe or confirm—the root of 'Amen.' It conveys firm trust and reliability. Abraham 'believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness' (Genesis 15:6).

Covenant — בְּרִית (Berit)

Covenant, treaty

The Hebrew **berit** (בְּרִית) denotes a covenant—a binding agreement, often ratified by blood sacrifice. God's covenants (Abrahamic, Mosaic, Davidic) structure redemptive history, culminating in the New Covenant.

Heaven — שָׁמַיִם (Shamayim)

Heaven, sky

The Hebrew **shamayim** (שָׁמַיִם) means heaven or sky—God's dwelling place and the realm above earth. 'The heaven, even the heavens, are the LORD's' (Psalm 115:16), yet 'the heaven of heavens cannot contain Him' (1 Kings 8:27).

Iniquity — אָוֶן (Avon)

Iniquity, guilt, punishment

The Hebrew **avon** (אָוֶן) encompasses iniquity, guilt, and its punishment—the twisted nature of sin. 'The LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all' (Isaiah 53:6), Christ bearing our guilt and penalty.

Lord — יְהוָה / אֲדֹנָי (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יהוה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

Righteous — צַדִּיק (Tzaddik)

Righteous one

The Hebrew **tzaddik** (צַדִּיק) describes one who is righteous, just, or lawful—conforming to God's standard. From the root tzedek (צֶדֶק), meaning righteousness or justice.

Word — דָּבָר (Davar)

Word, thing, matter

The Hebrew **davar** (דָּבָר) means word, thing, or matter—God's creative and authoritative speech. 'By the word of the LORD were the heavens made' (Psalm 33:6).

CROSS REFERENCES
Genesis 15:1

Parallel theme: Isaiah 41:10; Luke 12:32. **Word:** Psalms 119:114. **References Lord:** Genesis 26:24; Ruth 2:12; Psalms 5:12; 18:2; 84:11; Isaiah 41:14; Lamentations 3:24

Genesis 15:3 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 14:14; Proverbs 29:21; Ecclesiastes 2:7

Genesis 15:4 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 17:16; 21:12; 2 Samuel 7:12; Galatians 4:28. **Word:** 2 Chronicles 32:21

Genesis 15:5

Parallel theme: Genesis 12:2; 22:17; Exodus 32:13; Deuteronomy 1:10; 10:22; 1 Chronicles 27:23; Psalms 147:4; Jeremiah 33:22; Romans 4:18; Hebrews 11:12

Genesis 15:6 **Faith:** Romans 4:9; 4:11; Hebrews 11:8; James 2:23. **Righteousness:** Psalms 106:31

Genesis 15:7 **References Lord:** Genesis 12:1. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 105:42; 105:44; Romans 4:13

Genesis 15:8 **Parallel theme:** Luke 1:18; 1:34. **References God:** Isaiah 7:11. **References Lord:** 2 Kings 20:8; Psalms 86:17

Genesis 15:9 **Parallel theme:** Leviticus 1:14; 3:1; 3:6; 9:2; 14:22; 14:30; Luke 2:24

Genesis 15:10 **Parallel theme:** Leviticus 1:17

Genesis 15:11 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 13:4

Genesis 15:12 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 2:21; Job 33:15

Genesis 15:13 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 1:11; Leviticus 19:34; Acts 7:17; Galatians 3:17

Genesis 15:14 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 4:20; 6:22; Joshua 24:17; 1 Samuel 12:8. **Judgment:** Psalms 135:14

Genesis 15:15

Parallel theme: Genesis 49:29; Numbers 27:13; Judges 2:10; Job 5:26; 42:17; Ecclesiastes 12:7; Daniel 12:13; Acts 13:36. **Peace:** 2 Chronicles 34:28. **Good:** 1 Chronicles 29:28

Genesis 15:16 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 12:40; 1 Kings 21:26; Daniel 8:23. **Sin:** 1 Thessalonians 2:16

Genesis 15:17 **Parallel theme:** Judges 6:21; 1 Chronicles 21:26; Jeremiah 11:4

Genesis 15:18

References Lord: Genesis 12:7; 24:7; Isaiah 27:12. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 13:15; 26:4; Exodus 23:23; Deuteronomy 11:24. **Covenant:** Nehemiah 9:8; Hebrews 13:20. **References Egypt:** Numbers 34:5