





1

Talmidim Way: Relevant Discipleship



**Abraham: Faith
completed by works**

Genesis 15



2

Acts 17:11 (ESV)

Now these (Berean) Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.

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3

Blessing for Torah Study

Blessed are you, LORD God, King of the universe who sanctifies us and commanded us to immerse ourselves in the words of Torah. Sweeten the words of your Torah in our mouths. Blessed are you Lord, giver of the Torah. אמן!



4

Summary

Introduction / Geography

Abram's vision

God reiterates the promise of offspring

Abram Believes God

God institutes a UNILATERAL covenant

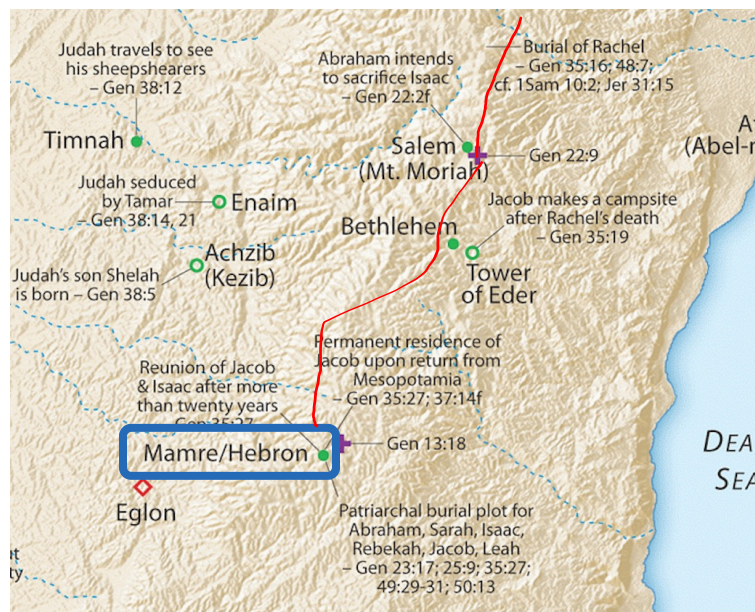
Abram drives away the birds of prey, then a "terrible" darkness falls upon him

God outlines the terms of the covenant



5

Hebron



Moody Bible Atlas

Genesis 15

6

Genesis 15:1-3

After these things, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your **shield**; your **reward** shall be very great.” But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is **Eliezer** of Damascus?” And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.”

References

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Eliezer of Damascus

Sign of traditional tomb of Lazarus in Bethany


Genesis 15:2



8

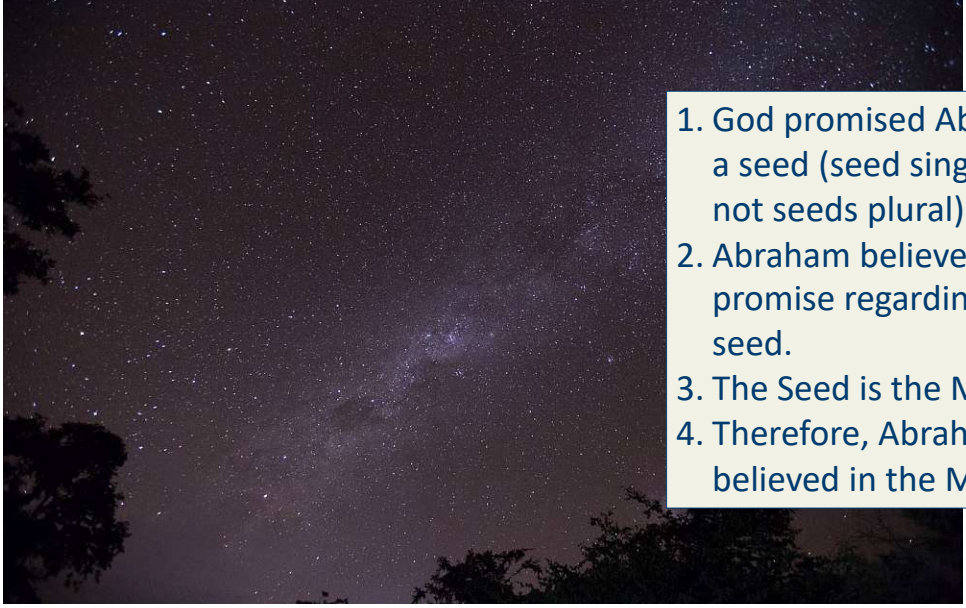
Genesis 15:4-5	References
<p>And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”</p>	<p>Psalms 147:4 He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names. Isaiah 40:26 Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing. John 18:9 This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken: “Of those whom you gave me, I have lost not one.” </p>

9

Genesis 15:6	References
<p>And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.</p>	<p>Romans 4:13 For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. John 8:56 “Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” Galatians 3:29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. </p>

10

As it was said, "So shall your seed be"



1. God promised Abraham a seed (seed singular, not seeds plural)
2. Abraham believed God's promise regarding the seed.
3. The Seed is the Messiah.
4. Therefore, Abraham believed in the Messiah.

Starry sky Romans 4:18

11

<i>James 2:20-24</i>	<i>Galatians 3:5-7</i>	<i>Romans 3:31</i>
<p>Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? [You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness" — and he was called a friend of God. You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.</p>	<p>Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— just as Abraham "believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"? Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham.</p>	<p>Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.</p>

12

Genesis 15:7-8	References
<p>And he said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess.” But he said, “O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?”</p>	<p>Mark 9:24 Immediately, the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!”</p>



13

Genesis 15:9-10	References
<p>He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.</p>	<p>Matthew 13:4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Matthew 13:19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path.</p>



14

And the birds came and devoured them



Birds at Tel Burna

Matthew 13:4

15

Walking In His Dust

Talmidim actively chase away the birds



1 Peter 5:8-9

Be sober-minded; be watchful.
Your adversary the devil prowls
around like a roaring lion,
seeking someone to devour. [9]

Resist him, firm in your faith,
knowing that the same kinds of
suffering are being experienced
by your brotherhood
throughout the world.



16

Genesis 15:12-14

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. Then the LORD said to Abram, “Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for **four hundred years**. But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward, they shall come out with great possessions.

References

- Time from Promise to Passover = 430 years (*to the very day?*)
- Time from Isaac “afflicted” (Gen 21) to Passover = 400 years



17

Great and terrible darkness

Auschwitz, “Work makes you free” sign.

Genesis 15:12



18

Genesis 15:15-17

As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the **iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.**"

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a **flaming torch** passed between these pieces.

References

Isaiah 62:1 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and **her salvation (Yeshua) as a burning torch.**



19

A deep sleep fell on Abram

Replacement Theology
(Supersessionism)

Replacement Theology

Genesis 15:12



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Genesis 15:18-21

On that day, the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your offspring, I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates, the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.”

References

Exodus 12:41, 43 At the end of 430 years, **on that very day**, all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt...And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, “This is the statute of the **Passover...**



21

On that very day...This is the statute of Passover**On Passover (14/15 Nisan)**

- God’s Unilateral Covenant (darkness, slaughtered animals)
- The children of Israel slaughtered their Passover lambs in Egypt as the angel of death slew Egypt’s firstborn.
- Messiah suffered and died as our sacrifice right after He instituted a New Covenant. At sunset, they closed the Master’s tomb (another great and terrible darkness).
- **“The day of Passover draws a line of connection from Abraham’s covenant to his singular promised Seed, the Messiah.”**



Celebration of Samaritan Passover

Exodus 12:41, 43

22

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