GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAM

Genesis 15:1-21 (Key verse: 15:6)

"So Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness."

1. What word of reassurance did God give Abram in the vision (1)? Why was he still afraid or uncertain (thinking of Genesis 14)? What was Abram’s main struggle (2–3), and how did God respond by showing him the stars (4–5)? What does this teach us about God meeting us in our doubts?
2. How did Abram respond to God’s promise? (6) What does it mean that God “credited it to him as righteousness”? (Romans 4:3; Galatians 3:6) Why did Abram need righteousness credited to him, even though he was already called by God? What does this teach us about our own standing before God (Romans 3:21–24)? How does Abram’s example help us trust God’s word when His promises seem delayed?
3. What further question did Abram raise about God’s promise of land (8), and how does this show a change in his attitude compared with v.2? How did God confirm His promise through the covenant ceremony (9–11)? What is the significance of the “dreadful darkness” and the prophecy of Israel’s slavery and deliverance (12–16)? How was this prophecy fulfilled?
4. What happened after sunset when the smoking firepot and blazing torch passed between the pieces (vv.17–18)? What does this reveal about God taking full responsibility for the covenant? How does this point us to Christ, who fulfills the covenant on our behalf (Hebrews 9:15; Luke 22:20)?
5. How does this covenant guarantee not rest on Abram’s performance but on God’s unbreakable word? (Hebrews 6:13–18) How does Abram’s faith in God’s word challenge us when we are waiting for God’s promises?