

“Bring Me a Heifer”

Genesis 15:1–21

June 18, 2023

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen” (Hebrews 11:1).

Abram’s Faith (Genesis 15:1–6)

“I will make of you a great nation.” (Genesis 12:2)

“I will make your offspring as the dust of the earth, so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your offspring also can be counted.” (Genesis 13:16)

“As good as dead.” (Romans 4:19)

“For what does the Scripture say? ‘Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.’ Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness.” (Romans 4:3–5)

“But the words ‘it was counted to him’ were not written for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.” (Romans 4:23–25)

God’s Covenant

“And the men who transgressed my covenant and did not keep the terms of the covenant that they made before me, I will make them like the calf that they cut in two and passed between its parts.” (Jeremiah 34:18)

“Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke because the Lord has descended on it in fire.” (Exodus 19:18)

“When God made covenant with his people, he did something no human being would have even considered doing. In the usual blood covenant, each party was responsible for keeping only his side of the promise. When God made covenant with Abraham, however, he promised to keep both sides of the agreement. ‘If this covenant is broken, Abraham, for whatever reason—for My unfaithfulness or yours—I will pay the price,’ said God. ‘If you or your descendants, for whom you are making this covenant, fail to keep it, I will pay the price in blood.’ And in that moment, Almighty God pronounced the death sentence on his Son Jesus.” (Ray Vander Laan)

The answers to your questions are found in believing that God will keep his covenant promises.

“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12)

“He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see.” (1 Timothy 6:15–16)

“Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and Hades.” (Revelation 1:17–18)

“Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” (Luke 12:32)

“If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” (Romans 10:9)

“Surely, I am coming soon.” (Revelation 22:20)

“Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.” (John 14:9)

Notes

Discuss

- What has God spoken to you, both in terms of revealing himself to you and making promises to you?
- What questions would you want to ask God if you were able to directly question him like Abram?
- How has God answered your specific questions through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus?
- How do you think through responding with faith in your personal circumstances as you wait for God to keep his promises?
- How can you protect yourself from doubting or questioning God over promises that he hasn't actually made?

Read

Romans 4:1–25; Galatians 3:1–9; James 2:14–26

Pray

- That the Holy Spirit will give you faith in the promises contained in the word of God.
- That your love for God will grow as a result of what he has done for you in Jesus Christ..

Bulletin

- Youth Camp: June 20–24
- VBS Prep Day: June 24 at 9:00am
- VBS (Rising Kindergarteners–5th Graders): June 26–30
- Members' Meeting (Copies of Budget and Officer Nominations Have Been Emailed to Members and are also Available for Pick up on Connect Desk): July 9 at 5:00pm