



THE DARK SIDE OF FAITH

Genesis 15:1-21 // Dr. Ron Jones

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. GENESIS 15:12 ESV

“One who truly fears God, and is obedient to him, may be in a condition of darkness, and have no light; and he may walk many days and years in that condition.” THOMAS GOODWIN, PURITAN PREACHER

“Fear Not”

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.” GENESIS 15:1 ESV

1. Abraham feared for his _____ (“shield”)
2. Abraham feared for his _____ (“reward”)

Counting the Stars

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?”³ And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.”⁴ 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.”⁵ 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.”⁶ And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness. GENESIS 15:2-6

Sometimes the test of faith is spelled _____.

“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.⁵ Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?⁶ On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone,⁷ when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?” JOB 38:4-7; PSALM 19:1

Cutting a Covenant

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,”¹⁰ 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.¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. GENESIS 15:9-11FF ESV

Take It Home

1. _____ is the antidote to _____.
2. It is always _____ before the _____.
3. Promises _____, promises _____.
4. The same God who _____ will _____.

Answers: protection, provision, T-I-M-E, fear, darkest, dawn, made, kept, called you out, see you through

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