



GENESIS: THE FOUNDATION FOR EVERYTHING

WINNING THE BATTLE OF BELIEF (PART 3)

GENESIS 15:7-21

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If God's Word isn't worked into your heart, you can't expect His Word to be worked out in your life.

Two parallel and related spiritual experiences in your daily life with the Lord:

1. Recognizes God's activity of working His truth into your heart by the ministry of the Holy Spirit
2. Emphasizes your activity of taking God's Word into your heart as Jesus' follower/learner/disciple

You need to learn to feed yourself the truth so that you are practicing taking God at His Word, and then applying, obeying, trusting, and putting His Word to work in what you think, say, and do.

“Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.” (Col. 3:16)

“How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Your word... Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You.” (Ps. 119:9, 11)

“I shall delight myself in Your statutes; I shall not forget Your word. Deal bountifully with your servant, that I may live and keep Your word.” (Ps. 119:16-17)

“Establish Your word [promise] to Your servant, as that which produces reverence for You.” (Ps. 119:38)

Abram's faith response is evidence of what God has worked in Abram's heart—a merit of right standing based fully on the merits of Jesus Christ which God has bestowed on him by grace through faith.

The fourth truth in winning the battle of belief, in remaining faithful to the Lord as we face off with life's challenges to taking God at His Word:

- I. Object of Our Belief (Genesis 15:1)**
- II. Enemies of Belief (Genesis 15:2-5)**
- III. Blessings of Belief (Genesis 15:6)**
- IV. Wisdom of Belief (Genesis 7-21; emphasis on 17-21)**

What does the heavenly wisdom of belief in God and His Word establish in us for daily living on earth?

IV. Wisdom of Belief (Genesis 15:7-21)

“I am the Lord...” ➡ I am sovereign; I am King; I am!

“...who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess it.”

IV. Wisdom of Belief (Genesis 15:7-21)

“How may I know...” ➡ How may I be sure? Please reassure me.

IV. **Wisdom of Belief** (Genesis 15:7-21)

Abrahamic covenant

A biblical covenant is a holy contract of binding spiritual responsibility.

IV. **Wisdom of Belief** (Genesis 15:7-21)

Like Abram, being available, obedient, and watchful are aspects of our response to God's initiative in our salvation, and our response to His ongoing work to set us apart in our service to Him.

IV. Wisdom of Belief (Genesis 15:7-21)

God sets us apart in Jesus as living and holy sacrifices fit for His use.

“...present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.” (Rom. 12:1)

“Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double minded.” (James 4:8)

*“...if anyone cleanses himself from [unholy] things, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.”
(2 Tim. 2:21)*

IV. Wisdom of Belief (Genesis 15:7-21)

The terror and darkness are symbols of severe suffering and divine judgment.

IV. Wisdom of Belief (Genesis 15:7-21)

This ceremony is a confirming picture of what God promised Abram in verse 1,
“Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; your reward shall be very great.”

**It is only in the midst of the sacrifice that God can enter into
a covenant relationship with sinful man.**

**God cometh in his glory like a flame of fire but subdued and tempered
to us as with a cloud of smoke in the person of Jesus Christ;
and he comes through the bloody sacrifice which has been offered
once and for all through Jesus Christ on the tree.**

Man meets with God in the midst of the sacrifice of Christ.

Charles Spurgeon



A person stands on a dark rock in the foreground, looking up at a vast night sky filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy. The text "GRACE CHURCH" is written in large, white, serif capital letters, and "WILLIAMSBURG" is written in smaller, white, serif capital letters below it.

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