

LIFE AS THE SCATTERED:  
THE BLOOD PATH

Genesis 15:1-21

*The Scattered*  
LIVING AN AVAILABLE LIFE



## GENESIS 15:1-3

<sup>1</sup> After this, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision:

“Do not be afraid, Abram.  
I am your shield,  
your very great reward.”

<sup>2</sup> But Abram said, “Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?”

<sup>3</sup> And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”



HOW DO YOU HANDLE THE  
SILENCE OF GOD?



## GENESIS 15:4-6

<sup>4</sup> Then the word of the Lord came to him:  
“This man will not be your heir, but a son  
who is your own flesh and blood will be  
your heir.”

<sup>5</sup> He took him outside and said, “Look up at  
the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can  
count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall  
your offspring be.”

<sup>6</sup> Abram **believed the Lord**, and he credited it  
to him as righteousness.



## GENESIS 15:7-8

<sup>7</sup> He also said to him, “I am the Lord, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it.”

<sup>8</sup> But Abram said, “Sovereign Lord, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?”



A photograph of a desert camp with several tents and a stone wall, set against a backdrop of mountains and a cloudy sky. A vertical dashed line divides the image into two halves. The left half contains text about God promising an heir and Abram believing him. The right half contains text about God promising the land and Abram questioning him.

(V 5) GOD PROMISES  
AN HEIR



(V 6) ABRAM  
BELIEVES HIM

GOD PROMISES (V 7)  
THE LAND



ABRAM (V 8)  
QUESTIONS HIM



LIVING AS THE SCATTERED

THERE WILL BE TIMES WE FIND  
OURSELVES BELIEVING AND YET  
NOT BELIEVING



## MARK 9:23-24

<sup>23</sup> ““If you can’?” said Jesus.  
“Everything is possible for one who  
believes.”

<sup>24</sup> Immediately the boy’s father  
exclaimed, “I do believe; help me  
overcome my unbelief!”

## GENESIS 15:9-10

<sup>9</sup> So the Lord said to him, “Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon.”

<sup>10</sup> Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half.





THE BLOOD PATH

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“IF I DON’T KEEP MY END OF THE DEAL,  
MAY WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THESE  
ANIMALS HAPPEN TO ME.”

## GENESIS 15:11

<sup>9</sup> So the Lord said to him, “Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon.”

<sup>10</sup> Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half.

<sup>11</sup> Then **birds of prey came down on the carcasses**, but Abram drove them away.



STUCK  
SHOOING AWAY BIRDS



## GENESIS 15:12-14

<sup>12</sup> As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him. <sup>13</sup> Then the Lord said to him,

“**Know for certain** that for four hundred years your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own and that they will be enslaved and mistreated there. <sup>14</sup> But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions.



## GENESIS 15:15-16

<sup>15</sup> You, however, will go to your ancestors in peace and be buried at a good old age. <sup>16</sup> In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure.”



## GENESIS 15:17-21

<sup>17</sup> When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking firepot with a blazing torch appeared and passed between the pieces.

<sup>18</sup> On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram and said, “To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates— <sup>19</sup> the land of the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites, <sup>20</sup> Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaites, <sup>21</sup> Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites and Jebusites.”





LIVING AS THE SCATTERED

OUR GOD MAKES THE  
FIRST MOVE



## ROMANS 5:6-8

<sup>6</sup> You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.