E

Promise to Abram

GEN 15:12And it came to pass, that, when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, a dread, even a great darkness, fell upon him.

[Gap in E: God speaks to Abram in a dream]

GEN 15:3And Abram said: 'Behold, to me Thou hast given no seed, and, lo, one born in my house is to be mine heir.'

GEN 15:13And He said unto Abram: 'Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; ¹⁴and also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge; and afterward shall they come out with great substance. ¹⁵But thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age. ¹⁶And in the fourth generation they shall come back hither; for the iniquity of the Amorite is not yet full.'

Covenant with Abram

J

GEN 13:14And the Lord said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him: 'Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art, northward and southward and eastward and westward; ¹⁵for all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever. ¹⁶And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth; so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered. ¹⁷Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for unto thee will I give it.' GEN 15:1 (After these things the word

of the Lord came unto Abram in a vision, saying::)'Fear not, Abram, I am thy shield, thy reward shall be exceeding great.'

²And Abram said: 'O Lord God, what wilt Thou give me, seeing I go hence childless, and he that shall be possessor of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' ⁴And, behold, the word of the Lord came unto him, saying: 'This man shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir.' 5And He brought him forth abroad, and said: 'Look now toward heaven, and count the stars, if thou be able to count them'; and He said unto him: 'So shall thy seed be.'6And he believed in the Lord; and He counted it to him for righteousness. ⁷And He said unto him: 'I am the Lord that brought thee out (of Ur of the Chaldees,) to give thee this land to inherit it.' 8And he said: 'O Lord

(added	by	redactor)	
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{ problematic }

Р	Notes
Covenant with Abram	Promise to/Covenant with Abram
GEN 17:1 And when Abram was nine-	E Text
ty years old and nine, the Lord ap-	There is no preparation in the
peared to Abram, and said unto him:	E text for the verse, "GEN 15:3And
I am God Almighty; walk before	Abram said: 'Behold, to me Thou
Me, and be thou whole-hearted.	hast given no seed."
And I will make My covenant be-	Presumably, God must have ap-
tween Me and thee, and will multi-	peared to Abram in a dream or vi-
bly thee exceedingly.' ³ And Abram	sion before Abram made this reply
fell on his face; And God talked with	(because God appears directly only
him, saying: ⁴ 'As for Me, behold,	to Moses in E). Therefore, this
My covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be the father of a multitude of	edition has moved Genesis 15:12 (where Abram is about to have a
nations. ⁵ Neither shall thy name any	dream or vision) before Genesis
nore be called Abram, but thy name	15:3.
shall be Abraham; for the father of	In the received version of the Bi-
a multitude of nations have I made	ble, Genesis 15:12 is in the middle
thee. 6And I will make thee exceed-	of the covenant ceremony in J, but
ing fruitful, and I will make nations	it is clearly out of place there and
of thee, and kings shall come out	interrupts the narrative. Though this
of thee. 7And I will establish My	verse does not make sense in J, it
covenant between Me and thee and	does make sense in this new loca-
thy seed after thee throughout their	tion in E.
generations for an everlasting cov-	J Text
enant, to be a God unto thee and to	A redactor interrupted the J pas-
hy seed after thee. ⁸ And I will give	sage describing God's promise to
unto thee, and to thy seed after thee,	Abram in Genesis 13 and Genesis
the land of thy sojournings, all the	15 by inserting Genesis 14, which
and of Canaan, for an everlasting	scholars agree is not by J, E or P.
possession; and I will be their God.' 9And God said unto Abraham:	Thus, this redactor had to add "Af- ter these things the word of the Lord
And as for thee, thou shalt keep	came unto Abram in a vision" at the
My covenant, thou, and thy seed	beginning of Genesis 15. This is not
after thee throughout their genera-	characteristic of J, where the Lord
tions. ¹⁰ This is My covenant, which	speaks directly to people rather than
ye shall keep, between Me and you	appearing in a vision.
and thy seed after thee: every male	In Genesis 15:7, R added "(of Ur
among you shall be circumcised.	of the Chaldees,)" to make this text
¹¹ And ye shall be circumcised in	consistent with P's version saying
the flesh of your foreskin; and it	Abraham came from Ur of the Chal-
shall be a token of a covenant be-	dees.
twixt Me and you. ¹² And he that is	J says, "GEN 15:18 In that day the Lord