

GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

Genesis 15 & 16 Discussion Questions

May 9, 2004

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Genesis 15 & 16 Discussion Questions

1. Announcements

- a. **Married Couples Retreat** - It is official, the Rock Marriage Retreat is coming!
 - **Who:** Married Couples
 - **Where:** La Quinta Resort in Palm Desert
 - **When:** July 9-11
 - **Cost** - \$250 Per Couple
 - **Register Today online, or Sunday at the Married Couples table!!!**
 - <http://www.therocksandiego.org/marriageretreat>
- b. We will be at the Mission Valley Marriott this Sunday.

2. Memory Verse

Genesis 15:6, "And he believed in the Lord, and He accounted it to him for righteousness".

3. Discussion Questions

- 1) Abraham is the father of faith (**Genesis 15**) because he believed the promise of God (**Genesis 12:1-9**) without seeing.
 - a. What promises has God given you? How did he give you these promises (through quiet time, verbal, etc.)?
 - b. What are you doing to walk in those promises?
 - c. Considering the promise of God in Genesis 12, why was Abram so worried about who his heir would be?
 - d. Contrast Genesis 15:6 with Galatians 3:6. Take note that through this Paul argues that both Jews and non-Jews are put right with God through Faith, not through keeping Gods rules.
- 2) The covenant ritual seen in Genesis 15:9-20 was exactly the way treaties were confirmed at that time (Jeremiah 34:18). The penalty for breaking an agreement of this nature was death, which was symbolized by killing and dividing the animals. Here significantly, it is only God that puts Himself on oath by passing through the pieces.
 - a. Darkness, smoke and fire mark Gods presence as at Mt Sinai (Exodus 19:18, Hebrews 12:18). Where else do we see God in this manner?
 - b. Why is it significant that God was the only one to enter the oath? What does this tell us about our salvation, and our walk with Him?
- 3) What is the difference between an unconditional and a conditional covenant?
- 4) If Abraham was saved apart from works, what ought we be telling those in our lives who say that they are "trying their best" before God?
- 5) **Genesis 14:18-20**, Abram and Melchizedek (See Prophecies of Christ in Chapter 14 of the Study Guide for more information)
 - a. From whom is the role of high priest selected from according to **Hebrew 5:1**?



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- b. According to **Hebrews 7:3** what reference is made regarding the *Son of God*?
 - c. What argument might be made in reference to **Hebrews 7:3**?
 - d. Since Abraham paid tithe to Melchizedek, this reveals the fact that he regarded himself to be less than Melchizedek. The comparison is made in Hebrew that Melchizedek is of a higher order than Levi. Therefore, what does that tell us about Jesus' priesthood?
- 6) In **Genesis 14: 20**, we learn about the first tithe in the Bible.
- a. If the one who collects the tithe is greater than the one who pays it, what does your lifestyle (giving and otherwise) reveal about His greatness to you?
 - b. Do we tithe to God or to the Church?
- 7) Considering Gods covenant with Abram (**Genesis 15**), why didn't he stand up and say, "Woman, God has promised, He will give us a child so fret not". Either he thought he would help God out, or he was so focused on what he and his wife wanted that this option appeared to be the quickest and easiest solution. Maybe because it couldn't SEE the evidence he didn't believe. How often do we do these same things in our lives? What can we learn from this?