

**Seeing In The Dark**  
**Pastor John Carmichael**

**[Gen 15:5 NASB95] 5 And He took him outside and said, "Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."**

- When we are waiting for God's promises to come to pass in our lives, things can become dark.
- **The darkness of delay, disappointment, and the demonic can hinder us from seeing and moving forward in faith.**
- Since God first gave him the promise, Abraham saw famine (12:10), family issues (12:10-20), Lot taken captive and battle with enemies (14). Not to mention it was years with no baby!
- Abraham learned to see in the dark in Genesis 15. It was likely in the darkness of the AM before the sun comes out and the stars are still visible. God through a vision, gives Abraham vision (stars of the sky = promise fulfilled.)
- When Abraham learns to see in the dark, he does not become flawless, but he becomes faithful.
- Abraham is our example of walking by faith. [Rom 4:22-25 NASB95] 22 Therefore IT WAS ALSO CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS. 23 Now not for his sake only was it written that it was credited to him, 24 but for our sake also, to whom it will be credited, as those who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25 [He] who was delivered over because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification.

**How can we learn to see God's promises while in the dark?**

**God's interaction with Abraham in Gen. 15 shows us four important truths about seeing His Promises through the darkness while we wait.**

**I. To see in the dark, we must stay focused on His Word.**

- a. [Gen 15:1 NASB95] 1 After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great."
- b. The Word is active.
  - i. [Heb 4:12 NASB95] 12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
  - ii. [Isa 55:11 NASB95] 11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding [in the matter] for which I sent it.
- c. The Word is sight giving. The Bible creates a vision of what God wants for us now and not yet.
- d. Keep the Word of God in your mind by reading, studying it, and memorizing it.

**II. To see in the dark, we must stay focused on Him.**

- a. [Gen 15:1 NASB95] 1 After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great."
- b. Focusing on Him removes fear. Most often repeated command with the most often repeated promise.
- c. Focusing on Him receives protection. He is our shield.

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- d. Focusing on Him connects us to a reward. [Heb 11:6 NASB95] 6 And without faith it is impossible to please [Him,] for he who comes to God must believe that He is and [that] He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.
- e. Keep focused on Him through prayer, worship, and mediation.

**III. To see in the dark, we must stop focusing on the other things.**

- a. [Gen 15:2-4 NASB95] 2 Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will You give me, since I am childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3 And Abram said, "Since You have given no offspring to me, one born in my house is my heir." 4 Then behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "This man will not be your heir; but one who will come forth from your own body, he shall be your heir."
- b. Focusing on other things creates questions about God.
- c. Focusing on other things creates alternative ideas.
- d. Focusing on other things keeps looking at the "how" instead of the "Who" and "what".
- e. The temptation to focus other things is real, yet by decision and the power of the Holy Spirit we are focusing on Him and what He has promised, leaving the "HOW" up to Him.

**IV. To see in the dark, connects us to Jesus by faith.**

- a. [Gen 15:5-6 NASB95] 5 And He took him outside and said, "Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be." 6 Then he believed in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.
- b. Seeing by eyes of faith helps us cross over the faith line.
- c. Seeing by eyes of faith connects us to Jesus.
- d. Learning to see the promise when all is darkness, takes you to another level with God.

- Allow the Word and His Presence create a vision that you focus on until it manifests.
- CFA – family life center.
- What are you seeing through eyes of faith happening in your life that God has promised you?