

Abram's Righteousness

Genesis 13:1-15:21

January 6, 2011

Disappointment with God

The Lord begins a key talk with Abraham by saying, "Don't be afraid..." (15:1)

Abraham had multiple reasons to feel fear and disappointment.

Christians tend to deny that God can seem silent, distant, and disappointing.

Yet at least _____ of the Psalms were written by crushed people.

There is a world of difference between these two statements:

"_____ is unfair."

"_____ is unfair."

The stories of Job, the prophets, the disciples, and Jesus make it clear that good and righteous people routinely experience the unfairness of life.

It's Friday, but Sunday's Comin'

"God weeps with us so that one day we may laugh with him." (J. Moltmann)

Abraham's Trust

In a world that searches for treasures and honors, God offers the true reward.

It is not the gift of land, or family heritage, or blessing, but _____.

Abraham takes God at his word (15:6), which God racks up as "righteousness."

In the Bible, righteousness means alignment with God's own _____.

God guarantees that he will make good on his promises by "cutting a covenant."

Bible covenants are either conditional (our performance determines what we receive from God) or unconditional (God will act regardless of our response):

- Covenant with Abraham _____
- Covenant with Moses / Israel _____
- Covenant with King David _____
- The New Covenant with Jesus _____