

# **The Life of Faith: Believing God**

**Genesis 15:1-21**

Slides from John Percival's sermon at the morning service  
Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2024



John Bunyan  
The Pilgrim's Progress

OXFORD WORLD'S CLASSICS





# 1. God responds to our doubts with grace (v1-6)

- God's Word

## Genesis 15v1

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.”

# 1. God responds to our doubts with grace (v1-6)

- God's Word
- God's patience
- God's reminder

## Genesis 15v5

“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.”









# 1. God responds to our doubts with grace (v1-6)

- God's Word
- God's patience
- God's reminder
- God's righteousness

## Genesis 15v6

Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

## Genesis 15v6

*“believed”* = to trust or rely on God

*“credited”* = to reckon something or credit something to someone else’s account

*“righteousness”* = a right standing with God, meeting God’s requirements

## 2. God responds to our doubts with reassurance (v7-21)

- Abraham's question

## Genesis 15v8

But Abram said, “Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?”

“The Lord sometimes concedes to his children that they may freely express any objection which comes into their mind. For he does not act so strictly with them, as not to suffer himself to be questioned.”



**John Calvin**



## 2. God responds to our doubts with reassurance (v7-21)

- Abraham's question
- God's promise

## Genesis 15v13-16

<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. <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.”

## 2 Peter 3v9

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

## 2. God responds to our doubts with reassurance (v7-21)

- Abraham's question
- God's promise
- God's Covenant

## Galatians 3v13

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us

“What a fool I am, thus to lie in a stinking dungeon, when I may as well walk at liberty! I have a key in my pocket called ‘Promise’ which I am persuaded will open any door in Doubting Castle.”

**John Bunyan**

