

The Structure of Genesis 15

12/30/2001 7:49 AM

	Promise of the Seed	Promise of the Land
The Lord identifies himself	1 ¶ After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, <i>and</i> thy exceeding great reward.	7 ¶ And 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.
Abram raises a question	2 ¶ And Abram said, Lord GOD , what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house <i>is</i> this Eliezer of Damascus? 3 And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir.	8 And he said, Lord GOD , whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?
The Lord provides a symbolic answer	<<Statement>> 4 And, behold, the word of the LORD <i>came</i> unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir.	<<Symbol>> 9 And he said unto him, Take me an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon. 10 And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another: but the birds divided he not. 11 And when the fowls came down upon the carcases, Abram drove them away. 12 ¶ And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him.
		<<Statement>> 13 And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land <i>that is</i> not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; 14 And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance. 15 And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age. 16 But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites <i>is</i> not yet full.
	<<Symbol>> 5 And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them:	<<Symbol>> 17 ¶ And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces.
	<<Statement>> and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.	<<Statement>> 18 In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates: 19 The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, 20 And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, 21 And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.
	6 And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.	