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Chapter One: The Mystery of Genesis 15 — Covenant with Abram

Genesis 15 is one of the most mysterious and profound chapters in the Old Testament. It marks the moment when God enters into a covenant with a man—Abram. But what many fail to realize is that this moment is far more than a promise for land or descendants. It is a prophetic declaration pointing to the greatest covenant ever made—the covenant sealed by the blood of Jesus Christ.

"After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, 'Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward." — Genesis 15:1

Abram expresses doubt about the fulfillment of God's promises since he remains childless. God responds not only with words but with a *ritual*—a covenant ceremony that would have been deeply familiar in ancient times but is foreign to many today.

God tells Abram to bring Him animals: a heifer, a goat, a ram—all three years old—along with a dove and a pigeon. Abram cuts them in half and arranges the pieces opposite each other. This was the typical covenant ritual of the time, symbolizing: "May this happen to me if I break the covenant."

But something astonishing happens next: a deep sleep falls on Abram, and he does not walk between the pieces. Instead, a smoking oven and a burning torch—symbols of God's presence—pass between them. This act shows that God binds Himself alone to the covenant, bearing the full responsibility. It foreshadows that He Himself will bear the punishment if the covenant is broken.

Now, fast forward to the New Testament. Who bears the punishment for man's sins? **Jesus Christ.** He is God Himself, taking on human form to fulfill the promise He made in Genesis 15.

"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." — John 15:13

Here in Genesis 15, God is revealing that the covenant would one day require **His own sacrifice**. And only if Jesus is God does this make sense

Chapter Two: Ancient Covenant Rituals and Their Meaning

To fully understand the covenant in Genesis 15 and its connection to Jesus, we must examine how covenants were practiced in the ancient world. A covenant was more than a contract—it was a **sacred and binding agreement** that involved blood, death, and often invoked divine witnesses. It signified total commitment between two parties.

1. The Covenant Ritual: A Bloody Path

In the ancient Near East, when two parties made a covenant, they would:

- Select animals and cut them in half.
- Lay the halves opposite each other, creating a bloody path in between.
- Walk together between the pieces, declaring blessings for obedience and curses for breaking the agreement.

The phrase "cutting a covenant" comes directly from this practice.

This was no casual agreement—it meant, "May I die like these animals if I break this covenant."

Now remember Genesis 15: **God alone** walks through the path. This is radical. He wasn't saying, "Abram, keep your end." He was saying, "If this covenant fails, I will pay the price with My own blood."

2. God's Use of Symbols: Fire and Smoke

In Genesis 15:17, God appears as a smoking oven and a burning torch passing between the animal pieces. These images are not random—they reflect His divine nature:

- **Smoke and fire** represent God's presence throughout Scripture:
 - A pillar of cloud by day and fire by night (Exodus 13:21)
 - God descending in fire on Mount Sinai (Exodus 19:18)
 - The tongues of fire on Pentecost (Acts 2:3)

God was revealing Himself as **spirit and power**, and yet hinting at a future **manifestation in flesh**.

3. The Covenant Ritual as Prophetic Shadow

What happened in Genesis 15 wasn't just cultural—it was **prophetic**.

- The torn animals point to a future sacrifice.
- God alone walking the path shows only He could fulfill it.
- Abram being asleep reveals that man plays no role in salvation—it is God's sovereign
 grace.

Centuries later, **Jesus is torn for us**—His flesh bruised, His body broken. He fulfills the covenant God made with Abraham by taking the curse upon Himself.

"Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us." — Galatians 3:13

This ancient ritual was a **divine drama** pointing straight to the cross. And it only makes sense if **Jesus is God**—the same God who made the covenant with Abram.

Chapter Three: The Foreshadowing of Christ's Sacrifice

The covenant in Genesis 15 is more than history—it's a divine shadow, a picture painted by God to prepare humanity for the greatest act of love the world would ever know: **the crucifixion of Jesus Christ**.

Jesus said in John 5:39:

"You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me!" (NLT)

Genesis 15 is one of those Scriptures.

1. The Slaughtered Animals — A Picture of the Cross

The animals in Genesis 15— a heifer, a goat, a ram, a turtledove, and a pigeon—were all animals that would later be used in the **Levitical sacrificial system** (Leviticus 1–5). These sacrifices pointed to Jesus, who is called:

- The Lamb of God (John 1:29)
- A sweet-smelling offering and sacrifice to God (Ephesians 5:2)

Jesus fulfilled every type of offering—burnt, peace, sin, and guilt. In Genesis 15, God uses these animals to show that **blood must be shed** to establish a covenant—and ultimately, that He would be the one to shed it.

"Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness." — Hebrews 9:22

2. Abram's Sleep — God Takes the Burden Alone

Abram's deep sleep symbolizes humanity's helplessness in securing salvation. While man sleeps, **God walks the bloody path** alone. At the cross, it is not humanity climbing to God—it is **God coming down**, clothed in flesh, **suffering in man's place**.

"God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself." — 2 Corinthians 5:19

God is not distant in this covenant. He enters into human pain and takes on death itself. The same God who made the covenant is the one who dies to fulfill it.

3. Jesus: The Fulfillment of the Covenant Promise

In Genesis 15:5, God tells Abram:

"Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them... So shall your descendants be."

This promise was partially fulfilled through Israel—but **ultimately fulfilled in Christ**, through whom all nations are blessed:

"If you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." — Galatians 3:29

Jesus is not only the fulfillment—He is the **promiser**, the **sacrifice**, and the **sacrifice**.

He is the **LORD** who appeared to Abram, and He is the **Son** who died on the cross.

"Before Abraham was, I AM." — John 8:58

This chapter of Genesis and the story of the cross are **one narrative**—and only make full sense when you see that **Jesus is God**.

Chapter Four: The Divinity of Christ in Prophecy

The belief that **Jesus is God** is not a New Testament invention—it is woven throughout the Old Testament. The prophets, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, **foretold a coming Savior** who would not only be a man but also **God Himself in human form**.

1. Isaiah's Bold Prophecies

The prophet Isaiah, writing over 700 years before Christ, declared truths that no ordinary child could fulfill—unless that child was divine.

"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given... and His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, **Mighty God**, **Everlasting Father**, Prince of Peace." — Isaiah 9:6

Here, Isaiah doesn't merely call Him a prophet or a king. He calls this coming **Child**:

- **Mighty God** El Gibbor in Hebrew, a title used for Yahweh Himself.
- Everlasting Father not to confuse Him with God the Father, but to show that the Son carries the eternal nature and fatherly authority of God.

2. The Virgin Will Conceive — God With Us

"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name **Immanuel**." — Isaiah 7:14

The name *Immanuel* means "**God with us**." This is not poetic—it is prophetic. The One born of a virgin would literally be **God dwelling among His people**.

3. Micah Prophesies an Eternal Ruler

"But you, Bethlehem... out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting." — Micah 5:2

Micah makes it clear: the Messiah would be **born in time** but **exist eternally**. No mere human fits that description—only Jesus, **the eternal Word who became flesh** (John 1:14).

4. The LORD Sends the LORD

In Psalm 110:1, King David writes:

"The LORD said to my Lord, 'Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool."

Jesus quoted this verse to the Pharisees, asking:

"If David calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his son?" — Matthew 22:45

David, under the Spirit, saw **two divine persons—Yahweh** speaking to **Adonai**—a picture of the Father and the Son.

5. Zechariah Foresees the Pierced God

"They will look on Me whom they have pierced." — Zechariah 12:10

God is the speaker here. He says **He** will be pierced. This was fulfilled when Jesus was crucified and His side was pierced with a spear (John 19:37). God didn't just watch the cross—**He was on it**.

Summary

From Isaiah to Zechariah, from Genesis to Psalms, the Old Testament consistently reveals a divine Messiah. Not merely a servant or a teacher, but **God in human flesh**.

The covenant-maker in Genesis 15 is the **covenant-fulfiller** at the cross. Jesus is not just the Son of God—He is **God the Son**, one with the Father, fully divine, eternally existing, and worthy of worship.

Chapter Five: Jesus — The Visible Image of the Invisible God

As the covenant in Genesis 15 pointed forward, and the prophets looked ahead with spiritual eyes, the mystery of God's nature would be fully revealed in one person: **Jesus Christ**. Not just a prophet. Not just a Savior. But **God made visible**.

"He is the image of the invisible God..." — Colossians 1:15

This is the core of the Christian faith: **the invisible God put on human flesh**, walked among us, and revealed Himself fully through Jesus.

1. Jesus Is the Fullness of Deity in Bodily Form

"For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form." — Colossians 2:9 (NIV)

Not part of God. Not just an anointed man. Paul says that **all the fullness** of God dwells in Jesus—**in bodily form**. That's a bold declaration: **God took on a human body**, and His name is Jesus.

When Jesus spoke, God spoke.

When Jesus healed, God healed.

When Jesus was crucified, **God was taking our place**.

2. "He Who Has Seen Me Has Seen the Father"

"Philip said, 'Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? **He who has seen Me has seen the**Father.'" — John 14:8–9

This powerful moment shuts down any doubt: **Jesus is the perfect revelation of the Father**. He is not a separate god. He is not merely pointing to the Father—**He is the Father revealed** in the Son.

That doesn't mean Jesus is the Father in personhood—but He is one in **essence**. The Son shares the same divine identity with the Father and the Spirit. This is the mystery of the **Trinity—one God** in **three persons**.

3. The Word Was God — and Became Flesh

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us." — John 1:1,14

The same God who made the covenant with Abram in Genesis 15...

The same God who passed through the pieces as smoke and fire...

Became flesh.

He lived.

He bled.

He died.

He rose again.

The God of Genesis is the Jesus of the Gospels.

The covenant-keeper is the crucified Christ.

4. The Name Above Every Name

"God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow... and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." — Philippians 2:9–11

To call Jesus **Lord** (Greek: *Kyrios*) is to give Him the divine title used for Yahweh in the Old Testament.

One day, every knee will bow—because Jesus is not just a man. He is God.

Final Words: The Covenant Completed in Christ

In Genesis 15, God walked a bloody path for man.

At Calvary, Jesus became that path.

The covenant was not broken—it was fulfilled. And now, the invitation is open to all:

"This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." — Matthew 26:28

To believe in Jesus is to believe in the **God who keeps His promises**, the **God who became flesh**, and the **God who died in your place**.

Main Takeaway

The book explores the divine nature of Jesus Christ, arguing that He is not just a prophet or a son of God, but **God Himself** incarnate, who fulfilled the divine covenant first established with Abram in Genesis 15.

Chapter One: The Mystery of Genesis 15 - Covenant with Abram

Key Points

- Genesis 15 is a profound chapter revealing God's covenant with Abram
- The covenant is more than a promise of land or descendants
- It's a prophetic declaration pointing to Jesus Christ's ultimate sacrifice

Covenant Ritual Details

- God instructs Abram to bring:
 - A heifer
 - A goat
 - A ram (all three years old)
 - A dove
 - A pigeon

Unique Covenant Ceremony

- Abram cuts the animals in half
- God passes through the pieces alone
- Symbolizes: God bears the full responsibility of the covenant

Prophetic Significance

- Foreshadows Jesus Christ bearing punishment for human sins
- Demonstrates God's plan to sacrifice Himself for humanity

Chapter Two: Ancient Covenant Rituals and Their Meaning

Covenant Practices in Ancient Near East

1. Select and cut animals in half

- 2. Create a bloody path between animal pieces
- 3. Parties walk through, declaring blessings and curses

Symbolic Representation

- "Cutting a covenant" meant: May I die like these animals if I break this agreement
- In Genesis 15, God alone walks the path, promising to pay the price with His own blood

Divine Symbolism

- Smoke and fire represent God's presence
- Examples:
 - Pillar of cloud and fire (Exodus 13:21)
 - God descending on Mount Sinai (Exodus 19:18)
 - Tongues of fire at Pentecost (Acts 2:3)

Chapter Three: Foreshadowing Christ's Sacrifice

Prophetic Elements

- Slaughtered animals symbolize future sacrificial system
- Jesus fulfills all sacrificial offerings:
 - o Lamb of God
 - Sweet-smelling offering
 - Covering all types of sacrifices

Theological Insights

- Abram's sleep represents humanity's helplessness
- God takes the burden of salvation alone
- Jesus is:
 - The promiser
 - The sacrificer
 - The sacrifice

Chapter Four: Divinity of Christ in Prophecy

Old Testament Prophecies

- 1. Isaiah's Prophecies
 - Calls Messiah Mighty God
 - Predicts Immanuel (God with us)
- 2. Micah's Prophecy
 - Describes Messiah as eternally existing
 - Born in time but from everlasting
- 3. Prophetic Revelations
 - o Multiple prophecies point to a divine Messiah
 - o Not just a servant, but God in human flesh

Chapter Five: Jesus - The Visible Image of the Invisible God

Core Christian Belief

- God made visible through Jesus Christ
- Full deity dwelling in bodily form

Key Theological Statements

- "He who has seen Me has seen the Father" (John 14:8-9)
- Jesus is the perfect revelation of the Father
- Part of the Trinity: one God in three persons

Final Theological Conclusion

- The God of Genesis is the Jesus of the Gospels
- Jesus is not just a man, but **God Himself**

Conclusion

The book argues that Jesus is divine, eternal, and the fulfillment of God's covenant, inviting readers to understand Christ's true nature beyond traditional interpretations.

About the Author

Masters Abraham Agevi is a passionate Christian teacher and content creator with a deep love for God's Word. Driven by a desire to reveal Christ in all Scripture, he shares Biblical truth with clarity, conviction, and reverence for the mystery of God's covenant love.

