

the Purpose *and* Promises of God

God's Purpose and Our Faith

Summary

Yahweh is our covenant making God. He initiated the call on Abram's life in chapter 12 and then makes his covenant with Abram. In his covenant God takes the emphasis and responsibility on himself. Abram responds in faith – he receives God's grace by faith – and it is counted to him as righteousness.

Outline

Introduction

Note that the double sequence of Statement (S) – Question (Q) – Promise (P) highlights God as our faithful, covenant making God. The structure also highlights the response of Abram in verse 6 (it is at the center of the outline) – the proper response to God's grace is faith alone.

S – Vs 1
Q – Vs 2-3
P – Vs 4-5

Faith → Righteousness
Vs 6

S – Vs 7
Q – Vs 8
P – Vs 9-21

3. Sequence 2: Statement – Question – Promise/Covenant [v7-21]

Thoughts for my Personal Journey...

1. What is significant about God initiating a covenant with Abram? What does that say about the stability of the covenant?
2. What does this narrative reveal about God's grace in dealing with Abram? What does that reveal about God's grace in dealing with you?
3. There is such simplicity in the lesson about faith and righteousness in verse 6. What is difficult about the reality of living by faith alone (i.e., why are we so prone to want to add in performance and living by works)?
4. This covenant also points to the new covenant in Jesus Christ. Read Luke 22.14-23. What is similar to this covenant and that of Genesis 15? What is different? What do you learn about God from each and from both?
5. Is God impressing on your heart any potential change in the way you think and/or live? What could be different in the next few weeks as a result of this study?