

Genesis 创世记

ESL Bible Study – April 21, 2021

Lesson 23 – God establishes a formal covenant with Abraham 神与亚伯拉罕正式立约

Vocabulary for today:

1. **heifer** (noun) /'hef.ə/ – a young cow, especially one that has not yet given birth to a calf (= baby cow) 小母牛
2. **ram** (noun) /ræm/ – an adult male sheep 公羊
3. **pigeon** (noun) /'pɪdʒ.ən/ – a bird, usually grey in color, that has a fat body living in cities and towns. 鸽子
4. **prey** (noun) /preɪ/ – an animal that is hunted and killed for food by another animal 猎物；被捕食的动物
5. **carcass** (noun) /'kɑːkəs/ – the body of a dead animal 尸体；死畜
6. **torch** (noun) /tɔːrtʃ/ – a thick stick with material that burns tied to the top of it, used to give light 火把；火炬

Genesis 15:7–21 God's covenant with Abram 神与亚伯兰之约

Genesis 15:7 He also said to him, “I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it.”

创世记 15:7 耶和华又对他说：“我是耶和华，曾领你出了迦勒底的吾珥，为要将这地赐你为业。”

Genesis 15:8 But Abram said, “Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?”

创世记 15:8 亚伯兰说：“主耶和华啊，我怎能知道必得这地为业呢？”

Genesis 15:9 So the LORD said to him, “Bring me a **heifer**, a goat and a **ram**, each three years old, along with a dove and a young **pigeon**.”

创世记 15:9 他说：“你为我取一只三年的母牛，一只三年的母山羊，一只三年的公绵羊，一只斑鸠，一只雏鸽。”

Genesis 15:10-11 Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half. ¹¹ Then birds of **prey** came down on the **carcasses**, but Abram drove them away.

创世记 15:10-11 亚伯兰就取了这些来，每样劈开，分成两半，一半对着一半地摆列，只有鸟没有劈开。¹¹有鸷鸟下来，落在那死畜的肉上，亚伯兰就把它吓飞了。

Genesis 15:12-16 As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him. ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions. ¹⁵ You, however, will go to your ancestors in peace and be buried at a good old age. ¹⁶ In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure.”

创世记 15:12-16 日头正落的时候，亚伯兰沉沉地睡了；忽然有惊人的大黑暗落在他身上。¹³ 耶和华对亚伯兰说：“你要的确知道，你的后裔必寄居别人的地，又服事那地的人；那地的人要苦待他们四百年。¹⁴ 并且他们所要服事的那国，我要惩罚，后来他们必带着许多财物从那里出来。¹⁵ 但你要享大寿数，平平安安地归到你列祖那里，被人埋葬。¹⁶ 到了第四代，他们必回到此地，因为亚摩利人的罪孽还没有满盈。”

Genesis 15:17-21 When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking firepot with a blazing **torch** appeared and passed between the pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, “To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates— ¹⁹ the land of the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites, ²⁰ Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaites, ²¹ Amorites, Canaanites, Gergashites and Jebusites.”

创世记 15:17-21 日落天黑，不料有冒烟的炉并烧着的火把从那些肉块中经过。¹⁸ 当那日，耶和华与亚伯兰立约，说：“我已赐给你的后裔，从埃及河直到幼发拉底大河之地，¹⁹ 就是基尼人、基尼洗人、甲摩尼人、²⁰ 赫人、比利洗人、利乏音人、²¹ 亚摩利人、迦南人、革迦撒人、耶布斯人之地。”

✓ Discuss (讨论)

1. What did God command Abraham to do? What did this mean?
上帝命令亚伯拉罕做什么？这是什么意思？
2. Under normal conditions, Abraham would have walked together with God between the pieces of the sacrificial animals. However, what does Abraham do when this covenant is being ratified?
正常情况下，亚伯拉罕本可以与上帝一起在献祭的动物之间走过，完成神与他的约。然而，亚伯拉罕在签署这个约的时候在做什么？
3. God had promised Abraham the land. Yet that promise would be fulfilled in the future. What had to happen before Abraham's descendants took the land?
上帝应许了亚伯拉罕这片土地。然而，这一应许将在未来实现。在亚伯拉罕的后裔占领这片土地之前会发生什么？
4. What is different about this covenant described in verses 17-21 and ordinary covenants between two people? (This is important to us today too when we consider God's covenant with us.)
第17-21节中描述的约，与两个人之间的普通合约有何不同？（今天，当我们思考神与我们的约时，这对我们也非常重要。）

✓ Apply (应用)

5. Abraham needed assurance that God would fulfill his promises. God's word would have been enough, but God deals with us in our weakness and gives us visible assurances of his faithfulness. What visible assurances has God given us?
亚伯拉罕需要确保上帝会实现他的应许。上帝的话就已经足够了，但是我们是软弱的人，于是神给了我们可见的确据。上帝给了我们什么看得见的的确据？

主祷文：

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

我们在天上的父，愿人都尊你的名为圣。愿你的国降临。愿你的旨意行在地上，如同行在天上。我们日用的饮食，今日赐给我们。免我们的债，如同我们免了人的债。不叫我们遇见试探，救我们脱离凶恶。因为国度、权柄、荣耀，全是你的，直到永远。阿们！

