

**A PATTERN EMERGES**

1. God reaching out
  - a) To reveal
  - b) To redeem
  - c) To restore
  
2. Man's part
  - a) To respond (Abram as an example)
  - b) To read (today's circumstances)
  - c) To relate and make faith real and relevant
  
3. God's patience
  - a) In teaching
  - b) In assuring the heart
  - c) In guiding
  - d) In confirming
  - e) In blessing
  - f) In developing a deeper relationship

**REVELATION OF GOD TO ABRAM**

1. In a vision
  2. A word of promise given
    - a) Do not be afraid, Abram
    - b) I am your shield
    - c) Your exceedingly great reward
- Genesis 15:1

## **RESPONSE FROM ABRAM**

### 1. Abram's question

- a) It has been on the back of his mind
- b) He has never brought this up before though
- c) He raises his concern
- d) He did not seem to have responded directly to what he has just heard
- e) He asked about his problem of being childless
- f) The heir-apparent was his servant Eliezer of Damascus Genesis 15:2-3

### 2. The question raised and what it means

- a) A question that is deep in the heart
- b) This was the over-riding concern

## **GOD'S FURTHER WORD**

### 1. The word of the LORD came to him Genesis 15:4

### 2. Clarification

- a) This one shall not be your heir
- b) But one who would come from your own body shall be your heir  
Genesis 15:4

### 3. Further explanation

- a) God brought Abram outside (He could have been in his tent)
- b) An illustration given
- c) Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them
- d) So shall your descendants be Genesis 15:5
- e) How would Abram respond to God's word to him?

## **ABRAM'S HUMBLE RESPONSE OF FAITH**

1. And he believed in the LORD      Genesis 15:6

- a) This was the first statement of Abram's faith
- b) His understanding and experiences with God now led him to a definite faith
  - i) Real
  - ii) Relevant

2. It was accounted to him for righteousness

- a) Righteousness was now imputed to him
- b) God gave him this further word to confirm his faith

I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans,  
To give you this land to inherit it                      Genesis 15:7

- i) God's leading was given in Ur of the Chaldeans
- ii) From Ur he came to Haran with his father Terah      Genesis 11:31-32
- iii) His leading may not have been understood at the beginning
- iv) It was now clarified

## **AM BETHANY**

1. 9 February 2019  
No meeting. Lunar New Year

2. 16 February 2019  
Lunar New Year Special  
4.00pm

3. Resumption of AM Meeting  
23 February 2019