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GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAM.

GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAM.

GOLDAN TEXT.

Fear not, Abram, I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.—Gen. 15:1.

I, The Sion. 5. In, view of the vision and the former promises, Abraham a-kis the Lord how the promise could be ruffilled. since he was chiddless. For answer the Lord how the promise could be ruffilled. since he was chiddless. For answer the Lord lead him forth abroad. Out of listens, the could be seen and the brought him forth abroad. Out of his cent, so that he could see the stars, showing that his vision was no dream, but a real message from God. Look me toward heaven and tell the stars if thou he able to number them. In the clear skies of Palestine more stars can be seen than in our climate. There, as we gaze, we see the faint radiance of two and more distant counsellations. No one can count the exact number of stars we see. There are always more beyond. So shall thy seed be. (1) His tatural descendants, who, during the last 4600 years, are countless, and the end is not yet. (2) His spiritual descendant hirough faith (Gal. 3: 7, 29). These, too, are innumerable. (3) These descendants white like the stars upon the darkness of easith, and are the permanent, as well as hining, profes of God's faithfulness and love. The promise of so m by descendants of the could not have the children unless the was preceived.

II. Farrii in time Pransus. 6. And. he elected is the Lord. He reposed as a

included in it the promise of protection, for be could not have the children unless he was preserved.

II. FAITH IN THE PROMISE. 6. And he believed in the Lord. He reposed as a child in its mother's argue (such seems the force of the Hebrew word). And he counted freekoned, imputed, set to his account; if (bit faith) to him for right counses. It was a faith that obeyed, that bove fruit wherever fruit was possible. But in itself a loving, trusting heart is the best righteousness, it that whole Ged most desires in us, and all the "good works" in the world, without this, are nothing (see James 2: 17-24). Such faith honor God, for it our strongest tectimony to the character and worthiness of God.

I. I am the Lord that brought thee suit of Ur. Te encourage his trust, Gol shows to Arsan that his whole life thus far has been under the divine direction.

III. The PROMISE GONFIRMEN. S. And he said, Lord God, whereby shall I know that I had il. Inherit II The question is not an expression of doubt, but (1) then statist working of faths seeking for more and more confirmation. (2) It may have been a desire for some intimation as to the time and mode of taking possession.

9. Take we a heffer, sic. The way is which the Lord chose to meet his wish is in a forcehalour of these timination as to the time and mode of taking possession.

9. Take we a heffer, sic. The way is which the Lord chose to meet his wish is in a forcehalour of these timination as to the time and mode of the timination are of the one sacrifice typifes the were atterward used in the Lewition searches. It was thus for containing a strate between the parts of the one sacrifice typifes their reconciliation to a unity; or (2) it set forth, he penalty of perform, and was usually accompanied by the imprecation upon the overant-breaker of a destruction was complete as that which had beallest the shade, and therefore most active the production of the world. I have the fosse came descen. The birds of prey, vultures, eagles, hawk, buzzards, These abound in the East, a

tions and oppessions (or, where these are abeen, the pleasures and engagements) of the world. (3) The disturbances and distractions of vain thoughts and sinful motions in the heart:

12. And shear the sun was going down. The vision having commenced the previous revening, an entire day has already passed, the interval being designed to the previous endine the second of the interval being designed to the previous and the second of the

one man. For the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full. From this simple sentence we have much to learn. (1) The Lord foreknows the moral character of men. (2) In his providence he administers the management of the control of th

following pathetic thousand vict:

"If was passing out of the prisen-yard ose bitterly cold Christmas morning.

"Just outside the gate, and crouching close to the high stone wall, I saw a thinly close to the high stone wall, I saw a thinly close the prisent passed.

"It was passed to the prisent passed."

of mer out shaw and giancing unitary down.

"What is it?" I saked.

"What is it?" I saked.

"What is it?" I saked.

"The same is same is made in the same in the same is made in the same in the same is made in the same in the s

mash, and T didn't suppose, you'd mind hasy if he had it. His name is Mister John H——y."

"I recognized the name as that of a life convict, a man notorously bad. I went had in the price grounds, the child following me sagerly.

"Going to my office, I sent for the convict. He came, sullen and dejected; in his face was a lock of utter hopelessness the faces of prisoners of life so often wear. "The child payrang forward te meet him, the hot tears streaming over her white face.

"He stepped back, sullen and seemingly angry. No word of welcome came from his lips, for the ragged, treembling little creature who stood crying before him with something clasped close in her hand.

"I—I—came to—say "Merry Christmas," father, and fatered. "I—I—thought may's you'd be glad to see me. Ain't you glar, father,"

"Christmas' Christ! What would that man not have given for fr sedom of body and sou'l!

"The convict's head dropped. The hard look was going out of his face, his eyes were moistening. His little grif west on trembling and tearfully.—"

"And I—I—brung you something, father, It was all I could think of, and all I could et. I live to the poor-house now."

"Her trenabling fingers began unwrap.

and she held out a short, shining outl of yellow hair carefully ited with a bit or old ribbon. "I wouldn't give this to anybody on earth but you, father. You used to really and truly love little Johnnie: mother said you did; and so'—
"The man fell to his knees with both hands clasped over his face.
"I did, love him, 'he said, hoarsely. "I leve him still; bad as I am, I love him still; bad as I am, I love him still; and "I knew it,' said the child, going closer, "I knew it,' said the child, going closer,

"I did love him," he ead, hotreely. "I love him still."

"I knew it," said the child, going closer, "and I knowed you'd like this, now that Johnule's dead.

"Dead" cried the man, rocking to and fro, still on his knees with his hands over his sace. "My little boy!"

"Yes," said the child, "he died in the goor-house only last week, and there's no one left but me now; but I sin't goin' to forgit you, fether. I'm going to stick right by you, is spite of what folks say, and some day maybe I can get you out of here. I'm going to the key, and some day maybe I can get you out of here. I'm going to try. I don't never forgit that you are my father, and so'—"He put out one arm, and drew the child towards him and kissed her again and again. Esilently left the room, and thay were alone together for half an hour. Then the child came out, smiling through her tears.

"Mind," she said, before closing the door, "I'll never forgit yeu, father, never."

It was the voice of a true heart. May Christ give it the benediction of his peace!

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"Indeed! How do you make that out!"
"Well, fair sit, the king lives; and so do
I. He can do no more than live. Further,
I am content. Is the king that?"
I could be subjected in the present of the lives and so do to the can deep the studied in the mind even after the sought his pillow. On the next day, the setucists and finding himself in the present of the turn-spit may be in sequence of the studied and the image of that key remained in the mind even after the sought his pillow. On the next day, the setucists and finding himself in the present of the studied and the s

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—When Luther was visiting one day he saw a boy who was very sick, and he knew he would soon die 1so he asked him, "What will you take with you to God?" The row as you, a poor sinner, take anything to God?" asked the great reformer. Said the dying youth: "I will take to God in heaven an humble, contrib heart, sprinkled with the blood of Christ." "Go then, dear son, you will be a welcome guest with God," responded Luther, and he was right.

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