Main Thought  In the dark, we all need reassurance from God that everything is going to be all right.”

His Safety (1).

- **ABRAM HAD HIS DOUBTS.** He was afraid that perhaps the four kings would return and that God had not given him an heir yet.
- **ABRAM HAD HIS GOD.** God called him by name (John 10:3; Psa. 147:3-4).
- **This is the first “do not be afraid” (69x) in the Bible – Isaac (26:24); Jacob (46:3); Israel (Ex. 14:13; 20:20; Num. 14:9 Deut. 1:21); Isaiah (Isa. 41:10, 13-14; 43:1, 5; 44:2, 8); Joseph (Matt. 1:20); Mary (Luke 1:30); Shepherds (Luke 2:10); Christians (John 14:27), Paul (Acts 18:9; 27:24).**

**His Family** (2-6).

- **HE ASKED –** It is no sin to ask of God (Matt. 7:7; John 14:14).
- **HE LOOKED (4-5) –** heir-ship depends on son-ship (Rom. 8:14-17).
- **HE BELIEVED (6) –** This is the John 3:16 of the OT and is quoted three times in the NT:
  1. **BELIEF** – amen; lean your weight upon (Gal. 3:6);
  2. **COUNTED** – put to one’s account, impute, credit (Rom. 4:3);
  3. **RIGHTEOUSNESS** – His righteousness is yours (Jam. 2:23).

**His Land** (7-21).

- The **LORD repeats (5x in Gen.) the LAND provision of the covenant.**
- **Even people of faith needed reassurance** (Peter – Matt. 14:28-31).

> “Complaint and faith are not antithetical; complaint is based on taking God seriously.”  
> **Bruce Waltke,**  
> **Genesis,** p. 243

- Abram prepared the elaborate covenant renewing ritual –
  1. Animals were cut in two indicating the fate of the covenant breaker.
  2. Birds of prey circled depicting Abram’s enemies — Egypt.
- **God was the sole participant (unilateral/unconditional)** as Abram was placed in a deep sleep (Dan. 8:18; 10:9).
- The **“thick and dreadful darkness” foreshadowed Egypt (Acts 7:6-7).**
- The smoking firepot/blazing torch passed between the carcass halves depicting God alone (Abram was asleep) was invoking a curse on himself.  If God failed to deliver the covenant, may he be cut in two (Jer. 34:18).