3) Abram says that he is childless and that Eliezer, a servant of his house, is going to get everything he has.

4) The Lord tells him two things:

   i) He is going to have a son from his own body who will be his heir.

   ii) He is going to have so many descendants that he won't be able to count them.

5) Abram believed God's promise and God accounted him as righteous for his trust.

6) The Lord tells him something else.

   i) He says, "I've brought you all the way here from Ur of the Chaldees so that I can give you this land for you to possess."

   ii) Abram asks how can he know that he is going to take possession of this land.

   iii) The Lord tells him how he can know:

      a) He tells him to take a heifer, goat, and ram.

      b) He was to cut them in half and make the halves face each other.

      c) Then the Lord tells them what is going to happen to his descendants: His descendants are going to go into a strange country and be enslaved and mistreated by that country for 400 years and after that time they will come out with great possessions and the nation that mistreated them will be punished by the Lord and his descendants are going to going to come back to the land and they will take control.

      d) The reason it can't happen before is because it is not time to bring judgment upon the Amorites who were there. The Amorites were the most powerful tribe there, but it represents all the people in Canaan. The Lord was going to give them 400 years to repent, but if they didn't do it, then judgment was going to fall and the descendants of Abram are going to bring that judgment.

      e) So the Lord says, "I've promised you the land, but you can't have it yet. You can't have it until 400 years."

      f) He gave him the boundaries of the land: He told him it was going to go from the Nile river to the Euphrates river (to give the east and west boundaries) and then he named ten tribes (to give the north and south boundaries).

      g) The Lord says to him, "Here's how you can know you are going to get that land."