

Hebrews 6:11-12

And we desire each one of you  
to show the same earnestness to have  
the full assurance of hope until the end,  
so that you may not be sluggish,  
but imitators of those who through faith  
and patience inherit the promises.

Hebrews 6:13-15

For when God made a promise to Abraham,  
since he had no one greater by whom to swear,  
he swore by himself, saying,  
“Surely I will bless you and multiply you.”

And thus Abraham, having patiently waited,  
obtained the promise.

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you,  
declares the LORD,  
plans for wholeness and not for evil,  
to give you a future and a hope.

Genesis 12:1-3

Now the LORD said to Abram,  
“Go from your country and your kindred  
and your father’s house to the land  
that I will show you.

“And I will make of you a great nation,  
and I will bless you and make your name great,  
so that you will be a blessing.

I will bless those who bless you,  
and him who dishonors you I will curse,  
and in you all the families of the earth  
shall be blessed.”

Genesis 15:5-6

He brought him outside and said,  
“Look toward heaven, and number the stars,  
if you are able to number them.”

Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

And he believed the LORD,  
and he counted it to him as righteousness.

Genesis 15:9-21

He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.”

And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other.

But he did not cut the birds in half.

And when birds of prey  
came down on the carcasses,  
Abram drove them away.

Genesis 15:9-21

As the sun was going down,  
a deep sleep fell on Abram.

And behold, dreadful and great darkness  
fell upon him...

When the sun had gone down and it was dark,  
behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch  
passed between these pieces.

On that day the LORD made a covenant  
with Abram...

Hebrews 6:13-15

For when God made a promise to Abraham,  
since he had no one greater by whom to swear,  
he swore by himself, saying,  
“Surely I will bless you and multiply you.”

And thus Abraham, having patiently waited,  
obtained the promise.

Hebrews 6:16

For people swear by something  
greater than themselves, and in all their disputes  
an oath is final for confirmation.

Hebrews 6:17-18

So when God desired to show more convincingly  
to the heirs of the promise  
the unchangeable character of his purpose,  
he guaranteed it with an oath,  
so that by two unchangeable things,  
in which it is impossible for God to lie,  
we who have fled for refuge might have  
strong encouragement to hold fast  
to the hope set before us.

Hebrews 6:19-20

We have this as

a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul,  
a hope that enters into the inner place  
behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone  
as a forerunner on our behalf,  
having become a high priest forever  
after the order of Melchizedek.

