

A man with a beard and long hair, wearing a white robe, stands with his hands clasped in front of him. The background is a dark, textured surface covered with various names and titles for God in different languages, including English, Hebrew, and Korean. The names are written in various fonts and colors, creating a collage effect. The overall tone is spiritual and reverent.

Our Shield and Reward

Genesis 15:1, Psalm 84:11, Ephesians 6:16

When Fear Creeps In

- Abraham's deepest fear was that he would remain childless.
- Our greatest fears often come after the battle, not during it.
- Answered prayers and success lead to responsibilities we question, because both reveal our deep need for someone beyond ourselves.
- God does not wait for us to overcome our fears alone.

I Am Your Shield

- God does not offer Abraham a better military strategy or stronger armor, He offers Himself.
- God does not promise help from a distance.
- God, as our shield, protects us from more than external enemies; He shields us from internal attacks that often do more damage.
- Faith is entrusting ourselves to God as our shield.
- Knowing that God is our shield does not automatically protect us, we must actively trust Him.

I Am Your Great Reward

- God does not say, "I will give you a great reward," He says, "I AM your great reward."
- God Himself is our inheritance, our prize, our ultimate satisfaction.
- We live in a world constantly telling us what we need in order to be happy.
- God knows that what we need, what our souls long for, is not something from Him but Him.

Redefining Success

- Success is not getting all our prayers answered as we hope but discovering that the One we are praying to is the answer we did not know we needed.
- God wanted Abraham to understand that even the promised son was not the ultimate prize, but God Himself was.
- Jesus is our reward, because in Him we have every spiritual blessing.

Is God Enough

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- The question confronting us today is the same one that confronted Abraham 4,000 years ago: Is God enough?
 - Is God still your most significant reward, or have the blessings become your god?
 - When we hold God as our greatest reward, we hold everything else with open hands.
 - Our shield and reward is not something that can be taken away; He is someone who promises never to leave us or forsake us.

Conclusion

- God's word to us today is the same as to Abraham: "Do not be afraid. I am your shield, your great reward."
- Take God at His word, trust Him as your shield and receive Him as your reward.
- The God who met Abraham in his midnight fears meets us in ours today.
- Is God enough for you? The answer to that question changes everything.