

## Genesis 15:1-21

### Verse 15:2

וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְרָם אֲדֹנָי יְהוִה מִהַּ תִּתֶּן-לִי וְאֲנֹכִי הוֹלֵךְ עֲרִירִי וּבֶן-מֶשֶׁק בֵּיתִי  
הוּא דַמְשֵׁק אֶלְיָעֶזֶר

תִּתֶּן (titten)	(Verb: Qal, 2ms, imperfect) - give, will-you-give, shall-you-give
עֲרִירִי (areeree)	(Adj) literally means 'stripped'. Idiom for 'childless'
מֶשֶׁק (mesheq)	uncertain (BDB). Idiomatically means acquisition or possession.
דַּמְשֵׁק (dameseq)	Damascus. Rhymes with mesheq (see above)

The words highlighted red are ones I had to look up in a lexicon. The first one I should have known and I knew it at one time, but didn't recognize until I looked it up.

### Context:

This verse is Avram's reaction to God's previous statement in 15:1 that his reward will be very great. It was a difficult verse for me to translate because some of the vocabulary is obscure and made it difficult to determine the context. The main offender was the phrase, *uven mesheq beiti hu Dammesseq Eliezer*. Literally, *and-the-son-of acquisition-of my-house [is] Damascus Eliezer*. Meaning Eliezer is to be the one who will acquire Abram's house.

### Translations

#### Mechanical:

And-spoke, Abram, "Adonai LORD, what-**will-you-give**-to-me? And I walking **childless** and-the-son-of acquisition-of my-house? He [is] **Damascus** Eliezer

**Literal:**

*And spoke Avram, "LORD God, what will you give to me? I go-about childless and the son of acquisition of my house [will be] Eliezer of Damascus"*

**Mine:**

*And spoke Avram, "LORD God, what will you give me? I am childless and he who will acquire my household [is to be] be Eliezer of Damascus"*

**NIV**

*But Abram said, "Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit<sup>1</sup> my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?"*

**NRS**

*But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"*