Chapter 15

15:1-2

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward."

2 But Abram said, "Lord GOD, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" "You've given me a lot, but to whom do I leave it?" Abraham is acknowledging that God made him wealthy [through inheritance from Terah (chapter 11), the trip to Egypt (chapter 12), and the spoiling of the kings (chapter 14)], and yet he has nobody to whom he may impart it.

In Exodus 18, we find Moses naming one of his sons Eliezer (actually born in Exodus 3). God did not identify Himself as "the God of Abraham" until this chapter. Eliezer is then born and named. Chapter 18 says he received this name because he was "saved from the sword of Pharaoh." Meanwhile Moses writes both Genesis and Exodus after his begetting and his naming of Eliezer—the 2nd Eliezer—after both Eliezers are born in households of separate men (Abraham & Moses) who were both delivered from Pharaoh (Genesis 12 and Exodus 13-14).

15:3

Then Abram said, "Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!" Genesis 22:1 speaks of Abraham being 100 years old when Isaac is born. The last verse of Genesis 16 says that Abram was 86 when Ishmael was born. Since Ishmael is not yet born, Abram is not yet 86 years old, and this passage is no less than 14 years before Isaac is born.