

Genesis

The Book of Origins
Week 2

We are continuing our study from the book of Genesis

Chapters 13-17 The Flesh vs. The Will of God

WK 1: Chapter 13 - Lot's choice and Abram's portion

WK 2-3: Chapter 14 - Lot's warning and Abram's blessing

WK 4-5: Chapter 15 - God's Covenant with Abram

Last time I was made aware that I was doing some speeding. I appreciate the feedback so we will make the effort to slow down today take our time to learn but to also end on time. One thing that may help is to keep your Bibles open to Genesis 14 and follow the screen and glance down to the verses as we are reviewing these verses.

Since some points were rushed last time I thought it would be a good idea to review some of our highlights from last week.

Chapter 14

Review of chapter 13

Outline of chapter 14

Observations

Spiritual Lessons

Here is our plan for today

Chapter 13

V1- 4 Abrams' restoration

V5 - 7 Conflict between herdsmen

V8- 13 Lot's choice

V14- 18- Abram's portion

V1-4 we learned that after a period of backsliding in Egypt Abram returns to Bethel. At the core of his restoration Abraham is to go back to the first step of obedience to the place in the promised land where he worshiped first. Bethel means House of God. We learned in connection what to do when we grow distant from God. Return to Christ, to the person you worshipped when you first believed. For some this could mean going back to church or if already at church simply returning to Christ with faith. We also saw how we can backslide while we think we are doing everything right yet losing our first love as the Ephesians. We must return to that love and faith we had when we first believed, to that urgency to share the Gospel. To that living faith that produces love for God and others, sharing the Gospel trusting Christ can save anyone.

V4-7 We learned principles of conflict resolution between brethren. - explain each statement briefly.

Conflict is a terrible testimony

Conflicts between brethren should be resolved quickly, graciously, and from a disadvantage point

When is separation necessary?

When there is an unequal yoke or sin involved

Not in marriage unless the non believing spouse separates

Sometimes between brethren like Paul and Barnabas

Separation should be free from animosity and love should always be maintained. When someone separates we should still love them the way Abraham continued to love Lot as we will see soon.

8-18 Lots choice and Abrams portion

When there is an unequal yoke or sin is involved - 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

14 *Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? **15** And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? **16** And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said:*

"I will dwell in them

And walk among them.

I will be their God,

And they shall be My people."

17 *Therefore*

"Come out from among them

And be separate, says the Lord.

Do not touch what is unclean,

And I will receive you."

wife is not to depart from her husband. **11** But even if she does depart, let her remain unmarried or be reconciled to her husband. And a husband is not to divorce his wife.

12 But to the rest I, not the Lord, say: If any brother has a wife who does not believe, and she is willing to live with him, let him not divorce her. **13** And a woman who has a husband who does not believe, if he is willing to live with her, let her not divorce him. **14** For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband; otherwise your children would be unclean, but now they are holy. **15** But if the unbeliever departs, let him depart; a brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases. But God has called us to peace. **16** For how do you know, O wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, O husband, whether you will save your wife?

- A) Lot's choices are based on the world - the lust of the eyes, the passion of the flesh, and the pride of life, Abram's choices are based on the will of God.

Lots choice and Abrahams portion can be summarized in

1 John 2:15-17

15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. **17** And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

Chapter 14

Review of chapter 13

Outline

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Outline of Genesis 14

V1- 12 Lot's warning

V13- 16 Abram to the rescue

V17-24 Melchizedek and the king of Sodom

We will read in a few moments

Chapter 14

Review of chapter 13

Outline

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V1-12 Lot's Warning

V1-11 The affairs of Sodom and Gomorrah

V12 - Lot's involvement

Read V1-12 -

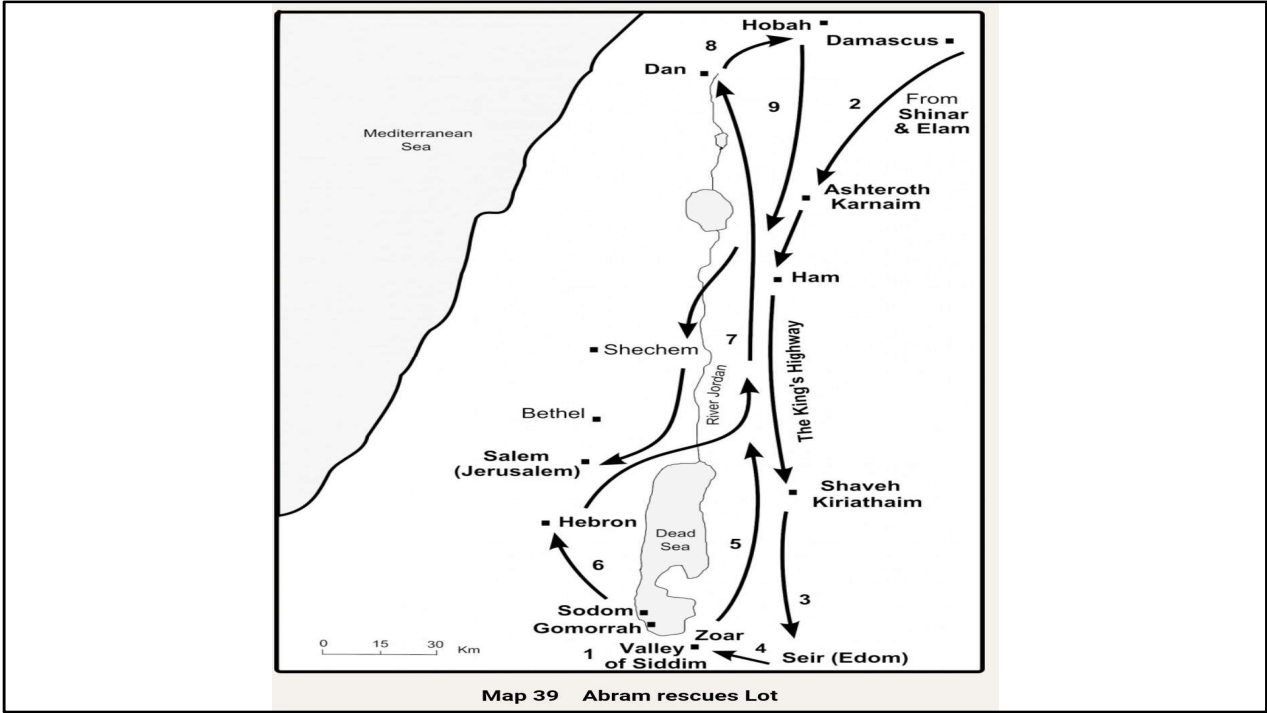
V1-11 An international conflict. some locations are mentioned this may help us visualize these battles See next slide for route

See V3 and 8 The valley of Siddim - see two slides ahead

The victories of the 4 kings in this account would highlight their own might but also make the point that no one is mighty before God. Later we see God's might to save using very few men in comparison in Abrams expedition.

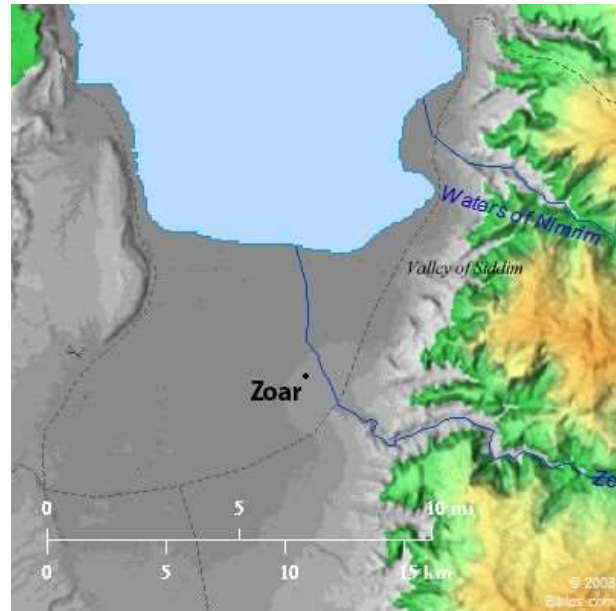
V12 Lot was living in Sodom - 3rd stage... 1st was he lifted up his eyes, 2nd was he moved near Sodom, 3rd now he is living in Sodom. 4th Stage...A warning of discipline. The world's disputes, this international conflict, became Lot's problem. When the world was swept Lot was

taken captive because of his choice to live in and befriend the world. Our world is full of political, religious, ideological, financial disputes everywhere you turn. Here is a question... When do this world's disputes become our problem? They become our own problem when we are immersed in the world or in my case when I make them more relevant than The Word of God. I have found myself more worried about the political climate, the health debates, and angring news than people going to hell, doing the will of God, thinking in love about fellow believers. Some people out there know more about my political views and health habits than my Savior. Many fellow believers get involved in conflicts they have no business meddling because this world, its politics, its wars, its economy are more relevant for them than their testimony than Christ.



See 1-8

Tar Pits and the Valley of Siddim



There is a dispute whether this valley is north or south of the dead sea. After God's judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah the dead sea was formed.

- 1 Aerial view where sinkholes can be seen in the area of the dead sea that would have been previously tar pits
- 2 An example of a tar pit
- 3 The possible area of the valley of Siddim

Return to previous slides.

V13-16 Abram to the Rescue

V13 A fugitive by God's providence

V14 -16 Abram proceeds with:

Speed

With preparation

Strategy

Bravery

Read and See map on next two slides and then return

Let's not miss Abram's urgency to rescue his nephew.

Abraham does not question if he should rescue Lot. Abram had separated but still loved him

Does not wait too long - he recognizes that Lot is in a desperate situation

Does not make an excuse that this is too difficult

Had means prepared for a rescue - goes out with organized man not just with good intentions

Proceeded with strategy

Took a risk by faith in God

This applies directly to situations when a brother is caught by sin or the world. And also to the idea that many Mission trips are rescue missions

too.

Reminds me of a missions trip to rescue unsaved sinners our brother George, Sam and others took recently. They didn't question the mission, they eliminated excuses, acted with urgency, had well organized means for this Gospel rescue mission, proceeded with strategy and took a risk.

Here Lot represents the brother who is caught by their worldly lifestyle and choices. Notice these important details...

Lot had to fall captive before he could be rescued. He could not be rescued from Sodom earlier because he did not see or accept he was in the wrong place.

Received a stern warning as he was in the third stage of immersion into Sodom

Returned to Sodom after this rescue, but this didn't prevent Abram's love and rescue, notice later how Abram later acts on behalf of Lot when he pleads before the Lord when He is about to destroy Sodom.

Don't miss Abram's attitude for a lost brother and for lost sinners. Go to Spiritual lessons if time is short.