

GENESIS 13: FAMILY CONFLICT

I. OVERVIEW

- A. Abram and Lot go up from Egypt
 - i. Into the Negeb
 - ii. Then to where his tent was before, between Bethel and Ai
- B. The land could not support both Abram and Lot
 - i. Herdsman couldn't get along
 - ii. Canaanites and Perizzites were also there
 - iii. Lot moved east to Sodom
 - iv. Abram stayed in Canaan
- C. God affirms his promise to Abram
 - i. Abram's offspring will be as the dust of the earth
 - ii. Abram moves to oaks of Mamre, at Hebron
 - a. Builds an altar

II. LOT – V. 1

- A. Still with Abram
- B. Despite God's instructions

III. ABRAM WAS VERY RICH – V. 2

- A. In livestock, silver, gold
 - i. Lot had flocks, herds, tents
 - a. Inferior in age and in wealth

IV. AT THE BEGINNING – V. 3

- A. Abram had to start over
- B. He sought out the altar he had built before and returned to his first love and first works¹
 - i. Revelation 2:4-5 *⁴But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.*

V. LAND COULD NOT SUPPORT – V. 6

¹ Guzik, David. "Study Guide for Genesis 13." Blue Letter Bible, 2018, www.blueletterbible.org/comm/guzik_david/study-guide/genesis/genesis-13.cfm. Accessed 18 May 2023.

- A. Famine likely still ongoing
 - i. Abram didn't leave Egypt because famine was over
 - ii. He was kicked out²
- B. Herdsmen competing for limited resources
- C. Possible reason for famine in first place
 - i. To separate Abram and Lot
 - ii. God puts pressure on Abram to bring about obedience³

VI. IS NOT THE WHOLE LAND BEFORE YOU? – V. 9

- A. Abram was patriarch
 - i. Could have chosen first⁴

VII. LOT SAW – V. 10

- A. Lot saw the Jordan Valley
- B. It was well watered like Eden
 - i. Fertile like Egypt⁵
- C. So he chose the Jordan Valley

VIII. EAST – V. 11

- A. Lot seems to have made a choice
- B. But he is truly choosing exile

IX. LIFT UP YOUR EYES – V. 14

- A. Lot lifted up his own eyes to the east
 - i. He saw what was pleasing to him
- B. Abram allowed God to lift up his eyes to all directions
 - i. He saw what was pleasing to God⁶

X. GOD GIVES NEW INFORMATION TO ABRAM

- A. The land belongs to Abram and his offspring forever
- B. Abram's offspring will be as the dust of the earth
- C. Walk through and explore the whole land⁷

² Armstrong, Stephen. "Genesis 2011 - Lesson 13." Verse by Verse Ministries International, 5 Sept. 2011, versebyversemministry.org/lessons/genesis_2011_lesson_13. Accessed 18 May 2023.

³ Armstrong

⁴ Armstrong

⁵ Armstrong

⁶ Armstrong

⁷ Armstrong

XI. POINTS TO JESUS

- A. Repeats promise of offspring inheriting land forever
 - i. Psalm 2:8 ***Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.***

XII. QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- A. What is our response to God when He applies pressure to our lives?

- B. Do we use our authority to make decisions that benefit ourselves? Or do we yield to others by giving them preference?

- C. What was Lot's mistake? How do we avoid making this same mistake?

- D. How tightly do we hold on to our wealth?

- E. Jesus will come one day to claim His inheritance in Israel. How does that influence how we think of and pray for Israel?

XIII. FURTHER STUDY

A. What are the ways that Psalm 112:1-3 says that the one who fears the Lord will share in the promises given to Abraham?

B. Why does the author mention the contrast between Abram's livestock, silver and gold in verse 2 and Lot's flocks, herds and tents in verse 5?

C. What does the reference to Genesis 4:26 in verse 4 say about the surrounding nations in the land of Canaan? What can we learn from this?

D. Did Abram handle the situation with Lot properly? How would Jesus advise this situation be handled? See Matthew 5:38-42.

E. Is there a parallel between Genesis 13:16 and Genesis 2:7? How could this point to Jesus?
