

# 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. Herdsmen 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 works<sup>1</sup>
  - i. Revelation 2:4-5 ***4 But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. 5 Remember 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

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<sup>1</sup> Guzik, David. "Study Guide for Genesis 13." *Blue Letter Bible*, 2018, [www.blueletterbible.org/comm/guzik\\_david/study-guide/genesis/genesis-13.cfm](http://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 out<sup>2</sup>
- 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 obedience<sup>3</sup>

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

- A. Abram was patriarch
  - i. Could have chosen first<sup>4</sup>

#### **VII. LOT SAW – V. 10**

- A. Lot saw the Jordan Valley
- B. It was well watered like Eden
  - i. Fertile like Egypt<sup>5</sup>
- 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 God<sup>6</sup>

#### **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 land<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Armstrong, Stephen. "Genesis 2011 - Lesson 13." *Verse by Verse Ministries International*, 5 Sept. 2011, [versebyverseministry.org/lessons/genesis\\_2011\\_lesson\\_13](http://versebyverseministry.org/lessons/genesis_2011_lesson_13). Accessed 18 May 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Armstrong

<sup>4</sup> Armstrong

<sup>5</sup> Armstrong

<sup>6</sup> Armstrong

<sup>7</sup> 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?  

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

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

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

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

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### **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?

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- 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?

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- 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?

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

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

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