

# GENESIS 13:1-18

## ABRAHAM: LIVING BY FAITH NOT BY SIGHT

SEPTEMBER 2, 2018

### CROSS-REFERENCE

Matthew 6:25-34 "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? [26] Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? [27] And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? [28] And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, [29] yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. [30] But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? [31] Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' [32] For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. [33] But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. [34] "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Genesis 13:1-18 So Abram went up from Egypt, he and his wife and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the Negeb. [2] Now Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold. [3] And he journeyed on from the Negeb as far as Bethel to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai, [4] to the place where he had made an altar at the first. And there Abram called upon the name of the LORD. [5] And Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents, [6] so that the land could not support both of them dwelling together; for their possessions were so great that they could not dwell together, [7] and there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. At that time the Canaanites and the Perizzites were dwelling in the land. [8] Then Abram said to Lot, "Let there be no strife between you and me, and between your herdsmen and my herdsmen, for we are kinsmen. [9] Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right, or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left." [10] And Lot lifted up his eyes and saw that the Jordan Valley was well watered everywhere like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, in the direction of Zoar. (This was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) [11] So Lot chose for himself all the Jordan Valley, and Lot journeyed east. Thus they separated from each other. [12] Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled among the cities of the valley and moved his tent as far as Sodom. [13] Now the men of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the LORD. [14] The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, "Lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward, [15] for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever. [16] I will make your offspring as the dust of the earth, so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your offspring also can be counted. [17] Arise, walk through the length and the breadth of the land, for I will give it to you." [18] So Abram moved his tent and came and settled by the oaks of Mamre, which are at Hebron, and there he built an altar to the LORD.

## THE PARADOX OF ABRAM AND THE PARADOX OF US (13:1-4)

- ABRAM'S FAITH WAS REAL, BUT SO WAS HIS FEAR.
- BELIEVERS WRESTLE WITH THE INTERNAL MIXTURE OF SELF - RELIANCE AND GOD - RELIANCE
- THIS JOURNEY OF FAITH IN GOD'S GRACE GIVES OPPORTUNITY FOR RESTORING OUR WALK WITH GOD THROUGH REPENTANCE
  - THROUGH FAITH, OBEDIENCE, AND WORSHIP

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## THE EVIDENCES OF A LIFE OF FAITH

WHEN TESTED, ABRAM DEMONSTRATED HUMILITY/ CARE  
LOT DEMONSTRATED PRIDE/ SELF-CENTEREDNESS

WHEN TESTED, ABRAM DEMONSTRATED GENEROSITY  
LOT DEMONSTRATED SELFISHNESS

WHEN TESTED, ABRAM DEMONSTRATED FAITH  
LOT DEMONSTRATED SIGHT

ABRAM IS WILLING TO RISK THE PRESENT IN LIGHT OF THE PROMISE

## THE DANGERS OF A LIFE OF SIGHT

THE DESIRE OF THE EYES WILL CONSISTENTLY LEAD US AWAY FROM THE ETERNAL

THE EYES AND HEARTS OF MAN WILL CONSISTENTLY DECEIVE US

THE TREASURES OF THE WORLD OFTEN LOOKS APPEALING BUT WILL ALWAYS LEAD TO DESTRUCTION

THE LIFE OF SIGHT WILL LEAD US TO LIVE OUTSIDE THE PROMISE AND BLESSING

## THE AFFIRMATION OF THE LIFE OF FAITH

LOOK UP - AND SEE THE SIGN OF THE PROMISE OF THE LAND

LOOK DOWN - AND SEE THE SIGN OF THE PROMISE OF A PEOPLE

WALK IN FAITH - AND CLAIM THE PROMISE OF THE INHERITANCE

WORSHIP IN HOPE - OF THE ONE WHO WILL KEEP HIS PROMISES

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*Hebrews 11:1-2 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. [2] For by it the people of old received their commendation.*