

FINDING BLESSING ON THE PATH OF SURRENDER - Genesis 13

INTRODUCTION

In Genesis 12, we began a rather long character study of Abraham, the man known as a friend of God. Even as their relationship is just forming, God has already shown how He loves, protects, saves, and delivers His chosen one.

Genesis 13 records Abram's separation from his nephew Lot, and how in surrendering his rights in this situation, the result was freedom from stress in conflict. He will also learn that trusting in God's sovereign care provides rest as God works things out to reveal the blessings He has in mind. Valuable life lessons for us all!

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Genesis 13 several times. In this study, we will dig deeper for practical lessons from Abram's life. How does the Lord protect & provide for those who surrender their lives to His sovereignty? And how can you apply this Scripture personally in your life today?

Pray for wisdom & understanding, and let's begin.

- I. Verses 1-4. Abram realized it was better to be in God's famine than Egypt's abundance. He is learning to let God rule. Isaiah 30:15
- II. Verses 5-7. Abundance can create conflict & strife. How should we react? Neighbors are watching your witness! John 13:34-35, 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12.
- III. Verses 8-9. Conflict resolution in the family. Consider this from Abram's perspective: acknowledge that we are brothers, don't try to control things, trust in God's sovereignty to handle the situation, and be free from worry & self preservation. Colossians 3:14-15.
- IV. Verses 10-13. Lot's decision based on wrong criteria. Lot was a saved soul (2 Peter 2:7), yet made decisions based on his natural senses. The grass was greener over in Sodom. Watch out for decisions based on carnal reasoning & desires.
- V. Verses 14-18. God's promises to the surrendered saint. After Abram was separated from Lot, he was now in a position to hear the Lord's voice and moved to Hebron (friend, fellowship, communion). He settled and worshipped God, trusting in His sovereign care, and knowing that The Lord can work all things out. Romans 8:28.

CONSIDER

DO YOU HAVE SITUATIONS OR RELATIONSHIPS FORMED BY FLESHLY OR NATURAL DESIRES?

ARE YOU CONSIDERING ANY DECISIONS BASED ON CARNAL CRITERIA?

GOD WANTS YOU TO LIVE WITHIN HIS SOVEREIGN CARE.

- **IN SURRENDERING TO HIS CARE, YOU WILL HAVE RELIEF FROM STRESS.**
- **IN SURRENDERING TO HIS CARE, YOU CAN KNOW PEACE & JOY IN HIS PRESENCE.**
- **AND YOU WILL BE IN A PLACE TO HEAR & SEE ALL THE BLESSINGS GOD HAS PREPARED FOR YOU!**

PRAY

- Upcoming CCFL events – Baptism Picnic 9/4, NE Pastor's Conference 9/26-28
- School of Ministry – new students coming this semester, teachers, housing needs
- Bible studies beginning soon – Foundations Class, Inductive Bible Study Class, Women's Bible Study...
- Calvary Chapel Christian School - Pray for new & returning students and their teachers
- Home Fellowships resuming in September - that discipleship & fellowship would flourish
- Koinonia Church in Lima, Peru - Pastor Brian & Betty VanderKodde and their family