

"ARE YOU AN ABRAHAM OR A LOT?" (Gen. 11-25)

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INTRO: This morning we're going to contrast the lives of Abraham and Lot, who represent two distinct types of believers. What are these important distinctives and which best represents your life? Let's find out!

I. THE EARLY LIFE OF ABRAHAM & LOT (Gen. 11-12).

- A. Abraham's [Abram] genealogy (Gen. 11:10-26).
 - 1. Lot is Abram's nephew (Gen. 11:25-27).
 - 2. Lot's father, Haran, died (Gen. 11:28), leaving Uncle Abraham in somewhat of a father role to Lot.
- B. Abram married Sarai, who was barren (vv. 28, 30).
- C. Abram's first encounters with God (Gen. 12).
 - 1. Abram built altars, sought God, heard from God and obeyed God.
- D. Abram wasn't perfect and compromised by telling Sarai to lie and say she was his sister, which was out of fear (Gen. 12:10-20; see also Gen. 20).
- E. Back to Bethel and building altars (Gen. 13:1-5).

II. THE SEPARATION OF ABRAHAM & LOT (Gen. 13).

- A. Because the land couldn't support all their livestock, Abram & Lot separated (vv. 6-7).
- B. Abram gave Lot his choice of where to go and Lot chose the natural [Sodom] over the spiritual (vv. 8-13).
 - 1. Sometimes you need to separate from someone!
- C. God continues speaking to Abram (Gen. 13:14-18).

III. THE REST OF LOT'S LIFE (Gen. 14, 19).

- A. Sodom was attacked & Lot was taken captive (14:1-12).
- B. Abram rescued Lot (Gen. 14:13-24).
 - 1. Those who choose the natural over the spiritual and don't build altars will become captive and need to be rescued by those who choose the spiritual over the natural and build altars!
 - 2. Are you the rescuer or the one needing rescue?
 - 3. Abram wasn't greedy or moved by materialism (Gen. 14:21-24).
- C. The destruction of Sodom (Gen. 19).
 - 1. Lot's compromise (vv. 1-8).
 - 2. Lot was told to take his family and escape, but hesitated (vv. 9-16).
 - 3. Lot argued with the angels in unbelief (vv. 17-23).
 - 4. God destroyed Sodom & Gomorrah, and Lot's wife looked back and became a pillar of salt (vv. 24-26).
- D. Lot's daughters got him drunk, slept with him, and became pregnant (vv. 31-38).
- E. This is the last mention of Lot while alive, and he died without having had much positive influence.
- F. Lot is mentioned three times in the New Testament (Luke 17:28-32; 2Peter 2:7-8); Abraham about 75!

IV. EXCERPTS FROM THE REST OF ABRAHAM'S LIFE (Gen. 15-25).

- A. God continued to talk to Abram.
 - 1. God promised Abram a son (Gen. 15:1-6).
- B. More compromise (Gen. 16:1-6; chap. 20).
- C. Name changes (Gen. 17).
- D. The birth of Isaac (Gen. 21).
- E. Abraham's testing (Gen. 22).
- F. Abraham's death (Gen. 25:1-11).
- G. Abraham in the New Testament (Matt. 1:1; 22:32; Lk. 16:19-31; Rom. 4:3, 9; Gal. 3:6-9; Ja. 2:23; Heb. 11:8-12, 17-19).

•Why doesn't Hebrews record Abraham or Sarah's failures? Because ... *"Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."* (Gen. 15:6; Rom. 4:3; Gal. 3:6; Ja. 2:23)

CONCLUSION: Are you an Abraham or a Lot?