

The Life of Faith is a Life of Choices

Genesis 13

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Intro: Nothing defines us as people, especially as people of faith, than the choices we make. Each choice is based on certain truths weather stated or unstated, conscious or unconscious, aspired or actual, our life is a series of consequences and benefits of the choices we make. Our journey through the book of Genesis leads us to a place were two men ar forced to make choices, but from very different perspectives.

Interog: As you look at these two men of scripture, I want you to consider not just what choice you would make in their place, but by what criteria are you making you choices every day?

Read scripture Genesis 13

1. Abram Choose to Make Peace with his Brother.

The dispute was not between Abram and Lot, but with there workers.

Their dispute was overstuff, verse 2, 6, 7

Abram made the first step of grace.

Matthew 5:9 “Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the sons of God.”

Romans 5:8 “God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we where still sinners, Christ died for us.”

Abram did not see to enforce his right, but gave Lot an option.

Do you choose to make peace with those whom you love, work, and reside.

2. Lot Choose what was best for Himself.

Warren Wiersbe lists five apparent motivations for the choice that lot made.

1) Pride, 8,9 – Lot should have honored Abram by giving him the choice.

2) Unbelief 10 – he lifted his eyes, mad the decision from his own point of view, no prayer.

3) Worldliness 10 – “like the land of Egypt” he saw the fertile land, but not the corrupt people.

To God the land was wicked.

4) Selfishness 11 – after all that Abram had done for Lot, Lot choose for himself and left.

5) Heedlessness 12 – The wickedness of the people did not alarm Lot, he saw opportunity and jumped in. He looked, he moved, he lived, in the presence of wickedness.

“Were it not for 2 Peter 2:7–8, we might wonder whether Lot was even saved. He is an illustration of the worldly believer who loses everything to the fire of judgment (1 Cor. 3:11–15). Saved, yet so as by fire!”¹

3. Abram Choose to Accept God’s Plan

Again Abram was obedient in going.

Abram was good at going, but this time he was going rightly. In Genesis 12:1 God told Abram to “get out from his country and family.” He went, but he took his family with him, God want Abram and lot separated, this time he went the right way.

We must serve come to God and Serve God on His terms. It took personal pain for Abram to be in the right place to serve God.

He received God’s intended blessing, He was not perfect in all of his decisions, but he was moving in the right direction.

¹Wiersbe, W. W. (1993). *Wiersbe's expository outlines on the Old Testament* (Ge 13:5). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

Conclusion: God like Abram acted first to create peace Himself and man. We are left with the choice of accepting His plan or doing our own thing. Choosing God's plan and God's way is not easy. You will certainly face personal struggle and even pain in your journey of being God's child, but His love and blessings are worth the cost.