
means exalt them.

John 1:11 He came to His own people, and His own people received Him not.

The promise to Abraham

Genesis 13:14 The Lord said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, “**Look around** from where you are, to the north and south, to the east and west. ¹⁵ All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever. ¹⁶ I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted. ¹⁷ Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you.”

Genesis 13:16 I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted. ¹⁷ Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you.”

Genesis 13:18 So Abram went to live near the great trees of Mamre at Hebron, where he **pitched his tents**. There he **built an altar to the Lord**.

The cross is our version of Abraham’s altar.

2 Corinthians 5:14 For the love of Christ **controls** us, because we are convinced that One has died for all...

Ultimately, we only really possess that from which we are detached and have no worry about. How does that come? That is the biproduct that happens when our top concern is the kingdom of God.

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Faith’s Choices

The Life of Abraham—part 3

June 21, 2026

Genesis 13:5-18

Review:

Week 1: The Beginnings of Faith

Week 2: Faith’s Tent and Altar

- The tent
- The altar

Genesis 13:5 Now Lot, who was moving about with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents. ⁶ But the land could not support them while they stayed together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to stay together. ⁷ And **quarreling** arose between Abram’s herders and Lot’s. The Canaanites and Perizzites were also living in the land at that time.

Making godly decisions: 3 major considerations

Micah 6:8 He has showed you, o man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.

- What is right by God? Holy
- What is right by people? Just
- What is right thing to do? Righteous

Genesis 13:8 So Abram said to Lot, “Let’s not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herders and mine, for we are close relatives. ⁹ Is not the whole land before you? Let’s part company. If you go to the left, I’ll go to the right; if you go to the right, I’ll go to the left.”

Considerations in making wise decisions:

- What is God's will?
- What is really true about life, human nature, and purpose? Destiny? What really matters?
- Our real values
- What is God's Larger Story in our lives?
- Honor God with our lives, our character, name, reputation, testimony
- Effect on important relationships

Foolish considerations:

- "Grass is always greener" elsewhere (idealization)
- Assuming we have all the info we need (John 7:24)
- No need for counsel (Pr. 12:15)
- Trusting our desires
- Trusting our feelings
- Underestimating our fallen nature
- Naïve about effect on relationships
- Love of what the world could "give" me (status, fame, wealth, recognition, validation, etc.)

Abraham's key factors that shaped his choices

Genesis 13:8 So Abram said to Lot, "Let's not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herders and mine, for we are close relatives. ⁹ Is not the whole land before you? Let's part company. If you go to the left, I'll go to the right; if you go to the right, I'll go to the left."

What did Lot see?

Genesis 13:10 Lot looked around and saw that the whole plain of the Jordan toward Zoar was well watered, like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt. (This was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) ¹¹ So Lot chose for

himself the whole plain of the Jordan and set out toward the east. The two men parted company: ¹² Abram lived in the land of Canaan, while Lot lived among the cities of the plain and pitched his tents near Sodom. ¹³ Now the people of Sodom were wicked and were sinning greatly against the Lord.

Proverbs 12:15 *The way of fools seems right to them, but the wise listen to advice.*

What did Lot not see?

Proverbs 15:22 Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.

Genesis 13:10 (This was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.)

Genesis 13:11 So Lot chose for himself...

How does a lost man "lift his eyes?"

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- Facts?—Chosen with biased eyes
 - Feelings? "A given, like they are authoritative!"
 - Faith? "Irrelevant"
 - Counsel? "Not unless the person agrees with me"
 - Open-minded? Hardly.

Hosea 11:7 My people are determined to turn from me. Even though they call me God Most High, I will by no
