

October 29, 2017

Created for Purpose
Genesis 13:1 – 14:24
Pastor Kirk Gambrell

Vol. 7 Num. 43

Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.

HE BLESSED HIM AND SAID:

ABRAM IS BLESSED
BY GOD MOST HIGH,
CREATOR OF HEAVEN
AND EARTH, AND
I GIVE PRAISE TO
GOD MOST HIGH
WHO HAS HANDED OVER
YOUR ENEMIES TO YOU.

THE HOLY BIBLE: HOLMAN CHRISTIAN STANDARD VERSION, (NASHVILLE: HOLMAN BIBLE PUBLISHERS, 2009), GE 14:19-20.

BIBLEFEED.COM



Obedience Brings Blessing

This week in our Genesis passage Abram and his nephew Lot are back in the land. They have been blessed by God and their possessions have increased greatly. They have come to the point where it is necessary for them to go their separate ways. Lot chooses to settle near Sodom and Abram goes the other direction in order to give them space. After Lot is captured by invading kings Abram comes to his rescue defeating the alliance that had just defeated the kings that were allied with the king of Sodom. However, Abram chooses not to take anything from the battle including complete possession of the land; for that he will be patient and wait for God to work. In what areas of your life do you need to continue to be obedient and wait for God do His work?

Genesis 13-14 (NASB)

Abram and Lot

13 So Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, he and his wife and all that belonged to him, and Lot with him.

² Now Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver and in gold. ³ He went on his journeys from the Negev as far as Bethel, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai, ⁴ to the place of the altar which he had made there formerly; and there Abram called on the name of the LORD. ⁵ Now Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents. ⁶ And the land could not sustain them while dwelling together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to remain together. ⁷ And there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. Now the Canaanite and the Perizzite were dwelling then in the land.

⁸ So Abram said to Lot, "Please let there be no strife between you and me, nor between my herdsmen and your herdsmen, for we are brothers. ⁹ Is not the whole land before you? Please separate from me; if *to the left*, then I will go to the right; or if *to the right*, then I will go to the left." ¹⁰ Lot lifted up his eyes and saw all the valley of the Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere—*this was* before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah—like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt as you go

to Zoar. ¹¹ So Lot chose for himself all the valley of the Jordan, and Lot journeyed eastward. Thus they separated from each other. ¹² Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled in the cities of the valley, and moved his tents as far as Sodom. ¹³ Now the men of Sodom were wicked exceedingly and sinners against the LORD.

¹⁴ The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, "Now lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward; ¹⁵ for all the land which you see, I will give it to you and to your descendants forever. ¹⁶ I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth, so that if anyone can number the dust of the earth, then your descendants can also be numbered. ¹⁷ Arise, walk about the land through its length and breadth; for I will give it to you." ¹⁸ Then Abram moved his tent and came and dwelt by the oaks of Mamre, which are in Hebron, and there he built an altar to the LORD.

War of the Kings

14 And it came about in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of Goiim, ² *that* they made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar). ³ All these came as allies to the valley of Siddim (that is, the Salt Sea). ⁴ Twelve years they had served Chedorlaomer, but

the thirteenth year they rebelled. ⁵In the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer and the kings that were with him, came and defeated the Rephaim in Ashteroth-karnaim and the Zuzim in Ham and the Emim in Shaveh-kiriathaim, ⁶and the Horites in their Mount Seir, as far as El-paran, which is by the wilderness. ⁷Then they turned back and came to En-mishpat (that is, Kadesh), and conquered all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites, who lived in Hazazon-tamar. ⁸And the king of Sodom and the king of Gomorrah and the king of Admah and the king of Zeboiim and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar) came out; and they arrayed for battle against them in the valley of Siddim, ⁹against Chedorlaomer king of Elam and Tidal king of Goiim and Amraphel king of Shinar and Arioch king of Ellasar—four kings against five. ¹⁰Now the valley of Siddim was full of tar pits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and they fell into them. But those who survived fled to the hill country. ¹¹Then they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their food supply, and departed. ¹²They also took Lot, Abram's nephew, and his possessions and departed, for he was living in Sodom.

¹³Then a fugitive came and told Abram the Hebrew. Now he was living by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and brother of Aner, and these were allies with Abram. ¹⁴When Abram heard that his relative had been taken captive, he led out his trained men, born

in his house, three hundred and eighteen, and went in pursuit as far as Dan. ¹⁵He divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and defeated them, and pursued them as far as Hobah, which is north of Damascus. ¹⁶He brought back all the goods, and also brought back his relative Lot with his possessions, and also the women, and the people.

God's Promise to Abram

¹⁷Then after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). ¹⁸And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; now he was a priest of God Most High. ¹⁹He blessed him and said,

"Blessed be Abram of God Most High,
Possessor of heaven and earth;

²⁰And blessed be God Most High,
Who has delivered your enemies into
your hand."

He gave him a tenth of all.

²¹The king of Sodom said to Abram,
"Give the people to me and take the
goods for yourself." ²²Abram said to the
king of Sodom, "I have sworn to
the LORD God Most High, possessor of
heaven and earth, ²³that I will not take a
thread or a sandal thong or anything that
is yours, for fear you would say, 'I have
made Abram rich.' ²⁴I will take nothing
except what the young men have eaten,
and the share of the men who went with
me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them
take their share."

① EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?
7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

② EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)

What does God MEAN?

8. What is the Negev that is mentioned in 13:1?

9. In 14:13-14 how did God keep His promise that was given in Genesis 12:2-3?

10. Why did Abram give 10% to Melchizedek?

11. Why did Abram tell the king of Sodom that he would not take anything from him?

12. How is Abram's faith displayed in this passage?

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)

Why does this MATTER to me?

13. Lot suffered the consequences for settling with the evil men of Sodom. How do we balance avoiding the evils of our culture and being culturally relevant enough to share Christ with the lost?

14. Abram resists the temptation to take the land by force when he has the chance. Instead he waits for God. Where in your life do you need to be patient and obedient waiting for God to move?

15. Abram showed a dependence on God, not on his own ability. What can we do to ensure we are being dependent on God and not on ourselves?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to **KNOW**, to **FEEL**, and to **DO**...