



Lesson 12 – Abraham in Canaan – Part I

Based on Genesis 13 to 15

Abraham had spent a brief time in Egypt during a famine in the land of Canaan. It nearly cost him a lot of trouble, but God was his protector.

1) What does the Bible record about their journey back?

Genesis 13:1-3 And Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the _____. And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold. And he went on his journeys from the south even to _____, unto the place where his tent had been at the _____, between Bethel and Hai;

2) What happened shortly after they returned?

Genesis 13:5-7 And Lot also, which went with Abram, had flocks, and herds, and tents. And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell _____: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together. And there was a _____ between the herdmen of Abram's cattle and the herdmen of _____ cattle: and the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelled then in the land.

The pasturage was not sufficient for the flocks and herds of both, and the frequent disputes among the herdsmen were brought for settlement to their masters. It was evident that they must separate. Abraham was Lot's senior in years, and his superior in relation, in wealth, and in position; yet he was the first to propose plans for preserving peace.

3) What did Abraham propose?

Genesis 13:8-9 And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no _____, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be _____. Is not the whole land before thee? _____ thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.

Here the noble, unselfish spirit of Abraham was displayed. How many under similar circumstances would, at all hazards, cling to their individual rights and preferences! How many households have thus been rent asunder! How many churches have been divided, making the cause of truth a byword and a reproach among the wicked!

4) What did Paul tell the church in his day?

Romans 12:10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with _____ love; in honour preferring one another;

Philippians 2:4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of _____.

The cultivation of a uniform courtesy, a willingness to do to others as we would wish them to do to us, would annihilate half the ills of life. The spirit of self-aggrandizement is the spirit of Satan; but the heart in which the love of Christ is cherished, will possess that charity which seeketh not her own.

5) What did Lot choose for himself?

Genesis 13:10-11 And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of _____, that it was well watered every where, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the _____ of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar. Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.



The most fertile region in all Palestine was the Jordan Valley, reminding the beholders of the lost Paradise and equaling the beauty and productiveness of the Nile-enriched plains they had so lately left. There were cities also, wealthy and beautiful, inviting to profitable traffic in their crowded marts. Dazzled with visions of worldly gain, Lot overlooked the moral and spiritual evils that would be encountered there. How little did he foresee the terrible results of that selfish choice!

6) What did God do for Abraham?

Genesis 13:14-15 And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and _____ from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: For all the land which thou _____, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

Genesis 13:16-17 And I will make thy seed as the _____ of the _____: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered. Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.

After the separation from Lot, Abraham again received from the Lord a promise of the whole country. Soon after this he removed to Hebron, pitching his tent under the oaks of Mamre and erecting beside it an altar to the Lord. In the free air of those upland plains, with their olive groves and vineyards, their fields of waving grain, and the wide pasture grounds of the encircling hills, he dwelt, well content with his simple, patriarchal life, and leaving to Lot the perilous luxury of the vale of Sodom.

7) War broke out in the land, what happened to Lot?

Genesis 14:12 And they took _____, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

Abraham, dwelling in peace in the oak groves at Mamre, learned from one of the fugitives the story of the battle and the calamity that had befallen his nephew. He had cherished no unkind memory of Lot's ingratitude. All his affection for him was awakened, and he determined that he should be rescued. Seeking, first of all, divine counsel, Abraham prepared for war.

8) What did Abraham do?

Genesis 14:14 And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he _____ his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and _____ them unto Dan.

Genesis 14:16 And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother _____, and his _____, and the _____ also, and the people.

Flushed with victory, and having no fear of an assault from their vanquished foes, they had given themselves up to reveling. The patriarch divided his force so as to approach from different directions and came upon the encampment by night. His attack, so vigorous and unexpected, resulted in speedy victory. The king of Elam was slain and his panic-stricken forces were utterly routed. Lot and his family, with all the prisoners and their goods, were recovered, and a rich booty fell into the hands of the victors. To Abraham, under God, the triumph was due. The worshiper of Jehovah had not only rendered a great service to the country, but had proved himself a man of valor. ***It was seen that righteousness is not cowardice, and that Abraham's religion made him courageous in maintaining the right and defending the oppressed.***

9) What did Abraham say when offered all the spoils of the war?

Genesis 14:22 And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine _____ unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth,



Genesis 14:23 That I will not take from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that is _____, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich: Save only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the _____ which went _____, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion.

Few, if subjected to such a test, would have shown themselves as noble as did Abraham. Few would have resisted the temptation to secure so rich a booty. His example is a rebuke to self-seeking, mercenary spirits.

10) What would God remind His people of that they forgot?

Leviticus 19:18 Thou shalt not _____, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt _____ thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD.

11) Who else came to Abraham?

Genesis 14:18-19 And Melchizedek king of _____ brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. And he blessed him, and said, _____ be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

12) How did Abraham respond?

Genesis 14:20 And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him _____ of all.

Abraham gladly returned to his tents and his flocks, but his mind was disturbed by harassing thoughts. He had been a man of peace, so far as possible shunning enmity and strife; and with horror he recalled the scene of carnage he had witnessed. But the nations whose forces he had defeated would doubtless renew the invasion of Canaan and make him the special object of their vengeance. Becoming thus involved in national quarrels, the peaceful quiet of his life would be broken. Furthermore, he had not entered upon the possession of Canaan, nor could he now hope for an heir, to whom the promise might be fulfilled.

13) Could God read his heart?

Genesis 15:1 After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great _____.

14) How did Abraham reply?

Genesis 15:2-3 And Abram said, Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go _____, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus? And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one _____ in my house is mine heir.

15) What did God show him?

Genesis 15:4-5 And, behold, the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be _____. And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the _____, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.

16) What amazing testimony was spoken of Abraham?

Genesis 15:6 And he _____ in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

Still the patriarch begged for some visible token as a confirmation of his faith and as an evidence to after-generations that God's gracious purposes toward them would be accomplished. The Lord condescended to enter into a covenant with His servant, employing such forms as were customary among men for the ratification of a solemn engagement.



17) What did God tell Abraham to do?

Genesis 15:9-11 And he said unto him, Take me an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon. And he took unto him all these, and _____ them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another: but the birds divided he not. And when the _____ came down upon the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

This being done, he reverently passed between the parts of the sacrifice, making a solemn vow to God of perpetual obedience.

In the passage God is forming the Abrahamic covenant. This was called a blood covenant. In ancient times when two individuals made a contract, they would take an animal and cut it in half and separate the two halves a few feet from each other. Then they would sprinkle the blood between that separation. The two individuals entering into a contract would join hands, walk the path between the two separated parts of the animal over the blood. At the end of this path, priest would stand and listen to the conditions, vows or promises each person would make in the contract. The two entering into the contract would have 10 witnesses standing on either side. It was their job to listen to the terms or conditions of the contract. These were the hitmen. If either party broke a condition of the contract it would be the job of these ten witnesses to “remove” (in CIA sense) the one who broke the condition of the covenant.

18) Abraham was ready, where was God?

Genesis 15:12 And when the sun was going down, a deep _____ fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him.

19) In a dream what did God say to Abraham?

Genesis 15:13-16 And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a _____ in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great _____. And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age. But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet _____.

20) What happened next?

Genesis 15:17 And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a _____ furnace, and a burning _____ that passed between those pieces. In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:

As a pledge of this covenant of God with men, a smoking furnace and a burning lamp, symbols of the divine presence, passed between the severed victims, totally consuming them.

God walked the covenant ALONE. He knew that mankind would fail in their attempts to hold up their end of the covenant, so HE committed Himself to be the Author and Finisher of our faith, He would hold Himself and Himself alone accountable for the fulfilment of the contract to save fallen humanity.

the voice of God was heard, bidding him not to expect immediate possession of the Promised Land, and pointing forward to the sufferings of his posterity before their establishment in Canaan. The plan of redemption was here opened to him, in the death of Christ, the great sacrifice, and His coming in glory. Abraham saw also the earth restored to its Eden beauty, to be given him for an everlasting possession, as the final and complete fulfillment of the promise.