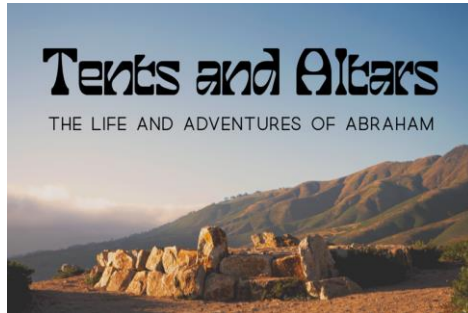


DISCIPLE'S QUEST

*If you continue in My word, then you are
truly disciples of Mine.*

John 8:31



May 14, 2023

Genesis 13:5-18

Faith Resolves Strife

Main Idea

Prosperity posed an unanticipated problem for Abram: strife with his nephew Lot. Believing in the promises God had given him, Abram resolved the problem by magnanimously offering Lot the opportunity to choose his land first. God's approval of Abram's faith is evident in His re-affirming His promises to the patriarch. Afterward, Abram moved on to Hebron, where he pitched his tent, built another altar and again worshiped God.

Outline

1. Strife is a problem that the people of God must not ignore
2. Strife can be put away by the actions of one person who is willing to walk by faith
3. The way we respond when strife strikes reveals the condition of our hearts whether good or bad
4. Those who believe God and walk by faith receive His approval and blessing.

Questions for further contemplation and application after the message:

#1 What was the reason for the strife that developed between Abram and Lot?

In what way/ways did it pose a danger to them?

#2 Is strife still dangerous for believers today? In what ways?

#3 How can strife between believers jeopardize their testimony to the watching world?

#4 How did Abram act to resolve the strife that was developing between Lot and himself?

What made his action especially noteworthy?

How did Abram's faith motivate his decision to act so graciously toward Lot?

#5 How did Lot's choice of the Jordan Valley where the city of Sodom was located show his faith to be weak?

#6 How would you explain the difference between walking by faith and walking by sight?

#7 What does Abram's worship at the end of the passage again tell us about him?

Select helpful resources:

Alders, G. Ch. (1981). *Genesis, Vol. 1*. Zondervan.

Davis, J. J. (1975). *Paradise to Prison*. Revell.

Phillips, John. (2001). *Exploring Genesis*. Kregel Publications.

Ross, A. P. (1997). *Creation and Blessing: A Guide to the Study and Exposition of Genesis*. Baker Academic.

Swindoll, C. R. (2014). *Abraham: One Nomad's Amazing Journey of Faith*. Tyndale House.

Wood, L. J. (1998). *A Shorter Commentary on Genesis*. Wipf & Stock.