

Lessons from the Life of Abraham

Separation and Surrender: God's Criteria for a Life of Blessing

(Genesis 12:1; 13:5-13; 22:1-13)

❖ **Separate Yourself from the Hindrances to Blessing**

- The Step Required - Forsake Familiarity: An Obstacle to Faith
 - It took great faith and trust for Abram to leave familiarity.
 - It took great faith and trust to go to that which was foreign.
- The Sanctification Required – Abandon Idolatry: A Necessity for Holiness
 - Dualism Must be Discarded (*1 John 2:15*)
 - Deism Must be Denied

❖ **Remove Yourself from Self Determined Ideas**

- A Natural Remedy, an Obstacle to Overcome
 - Abram's View of Lot
 - God's View of Lot
- A Noble Response, an Offer of Overflow
 - The Revealing of Lot's Heart
 - The Reward of Abram's Humility
- A Renewed Attempt, An Offense to Oversight

◆ **Disconnect from the Object that Distracts Your Heart from God's Glory (Genesis 22)**

- The Promise, a Potential Problem
 - Isaac was the son of Abraham's old age and therefore a potential point of pride
 - Isaac was the son given to fulfill God's promise and therefore belonged to God
 - Prior to Isaac, Abraham and God had a unique relationship that could have been affected by Isaac's arrival.
- The Path, a Painful Process
 - God requires of *us* to the point of asking us for all that we have
 - God's requirement is painful to our flesh but liberating in our spirit
 - God's requirement of Abraham didn't make natural sense and thus brought pain
- The Provision, A Powerful Present
 - The Father desired to see Abraham's faith in action to the end
 - The Father offered a ram as a substitute upon recognizing the faith of Abraham