

Genesis 13

¹ So Abram went up from Egypt, he and his wife and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the Negeb.

- went up from Egypt –
 - Abram went to Egypt because of famine, didn't consult the Lord, bent up the truth, Genesis 12
 - Abram's choices impacted Pharaoh's household
 - What was the ride back like? Quiet?
 - Did the whole group start to second-guess the man of faith?

² Now Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold. ³ And he journeyed on from the Negeb as far as Bethel to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and AI, ⁴ to the place where he had made an altar at the first.



- **Bethel** – formerly “Luz,” and “Kiriath-arba”
 - Joshua 21:11 – They gave them Kiriath-arba (Arba being the father of **Anak**), that is Hebron, in the hill country of Judah, along with the pasturelands around it.
- **AI** – pronounced “ah'ee”
 - I recently had a conversation with young folks who were surprised when I told them **AI** was in the Bible.

- I use AI all the time – [Almighty Intelligence \(1 Corinthians 2:16\)](#)
 - I'm not a fan of some AI artwork & music because it's too good, polished, perfected.



- My aunt Bev from NJ pointed out to me how many ministers are in-between AI and Bethel
 - She noted how some pastors and ministers use AI to create sermons.
 - AI is powerful, but it is not the Holy Spirit, never will be.
 - Many people use AI-powered spell-check and grammar tools.
- At the first – **What a gift** we have that we can return to the place where we heard from God, walked with Him, talked with Him.
 - Later, Jacob will meet God here at Bethel.
 - Stairway to Heaven [Genesis 28:10-22](#)
 - “I am the God of Bethel” Return – [Genesis 31:13](#)
 - Revelation – Church of Ephesus, 1st love – [Revelation 2:4](#)
 - I've noticed that God will put the car in park and let it idle with the hazards on when I get pig-headed and decide to jump out of the car and see what I can do.
 - One time at a Mets game when I was 7 or 8, my dad let me wander off.
 - I was talking up a storm.
 - He just let me go until I realized He wasn't next to me. I turned around, very afraid.
 - I then saw my dad looking from right where I last saw him.
 - I ran to him with tears of Joy because he was there and even monitoring me as I talked and talked.



And there Abram called upon the name of the LORD.

- Abram called upon the name of the LORD
 - Men began to “**Call**” [Genesis 4:26](#)
 - This is what we do when we gather to pray, worship and dig through His Word.

⁵ And Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents, ⁶ so that the land could not support both of them dwelling together; for their possessions were so great that they could not dwell together,

⁷ and there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. At that time the Canaanites and the Perizzites were dwelling in the land.

- “Canaanites in land” – Again, this phrase ([Gen 12:6](#))
- Imagine the caravan. Well over 318 people. The land couldn't support these visitors.

⁸ Then Abram said to Lot, Let there be no strife between you and me, and between your herdsmen and my herdsmen, for we are kinsmen. ⁹ Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right; if you take the right hand, I will go to the left.

- Look at Abram now! – He is trusting God, not his eyes like before!
 - He also knows that God will be faithful.
 - I understand this personally because my faith and trust has been sharpened through trials
 - I went back to a secular job for a while and God blessed me in it, yet, I was acting from a lack of faith.
 - Now, you can't make me move from what God has called me to do!
 - The surprise bills being paid (Over & over), the miraculous hand over us traveling when the tire fell off, the radiator cap was not there, the front end was beyond safe.
 - He held us together, and my trust has grown through that, whereas book knowledge just cannot do the same!
 - I thank God for the difficulties and tests now! [James 1:2-4](#)



¹⁰ And Lot lifted up his eyes and saw that the Jordan Valley was well watered everywhere like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, in the direction of Zoar. (This was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.)

¹¹ So Lot chose for himself all the Jordan Valley, and Lot journeyed east. Thus they separated from each other. ¹² Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled among the cities of the valley and moved his tent as far as Sodom. ¹³ Now the men of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the Lord.

- Lot lifted up his eyes – The eyes are usually where problems start for us
 - Eve saw that the fruit was pleasing to the eyes [Genesis 3:6](#)
 - [1 John 2:16](#) – For all that is in **the** world, the lust of the flesh, and **the lust of the eyes**, and the **pride** of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.
 - There is a big difference when God says “Look” compared to when our flesh says “Look”
- Lot is a picture of a compromised believer. **He was out of Egypt**, but Egypt wasn’t out of him.
 - The NT sheds light on him [2 Peter 2:7](#) – and if he rescued righteous **Lot**, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked
 - This is coming up.
- Now the men of Sodom were wicked
 - [Ezekiel 16:49-50](#)⁻⁴⁹ Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had **pride**, **excess of food**, and **prosperous ease**, but **did not aid the poor and needy**.⁵⁰ They were **haughty** and did an abomination before me. So I removed them, when I saw it.
 - **Pride** –
 - [Proverbs 16:18](#) – **Pride** goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.
 - [Proverbs 11:2](#) When **pride** comes, then comes disgrace, but with the humble is wisdom.
 - [Daniel 4:37](#) – Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all his works are right and his ways are just; and those who walk in **pride** he is able to humble.



- Being well watered everywhere, like the garden of the Lord ([Genesis 13:10](#)), there was agricultural abundance in Sodom. This made them self-reliant, sinfully independent, and overly invested in entertainments and comforts. - [Guzik](#)
- **excess of food**,– “fulness of bread” ^{KJV}
 - In the U.S., roughly **2 to 2.5 billion pounds of food are wasted every week** based on annual estimates from the USDA and EPA.¹
 - About **30–40% of the U.S. food supply** goes uneaten.²
- **prosperous ease** – “abundance of idleness” ^{KJV}
- [Ecclesiastes 10:18](#) – ^{NET} Because of laziness the roof caves in, and because of idle hands the house leaks.
- **did not aid the poor and needy**.
- **Haughty** – arrogantly superior and disdainful:

¹⁴ The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, Lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward, ¹⁵ for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever.

- The LORD said – God said, “Look.”
- All that he could see would become his! THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM LOT!

¹⁶ I will make your offspring as the dust of the earth, so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your offspring also can be counted. ¹⁷ Arise, walk through the length and the breadth of the land, for I will give it to you. ¹⁸ So Abram moved his tent and came and settled by the oaks of Mamre, which are at [Hebron](#), and there **he built an altar to the Lord**.

- [Hebron](#) – **Mamre**, or Kiriath-arba – [Genesis 35:27](#)
 - Issac & Jacob would also live here

¹ https://www.usda.gov/about-food/food-safety/food-loss-and-waste?utm_source=chatgpt.com

² Ibid,



- Hebron – city of refuge: [Joshua 21:13](#) – And to the descendants of Aaron the priest they gave **Hebron**, the **city of refuge** for the manslayer, with its pasturelands, Libnah with its pasturelands,
- This is where David first ruled for seven years: [2 Samuel 5:5](#) – At Hebron, he reigned over Judah **seven years** and six months, and at Jerusalem, he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three **years**.
- 😞 Joab will kill Abner here: [2 Samuel 3:27](#) – And when Abner returned to **Hebron**, Joab took him aside into the midst of the gate to speak with him privately, and there he struck him in the stomach, so that he died, for the blood of Asahel his brother.
-
- **he built an altar to the Lord** – Didn't build a city, or a house, he built an altar to God!
 - Abram was old when he started building altars to God
 - Abram's altars were statements that God was with him, God was there
 - It's not too late for us to build altars to God testifying that He was here with you!
 - When you walk in the good works He prepared for you, you build that altar to Him.
 - What has made the greater impact on the world, Abram's Alter to God, or his 401k?
 - His testimony of the true and living God is the greatest, long-lasting monument.

The Lord bless you and keep you;

the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.