

I. Abram Was Richly Blessed (1-4)

- A. It was a season of redirection (1) - "So Abram went up from Egypt, he and his wife and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the Negeb."
- B. It was a season of increase (2) - "Now Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold."
- C. It was a season of reconnection (3-4) - "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. And there Abram called upon the name of the LORD."

II. Abram Was Relationally Challenged (5-9)

- A. God had blessed this relationship (5-6) - "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..."
- B. Blessing had tested this relationship (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.
- C. Abram prioritized this relationship (8-9) - "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, or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left.'"

III. Abram Was Humbly Trusting (10-13)

- A. What Lot saw (10-11a) - "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.) 11a So Lot chose for himself all the Jordan Valley, and Lot journeyed east."
- B. What Abram saw (11b-12) - "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."
- C. What nobody saw (13) - "Now the men of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the LORD."

IV. Abram Was Rewarded for His Humility (14-18)

- A. Reassurance from God (14-15) - "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.' **You haven't lost anything Abram!**
- B. Reward from God (16-17) - "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." Lot picked his temporary land; Abram had not lost a single acre of the promised land
- C. Released unto God (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."