

A Look Isn't Always the Best

Gen 13:10 And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar.

Lot and Abraham found themselves in a conflict over watering rights for their flocks. Their herdsman were always fighting at the wells. In that arid country there were only so many wells and the herds had to be watered often. Many times the herdsman would get to the well at the same time and trouble would ensue.

Abraham said: **Gen 13:8-9** And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren. 9 Is not the whole land before thee? separate 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. Abraham was being very generous with Lot.

Lot looked around the area trying to decide where to go, then he noticed Sodom. **Gen 13:11** Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other. But in making his choice Lot ignored a great fact. **Gen 13:13** But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the LORD exceedingly. Lot did not consider that he would be raising his family in a wicked place. This poor choice based upon finances alone would later be disastrous for Lot and his family.

1. Lot Fell for the Lure

- A. Just as a fish falls for a shiny lure, Lot fell for the lure of riches. **Mat 19:23-24** Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. 24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. Lot did not heed the bad things about Sodom, he only saw opportunity.
- B. Of all the Bible characters Lot is the best representative of the results of the lure of riches. Where you only find one Danial, and one Moses, Lot represents thousands of others that have made the same mistake.
- C. This lure wasn't just the usual lure, this city had been noticed by God for its wickedness. When God notices it above all others, the drum of doom is beating. The countdown has begun.
- D. Lot noticed it was well watered, it had good pasture for his flocks, had a ready market for his live stock.

2. Lot Fell into Trouble

- A. There was a war soon after Lot moved. Sodom lost the war and was looted and carried off into captivity. **Gen 14:11-12** And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their victuals, and went their way. 12 And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.
- B. Abraham rescued Lot. **Gen 14:14** And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto Dan. **Gen 14:16** And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.
- C. **Proverbs 15:16** Better is little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith.
- D. Lot's troubles were just starting. **2Cor_6:14** Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

3. Lot Was Not Happy

- A. **2Peter 2:6-9** And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly; 7 And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: 8 (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;) 9 The Lord

knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

- B. Vexed** – means to: afflict or torment. We can see the attitude of the city in:
- C. Gen 19:4** But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter:
- D. Gen 19:5** And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.
- E. Gen 19:6-11** And Lot went out at the door unto them, and shut the door after him, **7** And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly. **8** Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes: only unto these men do nothing; for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof. **9** And they said, Stand back. And they said again, This one fellow came in to sojourn, and he will needs be a judge: now will we deal worse with thee, than with them. And they pressed sore upon the man, even Lot, and came near to break the door. **10** But the men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door. **11** And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great: so that they wearied themselves to find the door.
- F.** A Christian will never be happy living in union with wickedness. Lot sat at the gate which was a sign he was a leader. But that didn't stop the wicked men. When the time came they would have destroyed Lot if God had not intervened.

In this world today there are those that would have a Christian follow them into evil doings. They might even try to trick a Christian into tolerating things that are wrong according to the Bible. Lot in the pursuit of wealth and an easier life tried tolerating the wickedness. Sometimes a believer must move away from bad doings. God would have rewarded Lot if he would have taken his family and walked away. God will reward us if we walk away, if that is what we must do.