

# "THE CHOICE OF LOT"

## (Genesis 13:10-12)

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"THE CHOICE OF LOT"  
(Genesis 13:10-12)

**When you have  
to make a choice  
and don't make it,  
that is in itself a choice.**

## "THE CHOICE OF LOT" (Genesis 13:10-12)

- **1. The examples of men and women as recorded in the Bible can provide valuable lessons...**
  - a. From Abraham we can learn the value of faith in God**
  - b. From Joseph we see the workings of God's providential care**
  - c. From Job we learn the importance of patience and faith under trial**

## **"THE CHOICE OF LOT"**

**(Genesis 13:10-12)**

- **2. From Lot, the nephew of Abraham, we can also glean valuable lessons in...**
  - a. The art of decision making**
  - b. The importance of making proper choices**

## "THE CHOICE OF LOT"

(Genesis 13:10-12)

- We will first take an introductory look at the life of Lot, and then focus upon a decision he made and how it affected his life...

## I. LOT'S CHOICE

### A. IN GENESIS, LOT IS INTRODUCED TO US AS ..

- **1. The nephew of Abraham who sojourned with him**

He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there. (Gen 12:5)

So Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, with his wife and everything he had, and Lot went with him. (Gen 13:1)

## I. LOT'S CHOICE

### A. IN GENESIS, LOT IS INTRODUCED TO US AS...

- **2. A man who like his uncle became quite wealthy**  
Abram had become very wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold. From the Negev he went from place to place until he came to Bethel, to the place between Bethel and Ai where his tent had been earlier and where he had first built an altar. There Abram called on the name of the LORD. Now Lot, who was moving about with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents. (Gen 13:2-5)

## I. LOT'S CHOICE

A. IN GENESIS, LOT IS INTRODUCED TO US AS..

**a. Because of the combined wealth of Abraham and Lot, they were forced to separate –**



## I. LOT'S CHOICE

### A. IN GENESIS, LOT IS INTRODUCED TO US AS..

- But the land could not support them while they stayed together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to stay together. And quarreling arose between Abram's herdsmen and the herdsmen of Lot. The Canaanites and Perizzites were also living in the land at that time. So Abram said to Lot, "Let's not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herdsmen and mine, for we are brothers. Is not the whole land before you? Let's part company. If you go to the left, I'll go to the right; if you go to the right, I'll go to the left." (Gen 13:6-9)

## I. LOT'S CHOICE

A. IN GENESIS, LOT IS INTRODUCED TO US AS..

**b. Given the opportunity to choose where he could go...**

- **1) Lot made a choice, which on the surface was a good one**

## I. LOT'S CHOICE

### A. IN GENESIS, LOT IS INTRODUCED TO US AS..

- Lot looked up and saw that the whole plain of the Jordan was well watered, like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, toward Zoar. (This was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) So Lot chose for himself the whole plain of the Jordan and set out toward the east. The two men parted company: Abram lived in the land of Canaan, while Lot lived among the cities of the plain and pitched his tents near Sodom. (Gen 13:10-12)

## I. LOT'S CHOICE

A. IN GENESIS, LOT IS INTRODUCED TO US AS..

- **2) But as good as it may have seemed, it resulted in much sorrow and hardship for Lot!**

## I. LOT'S CHOICE

B. AS A RESULT OF HIS CHOICE,  
LOT SUFFERED...

- **1. War**

The four kings seized all the goods of Sodom and  
Gomorrah and all their food; then they went away.  
(Genesis 14:11)

## I. LOT'S CHOICE

B. AS A RESULT OF HIS CHOICE,  
LOT SUFFERED...

- **2. Kidnapping**

They also carried off Abram's nephew Lot and his possessions, since he was living in Sodom. (Genesis 14:12)

# I. LOT'S CHOICE

B. AS A RESULT OF HIS CHOICE,  
LOT SUFFERED...

- **3. Oppression and torment by the citizens of Sodom**

and if he rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was distressed by the filthy lives of lawless men (for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard)  
(2 Peter 2:7-8) (see Genesis 19:1-11)

## I. LOT'S CHOICE

B. AS A RESULT OF HIS CHOICE,  
LOT SUFFERED...

- **4. Loss of all his material wealth**

With the coming of dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Hurry! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away when the city is punished." When he hesitated, the men grasped his hand and the hands of his wife and of his two daughters and led them safely out of the city, for the LORD was merciful to them. (Genesis 19:15-16)



## I. LOT'S CHOICE

B. AS A RESULT OF HIS CHOICE,  
LOT SUFFERED...

**Then the LORD rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the LORD out of the heavens. Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, including all those living in the cities—and also the vegetation in the land. (Genesis 19:24-25)**

## I. LOT'S CHOICE

B. AS A RESULT OF HIS CHOICE,  
LOT SUFFERED...

- **5. The death of his wife**

As soon as they had brought them out, one of them said,  
"Flee for your lives! Don't look back, and don't stop  
anywhere in the plain! Flee to the mountains or you  
will be swept away!" (Gen. 19:17)

But Lot's wife looked back, and she became a pillar of  
salt. (Gen. 19:26)

## I. LOT'S CHOICE

### B. AS A RESULT OF HIS CHOICE, LOT SUFFERED...

- **6. The shame of incest with his daughters (Gen 19:30-36)**
- All these things happened despite the fact that Lot himself was a righteous person and if he rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was distressed by the filthy lives of lawless men (for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard) (2 Peter 2:7-8)

## I. LOT'S CHOICE

### B. AS A RESULT OF HIS CHOICE, LOT SUFFERED...

- We can see by taking a look at the life of Lot, that the decisions he made affected his life...
- God knows our future and wants us to flow “in Him”.
- As we seek God and our desire is to “know Him”, “become more like Jesus”, and “build God’s Kingdom” then our decisions will line up more and more with God’s will in our lives.

## I. LOT'S CHOICE

B. AS A RESULT OF HIS CHOICE,  
LOT SUFFERED...

- 1) Some of the choices we make that greatly affect our lives
- 2) Some suggestions on how to make the right decisions
- 3) What to do when we realize that we have made the wrong ones. Let's consider:

## II. OUR CHOICES

### A. WHAT CHOICES DO WE MAKE THAT GREATLY AFFECT OUR LIVES?

- 1. The one that will affect your life more than any other:  
THE CHOICE TO FOLLOW JESUS!
  - a. It will determine your place in eternity
  - b. It will have a bearing on every other choice you make;  
for as a follower of Christ you will be concerned with  
doing His will, not your own

## II. OUR CHOICES

### A. WHAT CHOICES DO WE MAKE THAT GREATLY AFFECT OUR LIVES?

- **2. Choosing your CAREER**
  - a. The choice you make can have a lasting effect upon your marriage, family, and your service to God
  - b. Even from a worldly viewpoint, your choice is important, for the job market can change drastically

## II. OUR CHOICES

### A. WHAT CHOICES DO WE MAKE THAT GREATLY AFFECT OUR LIVES?

- **3. Choosing your MATE**
  - a. The decision made will to a great extent determine your degree of happiness in this life
  - b. It will have a permanent bearing on your children and their emotional well-being!



## II. OUR CHOICES

### A. WHAT CHOICES DO WE MAKE THAT GREATLY AFFECT OUR LIVES?

- You may think you can simply divorce a person who turns out to be a bad choice
- But once you have children, there is no way to reverse the choice you made as to who is the mother or father of your children!

## II. OUR CHOICES

### A. WHAT CHOICES DO WE MAKE THAT GREATLY AFFECT OUR LIVES?

- **4. Choosing your FRIENDS**
  - a. **Having close friends can be a wonderful blessing –**  
A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. (Proverbs 17:17)

## II. OUR CHOICES

### A. WHAT CHOICES DO WE MAKE THAT GREATLY AFFECT OUR LIVES?

- **b. But the wrong friends can be a curse for the righteous**

A righteous man is cautious in friendship, but the way of the wicked leads them astray. (Prov. 12:26)

Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character." (1 Corinthians 15:33)

## II. OUR CHOICES

### A. WHAT CHOICES DO WE MAKE THAT GREATLY AFFECT OUR LIVES?

- **5. Choosing WHERE YOU WILL LIVE**
  - a. It was in this choice that Lot made his mistake
  - b. It might just be there are some modern-day "Sodom" and "Gomorrah"!

## II. OUR CHOICES

### B. HOW CAN WE MORE LIKELY MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE?

- **1. Ask God for wisdom**

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does. (James 1:5-8)

## II. OUR CHOICES

### B. HOW CAN WE MORE LIKELY MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE?

- **2. Seek advice from others**

For lack of guidance a nation falls, but many advisers  
make victory sure. (Proverbs 11:14)

The way of a fool seems right to him, but a wise man  
listens to advice. (Proverbs 12:15)

- a. **Discuss your alternatives with older, mature Christians**
- b. **Consult the wisdom found in the Bible (especially in a book like Proverbs)**

## II. OUR CHOICES

### B. HOW CAN WE MORE LIKELY MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE?

- **3. Whatever you do, do it for the Lord's sake**

Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.  
(Psalms 37:5-6)

## II. OUR CHOICES

### B. HOW CAN WE MORE LIKELY MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE?

- If the LORD delights in a man's way, he makes his steps firm; though he stumble, he will not fall, for the LORD upholds him with his hand. I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread. They are always generous and lend freely; their children will be blessed. (Psa.37:18-19)
- Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." (James 4:15)



## II. OUR CHOICES

### C. WHAT SHOULD WE DO WHEN WE REALIZE OUR CHOICE WAS WRONG?

- **1. Do what Lot did...**
  - a. Heed the word of God (as when he listened and fled Sodom and Gomorrah)**
  - b. Do what is right without reservation (remember Lot's wife!)**

## II. OUR CHOICES

### C. WHAT SHOULD WE DO WHEN WE REALIZE OUR CHOICE WAS WRONG?

- **2. Do what Peter did after he denied Christ...**
  - a. Repent, if there is sin involved in the choice made**
  - b. Resolve to serve the Lord**

## II. OUR CHOICES

### C. WHAT SHOULD WE DO WHEN WE REALIZE OUR CHOICE WAS WRONG?

- 3. Do what Paul did after persecuting the church...
  - a. Accept the forgiveness Jesus provides
  - b. Determine to live for the Lord the rest of your life to the best of your ability

## II. OUR CHOICES

### C. WHAT SHOULD WE DO WHEN WE REALIZE OUR CHOICE WAS WRONG?

- **4. The wrong thing to do is to continue in the choice because of pride or some other reason! (although there are some choices we must live with...)**

# MAKING DECISIONS

## CONCLUSION

- 1. The example of Lot should serve...
  - a. To teach us that making the proper decision is very important
  - b. To warn us not to make our choices lightly

## MAKING DECISIONS

### CONCLUSION

c. During World War II, Winston Churchill was forced to make a painful choice. The British secret service had broken the Nazi code and informed Churchill that the Germans were going to bomb Coventry. He had two alternatives: (1) evacuate the citizens and save hundreds of lives at the expense of indicating to the Germans that the code was broken; or (2) take no action, which would kill hundreds but keep the information flowing and possibly save many more lives. Churchill had to choose and followed the second course.

# MAKING DECISIONS

## CONCLUSION

- 2. "Remember Lot" the next time you are faced with an important decision...
  - a. Seek to make that decision based upon the will of the Lord and not your own
  - b. Your eternal destiny (and that of those you love) might rest upon your choice!

# MAKING DECISIONS

## CONCLUSION

- Have you made the most important decision you will ever face?
- The decision to follow Jesus as your Lord and Savior?
- If not, why not today?

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."  
(Acts 2:38)



# MAKING DECISIONS

## CONCLUSION

- Then, go the next step & fulfill the Great Commission Jesus has given you:

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matt.28:19-20)

# MAKING DECISIONS

## CONCLUSION

- **HERE IS A SPECIAL VIDEO ABOUT “CHOICES”**
- [http://www.tangle.com/view\\_video?  
viewkey=13a4a045cd290bc2ae2d](http://www.tangle.com/view_video?viewkey=13a4a045cd290bc2ae2d)

# MAKING DECISIONS

## CONCLUSION

- **LET'S PRAY:**