"The following is a direct script of a teaching that is intended to be presented via video, incorporating relevant text, slides, media, and graphics to assist in illustration, thus facilitating the presentation of the material. In some places, this may cause the written material to not flow or sound rather awkward in some places. In addition, there may be grammatical errors that are often not acceptable in literary work. We encourage the viewing of the video teachings to complement the written teaching you see below."

A Lot

Genesis 12:1-4

> The LORD (YHWH) had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." So Abram left, as the LORD (YHWH) had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran.

To get a background here, we really need to back up just a couple verses and take a look.

Genesis 11:31

> "Terah took his son Abram, his grandson Lot son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, the wife of his son Abram, and together they set out from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to Canaan. But when they came to Haran, they settled there."

Here we see that Terah takes his family and heads out for Canaan. But do they reach their destination? No. No they don't. They actually settled in Haran. Though they set out for Canaan, they compromised and settled for Haran. And starting in Chapter 12, we find God calling Abram out from under his father's head covering; out from the land of compromise to continue on to the original destination: Canaan.

The Father said to him, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you." In essence, leave everything you know, everyone you trust, even your firstborn rights and follow me. He was to leave all behind, everything that made him who we was.

It's something we all have to learn. We have to strip ourselves of our selves to get God's best.

At one time a story was shared with us that provided an excellent metaphor related to this. They described seeing a little baby holding on to the arm of a chair that he was sitting in. He was reaching with all he had to touch the arm on the other side of the chair. But, he just couldn't reach it. Unless, of course, he let go of the arm he was holding on to.

How often we say we want God's will in our life all the while holding on to ourselves. Yet, until we let go of our desires, our familiarity and all that we expected to receive, how much can we truly expect from the Father? And this is where Abram was. He had to let go and move forward in that which the Father was calling him.

Did he? Yes. Well, sort of.

Let's look at the Father's command to him again.

Genesis 12:1

> "The LORD (YHWH) had said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you.'"

Leave your country - Check.
Leave your people - Check.
Leave your father's household - uh, NO check.
Go to the land I will show you - Check.

I guess one could say that three out of four is not bad. But I'm not sure that's how the Father views obedience.

What did he NOT do? Leave his father's household. Lot came along for the ride. Why, though? It's never indicated. There is so much in this story that we could go on for a long time, but the point is here that he didn't leave his father's household. How did it affect Abram?

Consider:

Genesis 13:6-11

> 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."
>
> 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 (YHWH) 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:

They could not stay together. Abram then gave Lot the pick of the land. What did he choose? The best land. Abram gave up that which was given to HIM, all because of disobedience from the beginning. And then, we find that Lot himself eventually left the open land and moved into one of the neighboring cities, which eventually was destroyed. What did he do with his flocks? His servants? The land? We don't know. One can't help but wonder if he sold it all to move into the city.

One thing is for sure, that which was given to Abram was lost, at least momentarily, because of disobedience.

The bottom line is this, if you want your promised land, you can't take a Lot with you.

Examine your life today and see what "Lot" you may be holding on to.

We hope you have enjoyed this message. Remember, continue to test everything.

Shalom!

For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at www.testeverything.net

Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.

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