



Revealing Words Bible Study

“In God’s Hands”

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When God called Abram (later to be renamed Abraham) out of his homeland, He promised to make him a great nation and to bless all the families of the earth through him (Genesis 12:1–3). Abram obeyed without hesitation, stepping into the unknown with a heart anchored in God’s voice rather than his own understanding.

As Abram journeyed, his nephew Lot traveled with him. God blessed them both so abundantly that “the land could not support them dwelling together” because their flocks and herds were too numerous (Genesis 13:6). Soon, tension rose between their herdsmen. Abram, a man of peace, refused to let conflict fracture the family.

Instead of asserting his seniority or demanding the best land, Abram approached the situation with humility and faith. He said to Lot, “Let there be no strife between you and me... Is not the whole land before you?” (Genesis 13:8–9). Then he did something remarkable, something that reveals the depth of his trust in God. He let Lot choose first.

Abram placed the decision, not in his own hands, not in human strategy, not in personal advantage...but in God’s hands. By giving Lot the choice, Abram surrendered the outcome to the Lord. He believed that no matter what Lot chose, God’s promise would stand.

Lot, however, made his decision through human eyes. He lifted his gaze and saw the lush, well-watered Jordan Valley, “like the garden of the Lord” (Genesis 13:10). It looked ideal—prosperous, fertile, secure. Without seeking God, Lot chose what appeared best on the surface. He moved his tents near Sodom, a place already known for wickedness (Genesis 13:13).

Abram, meanwhile, settled in the land of Canaan; less visually impressive, less obviously prosperous, but chosen by God. And immediately after Abram surrendered the choice, God reaffirmed His promise: “Lift up your eyes... all the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever” (Genesis 13:14–17). Abram’s blessing came not from the land’s appearance but from the God who owned it.

At first, Lot seemed to have made the better choice. His land was rich. His herds flourished. His surroundings looked promising. But the seeds of destruction were already planted. Lot’s proximity to Sodom eventually pulled him into its culture, its dangers, and its downfall (Genesis 19).

Abram, on the other hand, walked in quiet obedience. He built altars to the one true God. He called on the name of the Lord. He trusted God's timing. And God expanded his territory, protected him in battle (Genesis 14), renewed His covenant (Genesis 15), and ultimately fulfilled His promise through Isaac.

Lot's choice, based on sight, led to loss, danger, and the need for rescue. Abram's choice, based on surrender, led to blessing, legacy, and divine favor. When Abram let Lot choose first, it may have looked like weakness. It may have looked like he was giving away the best land. But Abram understood something Lot did not: When God holds the outcome, you never end up with less.

Lot chose by sight. Abram chose by faith. Lot moved toward temporary prosperity. Abram moved toward eternal promise. Lot lost nearly everything in Sodom's destruction. Abram gained everything God had spoken over him.

Trusting God:

1. Abraham offered Lot the first choice of land, even though he was the elder. How does Genesis 13:9 challenge your own approach to conflict and decision-making?
2. Lot chose the land that looked best "to the eyes." How does Genesis 13:10 warn you about making decisions based only on what appears attractive?
3. Abraham trusted God with the outcome of Lot's choice. Read Proverbs 3:5–6, how does these verses speak into the kind of faith Abraham demonstrated?

Positioned for Blessings:

4. After Lot departed, God reaffirmed His promise to Abraham. How does Genesis 13:14–17 show that surrender often positions you for blessing?

5. Lot moved near Sodom, a place known for wickedness. How does 1 John 2:16–17 help you understand the danger of choosing based on worldly appeal?

Personal Choices:

6. Abraham built altars to God wherever he went, while Lot pitched his tent near Sodom. How does Genesis 13:18 invite you to consider what you are building your life around?

7. Lot's choice eventually led him into danger and destruction. How does Galatians 6:7–8 speak to the long-term consequences of your decisions?

God's Heart Over Our Own:

8. Abraham later rescued Lot from captivity (Genesis 14). How does Romans 12:18 challenge us to pursue peace even when others' choices create conflict?

9. God blessed Abraham not because he grasped for the best land, but because he trusted God. How does Psalm 37:5 help you reflect on surrendering outcomes to God?

What We Value:

10. Lot lost nearly everything in Sodom, while Abraham grew in blessing. How does Matthew 6:19–21 challenge you to evaluate what you treasure most?

11. When you face decisions, do you tend to choose like Lot (by sight) or like Abraham (by faith)? How does 2 Corinthians 5:7 challenge your approach?

12. Abraham's story shows that faith often means releasing control. How does Hebrews 11:8–10 deepen your understanding of walking by faith rather than sight?

13. Are there things you need to place in God's hands? Are you looking at things through your own eyes instead of God's promises or His Word? Write these down and give these up to God. Allow His promises to rule and bless your life.