

The Blessing: A Study in Genesis 12-36
Lesson 4 – Abraham Remembered
Genesis 19-21

I. Lot and Sodom – Genesis 19

Lot pitched his tent toward Sodom
Lot was in Sodom
Lot was sitting at the gate of Sodom

Lot had lived in Sodom and become complacent and content. He was no longer able to have an influence because he had allowed his environment to shape him instead of shaping it. He had compromised so much that when he finally tried to warn them, no one believed him.

“Lot’s heart was in Sodom long before his body arrived there. No doubt he got his first love for the world when he went to Egypt with Abraham (Genesis 13:1, 10), and he never overcame it” (Be Obedient, Warren Wiersbe, Logos).

“Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever” (1 John 2:15-17).

“You adulterers! Don’t you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God” (James 4:4).

Where have you pitched your tent?

“Consider your physical location, the activities in which you participate, the forms of media you consume, and the attitude of your heart toward sin” (The Blessing, p. 77).

A. Lot’s Visitors

Lot took his visitors to his house, while Abraham was still living in a tent.

Quite often, prosperity is a greater curse than adversity.

The sin of Sodom – homosexuality

“And don’t forget Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighboring towns, which were filled with immorality and every kind of sexual perversion. Those cities were destroyed by fire and serve as a warning of the eternal fire of God’s judgment” (Jude 7, NLT).

B. Lot's Sons-in-law

They thought he was kidding. Nothing in his life led them to trust him as a spiritual guide.

C. Lot's Wife

Her affections were still in Sodom. "That is why she "looked back" in 19:26. Because she, like the rich young ruler after her, loved her material possessions and her societal position more than she loved the Lord" (*Opening Up Genesis*, Kurt Strassner, Logos).

When she turned back, she became a pillar of salt.

"Remember what happened to Lot's wife! If you cling to your life, you will lose it, and if you let your life go, you will save it" (Luke 17:32-33, NLT).

D. Lot's Daughters

They had obviously been profoundly impacted and shaped by their culture. Their own father had been willing to give them to the lusting crowd which had crowded the door to their home. Thus, they were willing to use sex to get what they wanted.

E. God's Faithfulness – Genesis 19:27-29

God had protected Lot and honored Abraham's prayers.

F. Christ's Reference to Sodom – Luke 17:26–30

Lot	Abraham
Gate of a wicked city	Door of his tent
Living in a home	Living as a sojourner and pilgrim
Walked by sight	Walked by faith
Two angels visited	The Lord and two angels visited
Prepared a meal	Prepared a feast and stood to serve
Offered his daughters to the mob	Offered his son to the Lord
God's message – frightening	God's message – one of joy
No spiritual influence	Blessing to the world

II. Abraham and Abimelech – Genesis 20

God had promised him a son one year from the visit when He pronounced judgment on Sodom. Apparently, a short amount of time had passed when Abimelech took Sarah as his wife. But God moved swiftly on her behalf. God protected her purity and His promise.

III. The Birth of Isaac – Genesis 21

“The Lord kept His word and did for Sarah exactly what He had promised. She became pregnant, and she gave birth to a son for Abraham in his old age. This happened at just the time God had said it would” (Genesis 21:1-2, NLT).

The long awaited one has been born! Their faith has been made sight and Abraham and Sarah have a son from their own bodies.

Romans 4:19

Ishmael - Galatians 4:21-31

“Just as Ishmael and Isaac were in conflict (Galatians 4:29), so the flesh and the Spirit do not harmonize. The flesh struggles against the Spirit, often mocking it (Galatians 5:16–18). Therefore believers are to ‘get rid of the slave woman and her son’ (Galatians 4:30), that is, to remove the threat of the flesh and ‘live by the Spirit’ (Galatians 5:16)” (*The Bible Knowledge Commentary*, Logos).

IV. Abraham’s Faith Journey to Spiritual Maturity

Where are you in your own journey?

Are you moving forward and up, or have you taken a tumble?

ABRAHAM

The Believer. The Friend of God. The Prophet.

