

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

GENESIS 13:1-9

MAY 11, 2022

INTRODUCTION:

1. After traveling down to Egypt to escape the famine (Gen. 12.10), Abram came full circle and arrived in the plain where he started. (Gen. 13.1-4)
 - a) **GENESIS 13.1:** *“Abram went up...to the South.”* The southern part of Palestine.
 - b) **GENESIS 13.2:** *“Abram was **very** rich”* (Gen. 12.5,16)
 - c) **GENESIS 13.3:** *“He went...to the place where his tent had been from the beginning.”*
 - d) **GENESIS 13.4:** *“And there Abram called on the name of the Lord.”* Why? Repentance? Thanksgiving? Praise?
2. In Genesis 13, there is a conflict between Abram and Lot.

I. CONFLICT IS INEVITABLE

- A. There is a strong connection between Abram and Lot.
 1. **GENESIS 13.5:** *“Lot also, who went with Abram, had flocks and herds and tents.”*
 - a) Abram and Lot had a family connection. (Gen. 11.31)
 - b) They traveled everywhere together. (Gen. 12.4,5; 13.1)
 2. **GENESIS 13.6:** *“that they might dwell together...”* Lot and Abram wanted to live together in the same land.
- B. There was conflict between them.
 1. **GENESIS 13.6:** *“Now the land was not able to support them.”* Why?
 - a) Both Abram and Lot had great possessions. (Gen. 13.2,6)
 - b) **GENESIS 13.7:** *“The Canaanites and the Perizzites then dwelt in the land.”*
 - c) It was a conflict over territory. How many wars are fought over land?
 2. **GENESIS 13.7:** *“And there was strife between the herdsmen”* This wasn't just a conflict between to men. It was a conflict between two families.
- C. In the Lord's church, conflict is inevitable.
 1. Attitudes that come out of pride and envy. (1 Cor. 1.12)
 2. Attitudes that come out of immaturity. (1 Cor. 3.1,2; cf. Heb. 5.12-14)
 3. Attitudes that come out of carnality. (1 Cor. 3.3; cf. Col. 3.2)

II. CONFLICT IS RESOLVABLE

- A. Character: Both Lot and Abram were interested in doing the right thing.
 1. How is Abraham described in the Bible? (John 8.40,56; Rom. 4.3)
 2. How is Lot described in the Bible? (2 Pet. 2.7)
 3. To resolve conflict, we must approach it with a good character.
- B. Communication: Lot and Abram talked it out together.
 1. **GENESIS 13.8:** *“So Abram said to Lot...”*
 2. **GENESIS 13.8:** *“Please let there be no strife between you and me.”* They expressed a desire to work things out.
 3. To resolve conflict, we must be willing to sit down and work it out. (Matt. 18.15-17)
- C. Care: Abram and Lot cared about each other.
 1. **GENESIS 13.8:** *“for we are brethren”*
 2. To resolve conflict, we must remember that we are brethren.
 - a) When we care for one another, it results in *“no schism in the body”* (1 Cor. 12.25)
 - b) We resolve conflict so we can gain our brother back. (Matt. 18.15)
- D. Compromise: Abram and Lot compromised so they both got what they needed.
 1. **GENESIS 13.9:** *“Please separate from me. If you take the left, then I will go to the right; or, if you go to the right, then I will go to the left.”*
 2. We resolve conflict when we are willing to compromise.