

**PITCHING OUR TENT TOWARD SODOM
OR
THE DANGERS OF MATERIALISM
Gen 13:7-12**

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Lot is first mentioned in Gen 11:27. He is the son of Haran, Abraham's brother. His father died in Ur of Chaldees
- B. He journeys with Abraham Gen 12:5 and seems he may have been dependent on him. He accompanies Abraham to Canaan and there he prospers Gen 13:5
- C. Strife arises and Lot is given a choice. He chooses to pitch his tent toward Sodom Gen 13:7-12
- D. He then lives in Sodom; is taken captive and rescued Gen 14:12,16. He sits in the gate Gen 19:1 (leadership may be implied) and finally loses everything.
- E. Lot's story is an object lesson in the dangers of materialism Matt 6:24
- F. The scripture says the things written aforetime were written for our learning Rom 15:4
- G. So let's look at the mistakes made by Lot in his pursuit of material things and try not to make the same mistakes as we pursue our goals in the material realm

DISCUSSION:

I. THE DANGER OF SELFISHNESS AND GREED

- A. Seen in the division of the land Gen 13:9-11
 - 1. Lot traded on Abraham's generosity
 - 2. He should have matched it
- B. Examples from New Testament Lk 12:16-21; Acts 5:1-10

II. PRIORITIES MUST BE ON RIGHT THINGS Matt 6:33

- A. Lot's were on fertile soil, green pastures, good water
 - 1. He did not think about the moral or religious side
 - 2. He apparently was only thinking about material things
- B. Many today never consider God when making choices
- C. What about choosing a home, job, companion, etc. etc.

**III. THERE IS DANGER IN COMPROMISE
(progressiveness of sin) Jas 1:14,15**

- A. Lot pitched his tent toward Sodom - then entered Sodom
 - 1. Sodom entered him and his family
 - 2. He lived there, vexed daily 2Pet 2:7,8
- B. Think what this is doing to his family
- C. Christians cannot be happy involved in the world because of the conflict 2Cor 6:14-17

IV. YOU CANNOT SAVE THE WORLD BY BECOMING PART OF IT Jhn 15:19; 2Pet 2:7,8

- A. Lot sits in the gate - one of them, possibly a leader, maybe even a judge.
- B. Even his sons-in-law refused to listen
- C. They think he is joking when he tells them of the coming doom and destruction
- D. Lot only saved his two daughters from destruction and even they were not faithful to God's teaching.

V. DIFFICULT TO OVERCOME INFLUENCE OF EVIL COMPANIONS 1Cor 15:33

- A. Some refused to leave
- B. Even Lot himself had to be "dragged" out
- C. Lot's wife looked back and perished
- D. Lot's two daughters got their father drunk and committed fornication with him on the pretense of preserving seed

VI. ONE MUST PAY THE PRICE OF A BAD CHOICE

- A. Lost property, family, status, etc Matt 19:29; Lk 18:29,30
- B. Lost his character - he allowed himself to become drunk Prov 22:1

CONCLUSION:

- A. We are commanded not to love the world 1Jhn 2:15-17
- B. We are in the world, but not "of" the world
- C. We of necessity must associate with people of world, because we can't leave the world 1Cor 5:10
- D. However, we must as much as possible disassociate ourselves from the world 2Cor 6:14-18