

**Promise, Battle,
and Integrity**
Genesis 13:14 - 14:24

How to use this Scripture Engagement



Pray to Begin

Before you start each lesson, ask the Lord to use it to grow you in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.



Read the Bible passage

Invite God to open your eyes and deepen your understanding of His Word as you read the passage.



Study the Scripture Engagement Guide

Go through the Scripture Engagement study provided to reflect on the meaning, context, and personal application of the passage you've read.



Reflect on the Scripture Engagement Questions

After every teaching, consider the Scripture Engagement questions listed for personal reflection and application and for your small group discussions.



Listen to Dr. J. Vernon McGee's Teaching

If you'd like to hear the complete audio teaching on the passage, [visit ttb.bible](http://ttb.bible) or scan the QR code on the last page to download the THRU the BIBLE app in your own language.



Use our recommended **pause and resume icon**. This will guide you to move through the content thoughtfully and at your own rhythm.

For your consideration

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Promise, Battle, and Integrity

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for teaching us through Abram's life that true blessing comes by faith, not by our own efforts. Help us walk in Your promises, trusting You as our provider and honoring You in every season of our lives. May our victories bring honor to Your name and reveal the riches of Your grace.

In Jesus' name, Amen.



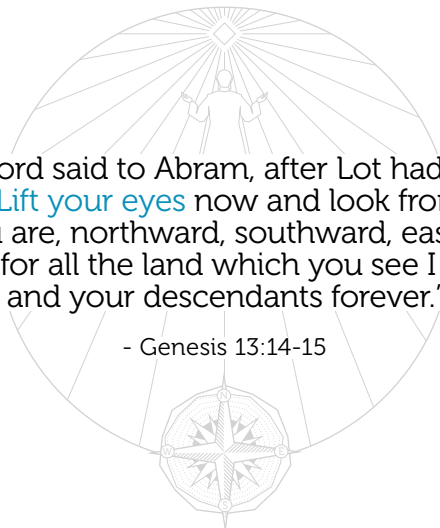
God Reaffirms His Promise



Genesis 13:14-18

And the Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, 'Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are, northward, southward, eastward, and westward; for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever.'

- Genesis 13:14-15



When Lot finally departed, **God spoke again**. The silence that followed Abram's compromise in Egypt was broken by divine assurance. Sometimes **God's voice becomes clearer** after we **let go of relationships, habits, or ties that keep us from full obedience** (2 Corinthians 6:17-18). Abram could hear God's voice clearly again.



What relationships, habits, or ties are you holding on to?

God told him, "**Lift your eyes now...**" Earlier, Lot had lifted his eyes toward Sodom and **saw worldly opportunity**. Abram now lifted his eyes toward heaven and **saw divine promise**. What a contrast! **One looked by sight, the other by faith.**

God's covenant was **clear and specific**. The land had boundaries, direction, and permanence. McGee reminds us that God deals with what is real, not vague dreams or symbolic hopes. **Heaven is as real as the land Abram stood upon**. God's promises are **tangible, dependable, and eternal**.



Is Heaven a real place?



“Arise, walk in the land through its length and its width, for I give it to you.”
(Genesis 13:17)

Faith doesn't just see, it walks. God invited Abram to explore the land, to **step into His promise**. Every footprint was an **act of belief**.

True faith leads to works, works in obedience to God.



“God does not deal with that which is theoretical, but with that which is actual and real.”

“Then Abram moved his tent, and went and dwelt by the terebinth trees of Mamre, which are in Hebron, and built an altar there to the Lord.”
(Genesis 13:18)

Abram moved to **Mamre in Hebron**, names that mean **richness** and **communion**. There, he **built another altar**. You could always tell where Abram had been, because **he left behind a testimony of faith**.

McGee notes that while man has left footprints and flags on the moon, **Abram left altars on earth**. The difference is profound. Abram's riches were spiritual, **the richness of communion with God**.





Reflection

Question 1

Is anything in the world holding you back from daily communion with God?

Question 2

Is your faith passive, or is your faith resulting in works? (*James 2:20-26*)



Application

Question 3

What kind of testimony are you leaving behind, footprints of ambition or altars of worship?

Take time to “lift your eyes” and see God’s promises rather than your problems. Walk by faith in obedience, and act on one thing God has already told you to do.

Build a spiritual altar today. Create a journal to mark the times and places that bear witness to God's faithfulness in your life.

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Draw your Application



Sodom & Gomorrah



Genesis 14:1-24

Genesis 14 introduces the **first recorded war** in Scripture. **Though it seems like an interruption in Abram's story**, it becomes a crucial chapter linking **worldly conflict** with **spiritual calling**.



Critics once doubted this record, but archaeology has confirmed the existence of these very kings. **Amraphel is identified as Hammurabi**, proving again that **God's Word** stands true against time and skepticism.

Amid these battles, **Lot was taken captive**. **The man who once chose Sodom** for its prosperity was now carried off as a prisoner with its downfall. **The city that promised comfort brought captivity**.



Are you living too close to the world?

Beware, lest you be caught in its ruin.



“

In one sense, this is a most remarkable chapter... one of the most important in the Book of Genesis.

”

“Now when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his three hundred and eighteen trained servants who were born in his own house, and went in pursuit as far as Dan.” (Genesis 14:14)

When Abram heard of Lot's capture, **faith moved him to act**. He gathered his trained servants and pursued the invading kings all the way north to Damascus. Though vastly outnumbered, Abram trusted that **the battle belonged to the Lord**. By strategy and courage, **he overcame the enemy**, rescuing Lot, the captives, and **all their possessions**.



Why do you think Abram set out to rescue Lot?



Melchizedek, king of Salem and priest of God Most High, brought out bread and wine and blessed Abram. (Genesis 14:18–19)

Melchizedek appears suddenly in Scripture, without genealogy or background, showing a priest-king who worships God Most High (“El Elyon”).

His role foreshadows Jesus: an eternal Priest and King with no beginning or end (*Psalms 110:4; Hebrews*). The bread and wine he offers point forward to Christ’s sacrifice and the fellowship of the Lord’s Supper.

Abram gave Melchizedek a tithe of everything he had taken. His act declared publicly that his victory came from God, not his own strength.



Why do you think Melchizedek was introduced here?

In the previous chapter, we saw Abram make wrong choices. Here again, Abram is at a point where a choice is being put in front of him. Has being in communion with God again changed him?

The king of Sodom came offering Abram wealth and reward. According to the laws of the day, Abram had a right to the spoils, yet he refused. **God had already prepared Abram for this temptation** through Melchizedek’s blessing. Strengthened by worship, Abram would not let worldly gain rob God of glory.

He declared his allegiance to **El Elyon, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth**. Abram wanted no man to boast, “I made him rich.” He **desired** that **every success** pointed **only** to **God’s hand**.





Reflection

Question 1

How does Abram's refusal to take riches from Sodom reveal that he trusted God as the true source of blessing?

Question 2

How do you recognize and resist subtle temptations that could compromise your witness for God?



Application

Question 3

Before making a life decision, examine your heart and commit your motives to God. If your motive is for selfish gain, and not to honor God, re-examine that decision and resolve in advance to honor Him.

Draw your Application



Your Takeaway

Integrating **'God's Intelligence'** in my life.

McGee's Quote



“ Abraham just believed God. He just accepted what God said, and he believed God. That is the way you get saved: to believe that God has done something for you, that Christ died for you and rose again. God will declare you righteous by simply accepting Christ. ”



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