

GENESIS –Lesson 29

Learn: Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths.
Proverbs 3:5, 6

Read: Genesis 12:9-20

1. What severe trial of Abram's faith took place after he had entered the land of Canaan?
v 10
2. Going back to verses 1, 2, 7 we see that the Lord told Abram that he would bless him in the land of Canaan. But when severe famine came on the land, and all Abram's needs did not seem to be able to be supplied, what did Abram decide to do? v 10
3. Abram did what we often do when things get hard, that is he trusted his own thinking rather than seeking and obeying what God would want him to do. Often that puts us in an even worse situation. What counsel does the Lord give in the following verses?
Proverbs 3:5, 6

James 1:5-8

I Corinthians 10:11-13

4. What are some ways that we go in the exact opposite direction of what the above verses tell us, and so we are not able to overcome the trials and temptations of life?
5. Once Abram strayed from God's command to live in Canaan and started trusting his

own thinking, that led to more trouble. What dilemma did Abram think he had to overcome next? vv 11, 12

6. What was Abram's solution to this supposed or real problem? v 13
7. Even though the ten commandments had not yet been given, God's people knew his character and that his people should be like him. What law that is written on every man's heart by God, did Abram break? Colossians 3:9
8. Where does lying come from? John 8:44
9. Even though Abram was called the "friend of God", he lied in this situation, and asked Sarai also to lie. What emotion was at the root of his feeling that he needed to lie? vv 12, 13

What warning is given in Proverbs 29:25a?

What is the solution to falling into the trap of fear? Proverbs 29:5b

10. Our emotions can overwhelm us at times, what is the thing that will keep us from falling into sin when that happens? Proverbs 3:5, 6
11. What was the outcome of Abram's lack of trust, and then his lie? vv 14-16
12. Was Abram better off for all his best laid plans for his life? Give your reason for your answer.
13. What lesson do you take for your own life from Abrams' trial and what he did with it?

14. What did the Lord do to protect the purity of Sarai in spite of Abram's foolishness?

v 17

15. How did Pharaoh's speech to Abram in verses 18-19 show that he had lost respect for Abram because of his lie?

16. God protected Abram and Sarai in spite of themselves and their actions, how was this done? v 20

It often seems at first that a compromise between the methods of the world and God's will and promises works out very well. Following the criteria of the practical world system will often prove profitable because of the pragmatic nature of that system. Christians who follow this path may easily misinterpret the prosperity that follows such a compromise as a confirmation that this was, after all, God's leading; and they become quite satisfied with the situation. Until, that is, God finally has to deal with them in chastisement, forcing them out of the compromising position back into the walk of true faith.

The chastisement may take various forms. Perhaps the most painful- at least to one who truly loves the Lord and desires to witness effectively for Him- is to find that the compromise has destroyed his testimony. The worldly men with whose standards he has compromised, rather than being drawn to God through him, are used by God to rebuke him.

THE GENESIS RECORD pp297-298 Dr. Henry Morris

17. When we look at Abram's failure to trust God and the trouble that he got into because of his lack of trust, we may be tempted to be critical of him. What should we remember? I Corinthians 10:11-12