

Where Are Your Tent Stakes Driven?

{From a Tent to a House to a Cave}

Genesis 12 to 19

I. It all begins with a command from the Lord. *Gen. 12:1*

- A. Three commands to leave country, kindred & home.
- B. Four blessings are affixed to Abram's (exalted father) obedience.
They are: national, personal, memorial & international in nature. (*Vss 2 & 3*).
- C. Abram disobeyed God by bringing Lot the son of Haran (fruitless) with him. (*Vs. 4*).
- D. Note: "The Canaanite was there in the land." (*Vs. 6*).

II. The tent is the dwelling of Abram & family. *Gen. 13*

- A. They dwell between decision, Bethel (house of God) & Ai (ruin), in a tent. (*Vs. 3*).
- B. God blesses both Abram & Lot but strife arises between them & the neighborhood knows it. (*Vss. 5-7*).
- C. They separate, but Lot's eyes see the valley of the Jordan. (*Vs. 10*).

1 John 2:15-17 Do not love the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (16) For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. (17) And the world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God abides forever.

- D. Abram settles in Canaan (humbled) while Lot drives his tent stakes up along side Sodom. (*Vs. 12*).

III. Chapter 19 finds Lot "Sitting in the gate of Sodom" *Gen. 19:1*

- A. Next we find him in a house in the city. (*Vs. 3*).
- B. Then we find the city at his house. (*Vs. 5*).
- C. The city confounds his judgment. (*Vs. 8*).
- D. His family no longer takes his spirituality serious. (*Vs. 14*).
- E. The city is inside Lot. (*Vs. 16*).
- F. He goes to Zoar (small) and grows still more insignificant. (*Vs. 22*).
- G. The city's in his wife. (*Vs. 26*).

IV. Genesis 19:30 locates Lot in a cave.

- A. Because of the lasting influence of the city, major sin sweeps through the cave.
- B. First, drunkenness and then incest. (*Vss. 32-36*).
- C. Where we drive our tent stake today, determines our destiny tomorrow.

2 Cor 6:14-18 Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? (15) Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? (16) Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. (17) "Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE," says the Lord. "AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; And I will welcome you. (18) "And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me," Says the Lord Almighty.