A TRINFINITY MINI BOOK

Guarding My Walk with God

Learning from Abram and Lot

Andrew Dominguez

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About this book

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Introduction

Choices that take us away from the Lord can begin before the consequences become obvious. Genesis 13 (NASB) gives us a useful account to consider. Abram and Lot face a practical problem, and their separation places Lot near a deeply wicked city. I want to learn from the text without claiming it reveals every motive Lot had. The warning is strongest when we let Scripture say what it actually says.

1 A practical problem and a choice

Abram and Lot have possessions and livestock, and the land cannot support them together. Their herdsmen quarrel. Abram proposes separation and allows Lot to choose where to go. The account begins with an ordinary problem that requires a decision.

Lot sees the well-watered plain of the Jordan and chooses it for himself. The narrator also tells us about the wickedness of Sodom. That information matters. The reader is being shown more than attractive land. A good-looking opportunity can place a person close to influences that deserve serious attention.

I should not claim that the absence of a recorded altar proves Lot had no relationship with God. Genesis 13 (NASB) does not give that conclusion, and 2 Peter 2:7-8 (NASB) must also be considered when speaking about Lot. A warning about choices does not require a claim the wider Scripture will not support.

For my own life, the question is how I weigh an opportunity. Money, comfort, and appearance can be relevant, but they should not be the only considerations. I need to consider what the choice will encourage, what it may expose others to, and whether I am overlooking a clear warning because I want the benefit.

2 Giving attention to God

Abram returns to the place where he had previously made an altar and calls on the name of the Lord. Later in the chapter he builds an altar at Hebron. These are recorded actions, and they show worship as part of his life. I can draw encouragement from what is present in the passage without inventing the spiritual history of the other people in it.

Regular attention to God's Word and prayer helps me examine my priorities. It gives me an opportunity to notice when I have begun defending something I once recognized as wrong. Neglect can leave me less attentive, but I should avoid turning a missed routine into a mechanical explanation for every bad decision.

The deeper issue is responsiveness. Am I willing to let the Lord correct what I want? Can I hear a warning without immediately searching for an exception? A person can keep a religious schedule while resisting correction. The habit and the heart need to remain connected.

I want to make room for that kind of honesty. Read a passage with attention. Pray about the decision that is actually in front of me. Ask for counsel from someone who will do more than agree. These are practical ways to keep my preferences from being the only voice in the discussion.

3 Recognizing the pull of desire

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:2 (NASB)

An opportunity can become so attractive that I begin explaining away everything that makes it questionable. The issue may be money, attention, influence, or simply the desire to have my own way. The object changes, but the need for a renewed mind remains.

Romans 12:1-2 (NASB) calls believers to a life offered to God and a mind being renewed. That reaches further than changing a few visible habits. It concerns the way I judge what is good and acceptable before the Lord. If my thinking is shaped entirely by the values around me, I should not be surprised when my choices follow them.

I can examine the reasons I give for a decision. Am I being honest about the cost? Have I considered the effect on my family and responsibilities? Am I using a spiritual phrase to make a personal desire sound like a command from God? These are useful questions to bring into prayer and wise counsel.

Desire itself is not proof of wrongdoing. God gives good things, and gratitude is appropriate. The concern is what happens when a desire

becomes more important than obedience. I want to receive good things with thankfulness while remaining willing to refuse an opportunity that would require me to compromise.

4 Turning before the pattern hardens

But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.

James 1:22 (NASB)

Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.

Galatians 6:9 (NASB)

James 1:22 (NASB) calls for doing the Word rather than merely hearing it. Knowing that a choice is wrong does not protect me if I continue making it. Understanding becomes useful when I respond. Sometimes the next faithful step is simply to stop defending the pattern.

Repentance should be concrete. I may need to tell the truth to someone I misled, remove an opportunity I keep using to sin, or ask a mature believer to help me remain accountable. The action should fit the actual problem. A large promise without a practical response can become another way to postpone change.

Galatians 6:7-9 (NASB) takes sowing and reaping seriously and encourages perseverance in doing good. I should not expect every consequence of a poor decision to disappear immediately. Forgiveness and the repair of damage are related, but they are not identical. Faithfulness may require patience while trust is rebuilt.

My hope rests in God's grace, which gives me reason to turn toward Him instead of hiding. The warning in this story is not an invitation to despair over every mistake. It is an invitation to pay attention, receive correction, and choose the direction of obedience. The next choice still matters.

Guarding My Walk with God

Drifting from God usually starts long before anyone notices. Through the account of Abram and Lot in Genesis 13, this book looks at the choices that pull us away and how to turn back before the pattern hardens.

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:2 (NASB)

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