



Water buffalo oxen on the fertile Nile River valley of Egypt

The Faith of Abraham

Part 2 of 3

⁶Summer Study Campout: July 4-8, 2018

Due: June 23, 2018 (part 1, 2 and 3)

RSVP by May 27, 2018 to glendonrhoades@gmail.com

NAME:

Before beginning Part 2, do a quick resource review. What resources (things like atlases, bible dictionaries, lexicons, concordances, marginal cross references, books, etc.) have you used? Which ones have you thought about using, and would be helpful, but haven't used yet?

Resources used (circle most helpful ones)	Haven't used, but would be helpful

Have you used all of the resources recommended in the resource list and footnotes of part 1 of the workbook (pg iii, 3, 5, 19)?

What can you do to make using these resources easier for the rest of the workbook? Try to do a couple of things to improve your study habits, so you'll be more efficient (e.g. download another Bible dictionary in e-sword, find the book of maps that's put away somewhere, etc.).

SECTION 3: ABRAM AND SARAI IN EGYPT

3. **Read carefully Genesis 12:10-20.** As you read, make notes of interesting points or things you'd like to look up.

3.1. Why would God send a famine on the land he told Abram to sojourn in, after Abram had faithfully obeyed and gone there (vs 10)?

3.2. Can you think of a similar example in a believer's life today?

3.3. What does the phrase “went down” mean (vs 10)?

3.4. What does the name “Egypt” mean?

3.5. Do some research on Egypt and note interesting findings below:

3.6. When did Abram decide on his plan to call Sarai his sister? I.e. before leaving Canaan, or in Egypt, or ... ?⁷

3.7. How beautiful (outwardly) do you think Sarai was? Support your answer.

3.8. Who was Abram afraid would kill him to take his wife?

3.9. Research the Egyptian culture (esp. around marriage) and note interesting findings:
(add pages if needed)

⁷ Hint: Gen 12 isn't the only instance where this is mentioned.

3.10. Look at Abram's words to Sarai in vs 11-13. What are Abram's thoughts about the people of Egypt?

3.11. Was it lying to say Sarai was his sister?

3.12. What is Abram using to guarantee his safety?

3.13. What dangers might be associated with Abram's 'game plan'?

3.14. Who was Abram concerned for at this point?

3.15. Do you find the phrases “kill” and “save alive” in vs 13 interesting? What do they bring to mind?

3.16. How about the phrase “my soul shall live because of thee”? Are there other passages in scripture that carry a similar idea?

3.17. What does the phrase “very fair” mean in the original (vs 14)?

3.18. What does the existence of a Pharaoh tell us about Egypt’s civilization at this time?

3.19. Who were the “princes of Pharaoh” in vs 15?

3.20. How does Sarai’s name relate to the Hebrew word for “prince”?

3.21. What was the significance of Sarai being “taken into Pharaoh’s house” (vs 15)?

3.22. Did this constitute marriage to Pharaoh?

3.23. Why is Abram being treated well by Pharaoh in vs 16?

3.24. Did the Egyptians typically give a dowry when marrying a wife?

3.25. Was fornication common among Egyptians, i.e., if Sarai was described in such a way as to make people think she was unmarried, might she be approached inappropriately by the men of Egypt, even if they didn't intend to marry her?

3.26. From what we know from history, how did the Egyptians view adultery?

3.27. Why does vs 16 say "and he had sheep, and oxen, ..." etc.?

3.28. Where did these animals and servants come from?

3.29. Can we know if Abram had any servants before this point?

3.30. Are there any mention of Abram's servants from Egypt after this point?

3.31. Abram gets riches because of Pharaoh's attraction to Sarai. How does Pharaoh and his house fare?

3.32. Are there any indications of what kind of plagues came on Pharaoh's house?

3.33. What is the original word for "plagued" in vs 17? What does it mean?

3.34. Is there perhaps a play on words here with Sarai being taken into Pharaoh's house?

3.35. How do you think Pharaoh finds out that Sarai is Abram's wife?

3.36. How does Pharaoh react when he finds he's been deceived by Abram?

3.37. Does he do as Abram had feared now that he knows Sarai is actually Abram's wife?

3.38. What are your ideas as to why not?

3.39. Did Pharaoh take Sarai as his wife? Or was he only intending to?

3.40. What is the result of Pharaoh's discussion with Abram?

3.41. What does it mean that "Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him"?

3.42. Does it seem that God wanted Abram in Egypt?

3.43. Was Egypt part of the land of Canaan?

3.44. There are some very relevant cross references to this event in 1 Chronicles and Psalms. If you haven't already explored them, look them up and note findings:

3.45. Were there consequences on Abram for his actions in Egypt?

3.46. Summarize your thoughts on what Abram did in this section. Was it right or wrong? What were the consequences of it? Did it work out for good or bad at the time? How about in the long run?

3.47. Re-read Gen 12:10-20. Look up anything that you still find interesting or intriguing or confusing. Make sure you've looked into everything you noted when you read it at the beginning of this section. Use the space below for notes.

SECTION 4: ABRAM AND LOT SEPARATE

4. **Read carefully Genesis 13.** As you read, make notes of interesting points or things you'd like to look up.

4.1. Where is “the south” that Abram went to?

4.2. Who is with Abram at this point?

4.3. What are the original words for the phrase “very rich”?

4.4. Where else in scripture is this unusual word for “rich” used? Note anything interesting about its usage and meaning.

4.5. Why might Abram’s riches be described as a burden at this point?

4.6. Why was he so rich now? Had he always been?

4.7. Where does Abram go next (after being in “the south”)? Locate on map.

4.8. Does Abram already know this place? Has he lived there before?

4.9. Where did Lot get his wealth (vs 5)?

4.10. Why do the scriptures say “the land was not able to bear them”? What is being conveyed by the Hebrew words?

4.11. What is the meaning of “strife” in vs 7?

4.12. From a natural standpoint, why would Abram’s and Lot’s herdmen be striving with one another?

4.13. Had this been a problem in the past when they lived at Bethel? Or anywhere else?

4.14. Does Abraham act rightly in his response to the situation in vs 8? Prove with verses.

4.15. From a security standpoint, what is the situation in vs 7 for Abram and Lot?

4.16. How many times in this chapter is the idea of Abram and Lot living separately brought up? List the verses.

4.17. How would Abram have felt about sending Lot away? What kind of relationship do you think Abram had with Lot? Are we given any indication of how Abram felt about it later on?

4.18. Did this separation help Lot or hurt him?

4.19. Was this Lot's "moving out" phase in life? I.e., had he ever lived away from his parents or guardians before this?

4.20. Any ideas how old Lot was at this point? Was he married? Old enough to be married? Had he had children?

4.21. Any ideas how old Abram was at this point? Old enough to be a father? Grandfather? Great grandfather?

4.22. What area did Lot choose to go to? Locate this on your maps; you may need to reference a topographical map or Google Earth.

4.23. Why did he choose this place?

4.24. Where in this area did Lot choose to live?

4.25. Why is vs 13 added at this point? I.e., why might we be told this *now* if Genesis 18:20 is going to talk about it anyway?

4.26. Where is it recorded that Abram chooses to live at this point? Is this significant?

4.27. This was a huge transition point in Lot's life. Take a few minutes to put yourself in Lot's shoes, knowing what you do about his life so far. What do you think he was feeling and thinking at this point? This is a question for your own reflection. Put down thoughts you'd like to remember.

4.28. This was also a huge point in Abram's life. Take a few minutes to put yourself in *his* shoes. What emotions/thoughts/concerns would he be having at this point? Again, this is a question for your own reflection. Put down thoughts you'd like to remember.

4.29. Can you contrast Abram's way of life right now with Lot's?

ABRAM

LOT



4.30. What is "the garden of the Lord" in vs 10?

4.31. Is the plain of Jordan well-watered now, like “the garden of the Lord”? See if you can find some photos for yourself, or speak with someone who’s been there.

4.32. What additional promises are given to Abram at this point?

4.33. How do these compare with his earlier promises? What things are the same or similar, what things are new?

4.34. Why would God choose this point in Abram's life to give him this set of promises?

4.35. Why might the promises here begin with the phrase "lift up now thine eyes" (vs 14)?

4.36. Where would Abram have been when God says to "look from the place where thou art" (vs 14)?

4.37. Any significance to looking "northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward"?

4.38. Who specifically is the land promised to be given to?

4.39. Who are Abram's seed? Confirm with scriptural passages.

4.40. Why might "the dust of the earth" be used here? What are the connotations of this metaphor (i.e. how is dust used in scripture)?

4.41. Was this a conditional promise? I.e. was there something that Abram had to do in order for God to fulfil this promise (conditional), or was it "no strings attached" (unconditional)?

4.42. What did God invite/command Abram to do in regards the land he was promised?

4.43. What is the “plain of Mamre” (vs 18)?

4.44. What does “Mamre” mean?

4.45. What is the meaning of Hebron?

4.46. What is the meaning of the phrase in Hebrew language for “the plain of Jordan” that Lot chose?

4.47. Add to your contrast chart b/t Abram and Lot if you wish.

4.48. Re-read Gen 13. Look up anything that you still find interesting or intriguing or confusing. Make sure you've looked into everything you noted when you read it at the beginning of this section. Use the space below for notes.

SECTION 5: ABRAM RESCUES LOT

5. **Read carefully Genesis 14.** As you read, make notes of interesting points or things you'd like to look up.

5.1. When does this chapter take place in Abram's life⁸?

5.2. Were Abram, Sarai and Lot in the land of Canaan when servitude to Chedorlaomer began (vs 4)? If not, where were they?

⁸ hint: Look for Abram's ages before and after this event. You'll probably find it helpful to mark the ages of Abram and Sarai in your Bible wherever they appear.

5.3. Look up the meanings of the names in vs 1-2:

NAME (PERSON)	MEANING	NAME (PLACE)	MEANING
AMRAPHEL		(king of) SHINAR	
ARIOCH		(king of) ELLASAR	
CHEDORLAOMER		(king of) ELAM	
TIDAL		(king of) NATIONS	
▲ <i>...these made war with...</i> ▼			
BERA		(king of) SODOM	
BIRSHA		(king of) GOMORRAH	
SHINAB		(king of) ADMAH	
SHEMEBER		(king of) ZEBOIIM	
		(and king of) BELA	
		(which is) ZOAR	

5.4. Locate these places on your maps.⁹

5.5. Note any significant findings or thoughts on these characters and places (distances between, history of areas to characters of our study, fertility of land, major routes, etc.)

5.6. What is the “vale of Siddim” in this account (vs 3)? What is a “vale”?

⁹ There is a very interesting presentation by a Christadelphian archaeologist on the locations of Sodom, Gomorrah and her sister-cities on YouTube called “Archaeologist Leen Ritmeyer Digging up Sodom”, on “the Christadelphian Watchman” channel.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KLq7OXXe5_A

5.7. Verse 4-8 give the background of this battle. Who are the “they” of vs 4?

5.8. Who were the “Rephaims”?

5.9. Who were the “Zuzims”?

5.10. Who were the “Emims”?

5.11. Who were the Horites?

5.12. How would you describe these 4 peoples as far as doing battle with them is concerned?

5.13. Judging from their conquest of these peoples, how strong do you think *Chedorloamer's* army was?

5.14. Locate and mark Ashteroth-Karnaim, of the Rephaims, on your map as a battle.

5.15. Locate and mark Ham, of the Zuzims, on your map as a battle.

5.16. Locate and mark Shaveh-Kiriathaim, of the Emims, on your map as a battle.

5.17. Locate and mark Mt Seir, of the Horites, on your map as a battle. Also locate El-paran on your map.

5.18. Locate and mark “Enmishpat, which is Kadesh” on your map as a battle.

5.19. Locate and mark “the country of the Amalekites” on your map.

5.20. Locate and mark Hazezontamar on your map as a battle.

5.21. Draw out roughly the path of Chedorlaomer’s conquest up to vs7.

5.22. Can you figure out where the “vale of Siddim” is, in which the king of Sodom and his allies met Chedorlaomer and his allies in battle? Note information below and mark your conclusions on your map.

5.23. Why might the kings with Chedorlaomer be mentioned in the order they are in vs 1, and then Chedorlaomer be mentioned as if he's the leader in vs 5 and 9?

5.24. Who had more kings? Sodom and her allies or Chedorlaomer and his allies?

5.25. What are the "slimepits" in the vale of Siddim of vs 10? Do some research and use the space below for notes.

5.26. Where is "the mountain" that the remainder of Sodom and Gomorrah fled to?

5.27. Where was Lot living at this point? Was he living here before (in chapter 13)?

5.28. Vs 12 says Lot and all his goods were taken. What do we know about Lot's goods so far?

5.29. Do we know if Lot was married at this point? Did he have children?¹⁰

5.30. Where were Chedorlaomer and his allies going now (vs 11)?

5.31. Where is Abram at? Locate on map.

¹⁰ You can do some math from Abram's ages before and after this event, and his age immediately before Sodom's destruction in Gen 19 to get some idea.

5.32. Why does it call Abram “the Hebrew” here (vs 13)?

5.33. Who were Eschol and Aner? What was their relation to Abram?

5.34. How did they relate to the peoples of the land?

5.35. Why does it say Abram heard that “his brother” was taken captive (v14)?

5.36. How many people did Abram arm for battle?

5.37. What does the phrase “his trained servants” mean?

5.38. Where is Dan? Add this to your route of Chedorlaomer's conquest.

5.39. What do we know about Abram's attack strategy?¹¹

5.40. Vs 16 says that Abram brought back "all the goods". What goods are being referred to?

5.41. It also says he brought back all Lot's goods and the women and people, i.e. the captives. What does this tell us about the outcome of Abram's battle with Chedorlaomer and his allies?

¹¹ If you've done past workbooks, you might find a parallel between this attack and another you've studied.

5.42. What sort of odds would Abram have had of beating Chedorlaomer, naturally speaking? Think about what we know of the army of Chedorlaomer, and what we know of Abram's band of men.

5.43. Where was the king of Sodom all this time? Was this a new king? What happened to the king in the battle with Chedorlaomer?

5.44. Where is "the valley of Shaveh, which is the king's dale"?

5.45. Who is this Melchizedek?

5.46. What is the significance of Melchizedek's name?

5.47. What is the significance of his kingship of “Salem”? What is “Salem”?

5.48. What is the significance of him being priest of the most high God?

5.49. What is the significance of him blessing Abram?

5.50. Do the words of Melchizedek sound similar to any other highly significant words in scripture?

5.51. What are “tithes” (vs 20)?

5.52. What is the significance of Abram giving tithes to Melchizedek? Or did Melchizedek give the tithes to Abram?

5.53. You did look for Melchizedek in other parts of scripture, right? Where else in the Old Testament and in the New Testament is he mentioned? What do we learn from these places (if you haven't already explained above)?

5.54. Contrast Abram's interactions with Melchizedek, king of Salem, with Abram's interactions with the king of Sodom.

5.55. What is Abram talking about when he says “save only the portion which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men which went with me...”?

5.56. What do you think Abram’s relationship to Aner, Eschol and Mamre tells us about these men? Were they part of Abram’s miraculous defeat of Chedorlaomer?

5.57. What ‘types’ do you think are in this chapter. Explore them using cross-references and comparisons.

5.58. What are the big lessons in this chapter? Try to use cross-references and examples.

5.59. Re-read Gen 14. Look up anything that you still find interesting or intriguing or confusing. Make sure you've looked into everything you noted when you read it at the beginning of this section. Use the space below for notes.

Congratulations! This concludes Part 2 of the workbook!

Keep up the good work! God willing, there will be 1 more part (Part 3) upcoming. You're probably roughly 2/3 done with the required workbook study.

Check www.nevercease.org>"Workbook & Campout 2018" for Parts 3 of the Abraham workbook for 2018