

Choices Have Consequences Genesis 19:1-16

How in the world did Lot, a righteous man, wind up in such a situation –
The choices he made led to the ruination of his family!

I. HE MADE WHAT THE WORLD WOULD CALL A WISE BUSINESS DECISION Genesis 13:1-10

The valley of Zoar was “well-watered” – or completely irrigated.

The soil was rich and lush crops grew in the valley.

Genesis 13:11-12

Lot wanted the best in life. -- If we are honest, we cannot blame him.

In itself wanting good things in life is not wrong.

Lot made three major mistakes in this decision.

1. He based his decision on appearances – on the material

a. Appearances can be deceiving. You simply can't trust Appearances!

John 7:24 Jesus warns against that trap.

1 John 2:16 b. Satan is a pro at putting window dressing on evil to make it look good.

2. He failed to realize that material things only satisfy temporarily.

Contrast Lot's choice with Moses choice. **Hebrews 11:24-26**

3. The third and biggest mistake was that Lot failed to ask God what He wanted.

James 1:5 Lot was reluctant to follow God's advice even when it is given to him.

II. HE SURROUNDED HIMSELF WITH WORLDLY INFLUENCES.

Genesis 13:11-12

Lot didn't immediately move into the city.

He wanted the conveniences of the world, but he was going to remain on the outside.

2 Corinthians 6:17

III. HE TRUSTED THE WORLD FOR HIS SAFETY NET.

a. In **Genesis 19:1-3** we find Lot sitting at the gate.

He had gradually moved from the fields into the city of Sodom.

b. The point is that he is fully integrated into the city.

Though out of place he felt safe and secure there. **Isaiah 31:1 - Psalm 106:12 - Proverbs 21:31**

IV. HE INSTILLED THE WRONG VALUES INTO HIS FAMILY.

a. Lot lost all his influence on his family.

b. He failed to lead them or instill in them any moral values.

Proverbs 11:29 - Proverbs 22:6

V. HE IGNORED THE LORD'S WORKING IN HIS HEART. **2 Peter 2:6-8**

a. Even after years of exposure to the wickedness of the people of Sodom,

Lot was tormented in his conscience by what he witnessed.

b. Does the bold-faced sin, destroying the *very fabric of the character and integrity of America*

Still shock you, or do you no longer even blush when you see and hear

the sensual conduct of unprincipled men and women.

c. “*He who chooses the beginning of a road chooses the place it leads to.*” -author unknown

How will you choose?