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LOT CHOSE SODOM!

By Gordon F. Nelson

"And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where...even as the garden of the LORD (Eden), like the land of Egypt...Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan." Gen. 13:10-11.

In this sojourn of both Terah and Abraham to the Promised Land, we will attempt a short synopsis into the life of Lot. Lot's thinking processes are so similar to the 21st century Christian. Lot believed God helps those that help themselves!

Terah, the father of Abram, had two other sons, Nahor and Haran. Lot was a grandson of Terah, born into the family of Haran (Heb.-dry, parched, mountainous country).

Everyone in the Bible had a name that signified his or her individual personality. Even the names Indians give their children follow a similar pattern. Only the white man gives names to their children that are meaningless.

In John Bunyan's The Pilgrim's Progress, Pilgrim met different people in his quest for the Celestial City. Everyone he met in his journey had a name that described his personality; Mr. Pride, Mrs. Jealousy, etc. *"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever."* Heb. 13:8. Who are you? What is your name?

The call of God came to Lot's grandfather, Terah! Whenever God comes down and communicates with man, it is an exciting day. Have you ever heard God's voice? God gave Terah marching orders! But where was he to go? The Bible says in Hebrews 11:8, that Abraham *"by faith...went out, not knowing whither he went."* If Abraham didn't know where he was going, most certainly Terah didn't either.

The Ur of the Chaldees was being infiltrated with Nimrod's global "One World Religion of Baal." God will always have a remnant that will hear His voice, *"Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."* Rev. 18:4.

We are living in similar times today, where a global religion, headed up by the papacy, is eminent. *"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing."* 2 Cor. 6:17. Do you know what the "unclean thing" is? In the end time, there will only be two churches, Laodicea or Philadelphia (or could it be "registered" or "non-registered"?). Texe Marrs and

Bob Jones University are not touching “the unclean thing,” by registering with the state. The “unclean thing” religiously speaking, is the Registered Church. It is time for the true church of God to go underground. The homosexual revolution will close your church doors unless you succumb to their demands. God help us all if Al Gore is elected President!

However, scripturally, the “unclean thing” that Paul is referring to is the sinner. You preach at him or her, but don’t marry or be “yoked together” with unbelievers. This “unclean thing” is related to the “fornication” mentioned in Acts 15:20, as a form of idolatry. Christians do not marry non-believers.

Whenever a church registers with the state, that church forfeits it’s rights under the constitution to sue the state. The government gives nothing away for free. The church has nothing to fear from the Pentecostal Church because it is all registered with the state. The registered church cannot speak out on anything political. Today, Biblical doctrines, such as abortion and capital punishment, are political.

In the days of Noah, there were giants, men of renown! We have the same giants today! We are to be fearful of them because they are “registered.” Billy Graham, Pat Robertson, Jerry Falwell, Kenneth Copeland, Kenneth Hagin and Marilyn Hickey have been created solely by television. These “giants” have all signed a pledge to Rome to recognize all Catholics as Christians. This document is called, Evangelicals and Catholics Together: The Christian Mission in the Third Millennium. Protestants have assured Rome we will not attempt to convert Catholics to Christ.

It is one thing to hear the call of God, but quite another to see it consummated. God appeared to Abram, saying *“Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee.”* Gen. 12:1. God has always condemned a “One World Religion.” Why? Because it will be controlled by the false prophet (the Pope) and the Antichrist. *“Come out of her, my people...For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.”* Rev. 18:4-5.

Whenever God does speak, it is followed by action. Terah gave the order, “We are leaving the Ur of the Chaldees!” Why did God wait until the death of Haran before giving the call to leave the Ur of the Chaldees? God knew how much Haran loved the Ur of the Chaldees. Haran would never have permitted young Lot to leave him. This reveals God’s love for Lot! God waited on the death of his father before He ordered Terah to leave. Terah headed out! *“And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son's son, and Sarai ¹his daughter in law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, TO GO INTO THE LAND OF CANAAN; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there.”* Gen. 11:31.

Only four people left the Ur of the Chaldees. Terah obeyed God completely, leaving all the relatives

¹ Lot was a brother to Sarai. - Josephus

and kinfolk behind to be swallowed up in Nimrod's Baalism. God doesn't worry half as much as you think over cousin Louie who acquired AIDS while attending a San Francisco bathhouse.

In leaving the Ur of the Chaldees (Nimrod country), just how many kinfolk mocked Terah, Abram, his wife Sarai and Lot? "Where are you going, Terah? Do you know the way? Have you a map that tells you when you've arrived in Canaan's land?" Then they'd laugh and drink some more. These kinfolk are much like the good "unconditional eternal securitist" Christians of our day. They see nothing wrong with the "Registered Church" or Popery.

"But thou, O LORD, shalt laugh at them; thou shalt have all the heathen in derision." Ps. 59:8.

"The LORD shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming. The wicked have drawn out the sword, and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, and to slay such as be of upright conversation. Their sword shall enter into their own heart, and their bows shall be broken." Ps. 37:13-15. Before we go any further with this story of Lot, I want you to know God truly loved him. Had not God waited for the death of Haran before giving the call to Terah? God wanted Lot to escape the global church of Baalism.

You must be chosen of God to escape those things that are coming upon the earth. Lot was chosen by God to be a part of this caravan leaving the land given over to idolatry. One day Abram will risk the lives of his standing army to recover Lot who had been kidnapped. *"And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them."* Gen. 14:14. This is how much Abram loved Lot. Abram declared war on four kings to recover Lot and the stolen wealth of the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah. He wouldn't take a dime from these kings! *"That I will not take from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that is thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich."* Gen. 14:23.

In 2 Peter 2:7-8, we see how much God loved Lot. Lot went to heaven, but without these particular scriptures, many would doubt. *"And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (For that RIGHTEOUS MAN dwelling among them (the Sodomites), in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds.)"* Lot was a righteous man. The Bible declares it.

"And Lot sat in the gate of Sodom." Gen. 19:1. The gate represented the only entrance into the walled city of Sodom. They had no TV, radio or golf course in those days for the men of the city to meet together, particularly the elders and rulers. I'm sure the ladies of Sodom saw that these men that "sat at the gate," were comfortable and had plenty to drink in the cool of the day. Lot had learned to live with Sodom, just like Americans are presently experiencing. The gay society openly attacks our Salvation

Army and the Boy Scouts. Lot lived under similar conditions to “co-exist” in that great city.

“But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit (flesh family) again (Terah left one bunch of kinfolk in the Ur of the Chaldees, only to get bogged down with another branch of the family. Perhaps the fishing was really good.); and the sow that was washed (returned) to her wallowing in the mire.” 2 Pet. 2:22.

Jesus said, *“No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”* Lk. 9:62. Terah wound up in the same old mess he left in the Ur of the Chaldees. The Bible declares Terah went forth *“to go into the land of Canaan”* (Gen. 11:31), but died in the wilderness of dry Haran. This is where most Christians die spiritually. *“But with whom was he grieved forty years? was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness?”* Heb. 3:17.

When you are dead on the inside, the body begins to decay and death is eminent. *“Terah died in Haran.”* Gen. 11:32. What an epithet to have on your tomb after you have received a Holy Commandment from God. Do you know what a “sow Christian” is? One like Terah who came trusting in family more than God. Can’t you believe the Master?

“Think not that I am come to send peace on earth (Terah believed, as did all Sodomites, that family was heaven on earth.): I came not to send peace (on a flesh family), but a sword.” Matt. 10:34. A sword causes division between the saved and the unsaved. Families who seldom dark inside of a church door, in a lot of cases, experience more peace. But, if just one member of that clan really finds Christ and plans to live for Him, a war zone is now created.

“For from henceforth there shall be five in one house divided, three (unsaved) against two (saved), and two against three. The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter.” Lk. 12:52-53. Do you think this is my doctrine simply because you never heard it preached properly?

Terah died and went to hell for disobeying the Holy Commandment. It is a fearful thing to hear the call of God to you! *“It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”* Heb. 10:31.

“For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world (Ur of the Chaldees) through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are AGAIN ENTANGLED therein, and overcome (Terah could overcome family, relatives and kinfolk in the Ur of the Chaldees), the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better (for Terah) for them not to have known the way of righteousness (or heard God’s voice), than, after they have known it, to turn from the HOLY COMMANDMENT delivered unto them.” 2 Pet. 2:20-21.

Do you know the difference between a “Holy Commandment,” and commandments written on tablets of stone? One apparent difference to all, is the fact that the Holy Commandment is singular, whereas those written upon stone are plural.

Both Terah and Lot started out to go to Canaan’s land in obedience to God’s call, “Get thee out!” But to where? God speaks to many a Christian once they are born again to go to Canaan’s land (type of the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire – Matt. 3:11). God doesn’t call anyone from the Ur of the Chaldees (type of the world) to die in Haran (type of the wilderness). This is where most Christians die; right in Haran (a dry place). *“Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years.”* Heb. 3:8-9.

I know what shortens men’s lives on earth. It is called stress! Whenever we refuse to go on with God, the male is then delivered over into the hands of his wife. She finishes him off! You want to be the High Priest of your household? Then act like it!

I had to stand up to my wife and simply warn her. “I am a predestinated son of God! If you get in the way of whatever God has planned for my life, God will take you on out of here!” I had witnessed Goliath fall by my own obedience to a Holy Ghost commandment. Goliath was C. (for Cash) Thomas Patten, the late husband of Dr. Bebe Patten of Oakland. This huge giant in cowboy boots, bellowed from the pulpit with 2,000 people present. “If you’re into religion, and have smart lawyers, you can do anything and get by.” Of course, he meant being “registered” with the government with a non-profit religious incorporation.

Tom Patten, alias Jack Groves of Lyles, TN, had hardly spoken those words when God spoke to me, “And you’re going to bring him down!” I was only a student in the Patten College and Seminary. Sure, I thought God was crazy! How could I stop Goliath? When I saw Goliath fall, and I could march around showing off the head of Goliath, it did something for my faith. This is the reason I could so speak to my wife. It shocked me to see her a while later come down with a terminal illness called, Lou Gehrig’s disease, a rare muscular disease. She died prematurely at about forty-eight years of age!

These Copeland-Hagin false prophets talk about opening their mouths and speaking unto mountains. How about speaking to an Ananias and Sapphira? If you are a true prophet of God, they’ll carry them out feet first!

With the death of Ananias and his wife, Sapphira, the Bible says, *“And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things.”* Acts 5:11.

Upon arriving in Oakland with my pastor from Evanston, IL, I was introduced to C. Thomas Patten. Evangelist John F. Smith was a witness to the very first words to come out of my mouth as I stood

before the “Kingfish.” “I’m pretty tough! I don’t care what a man does on a dance floor or in a bar, but if I find a crook in church, I’ll have him thrown in jail.” That evening, alias Jack Groves told the audience, “A couple of hoodlums from Chicago have just rolled into town.” Five years after uttering those words, I was literally responsible for sending Tom Patten to San Quentin.

In a registered church, there are only three to five voting members. In the case of the Patten’s church, it was three: President Dr. Bebe H. Patten; Vice President Carl Thomas Patten; and Secretary-Treasurer Mary Martha Hawley. Morris Cerullo has five, with three of the five being Cerullo’s.

Whenever Dr. Bebe and her husband met for breakfast, a quorum was present to do business. Can’t you see the unscrupulousness of such an organization? If this was the only church that was registered, we could shelf it!

The government established the guidelines of what shall be called a “registered church,” not the scriptures. In America, in order to claim a deduction for your giving, you must give to a registered church. We have a representative form of government in Washington D.C., but a dictatorship, or “*lords over God’s heritage*” (1 Pet. 5:3) type of government in our Pentecostal churches, in particular. The entire TBN (Trinity Broadcasting Network) has the identically same government that I experienced with the Patten’s. Upon the founder’s death, it is passed to his heirs; their own flesh.

The rebellious say, “We don’t want to obey God fully!” But He is God! Who are you to “*kick against the pricks*”? Acts. 9:5. God will simply raise up another. “*Hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.*” Rev. 3:11.

The same call from God came unto Terah’s son, Abram. Here again, God waits upon the death of Terah to call Abram. “*Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father’s house, unto a land that I will shew thee.*” Gen. 12:1. Captain Terah is dead. God appoints a new captain to bring the ship into Canaan’s land. Abram is now the captain of that ship!

The crew consisted of fewer members than left the Ur of the Chaldees. “*And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son.*” Gen. 12:5. Abram probably received the same mockery from the kinfolk in Haran. “Oh, we’d like to go with you, but you don’t know where you are going!” Especially, when he claimed to have heard the voice of God. The world and the in-laws think you are plumb loco!

I enlisted in the Navy because of a dream. I was already I-A. There was no way I could escape the draft. God confused the minds of the psychiatrists, and one of them asked me if I had a girlfriend. “No,” I answered. “Well, don’t you believe in girls?” “Oh, yes sir,” I replied, “but I was just recently converted and had to give up my Jehovah’s Witness girlfriend. I just haven’t found another to replace her, yet.”

“Don’t you believe in marriage?” I retorted, “Yes, sir.” Invariably the conversation always came back to the same question. “Just how do you expect to get married, if you haven’t a girlfriend?” he said to me.

“Oh,” I said, “I believe God will show me who to marry.” “You believe what?” the psychiatrist said. “Just how do you expect God to reveal who you are supposed to marry?” I then answered him, “I don’t know, but possibly through a dream or vision. Jesus’ own life was spared through a dream, warning Joseph to *‘flee into Egypt.’* (Matt. 2:13).” After this statement, the psychiatrist bent way over the table, looking me square in the eye, and asked me this final question. “Do you believe God talks to you?” When I answered, “Yes,” his mind was blown! He looked at the other psychiatrist and said, “I don’t know what you’re going to do with this fellow, but I sure know what I’m going to do.” With that he marked a huge X on my chest. I was placed under observation for 28 days and sent home with an honorable discharge.

I told that story to let you know the world fully believes you evolved from an ape! Your in-laws are out-laws that believe you are nuts, as well. God said we were a peculiar people! Jesus said, *“Think not that I am come to send peace on earth (family): I came not to send peace, but a sword....And a man’s foes shall be they of his own household.”* Matt. 10:34,36. Let one man in a family get red hot for God, and he’ll tear up the playhouse called the “flesh family.” The Mafia calls the family god. What do you call it? It will be a war zone! I’ll set *“three against two, and two against three.”* Lk. 12:52. This is not what your little “hireling” preacher preaches to you on a Sunday morning.

The word, Lot, means “veil” in Hebrew. Lot fully intended to go to Canaan’s land: the land flowing with milk and honey. First, he set out for the Promised Land with his grandfather, Terah. Lot had to have faith to venture out into a country he’d never seen. If you are not predestined, you will never make it into the Promised Land. *“According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world...Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, ACCORDING TO THE GOOD PLEASURE OF HIS WILL.”* Eph. 1:4-5.

Lot, having lived on the other side of the tracks, both in the Ur of the Chaldees and in Haran, desired the good life. It was already in his heart to make it happen. *“And there was a strife between the herdmen of Abram’s cattle and the herdmen of Lot’s cattle....And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee....Is not the whole land before thee?”* Gen. 13:7-9.

“And Lot lifted up his eyes...Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan.” Gen. 13:10-11. Your own eyes are deceptive. It is the very first sign of backsliding when you rely on your five senses in making a decision.

There was a “veil” over Lot’s eyes due to the years he had lived a “life of hell on earth,” both in the Ur of the Chaldees and Haran. He chose the exact opposite! Lot had unknowingly arrived at their destination, Canaan’s land. He made his choice based on his five senses, because spiritual truth is by revelation from God.

Neither Abram nor Lot knew they had arrived! If you know where you are going and the time of arrival, this is not faith! Abram believed God would tell him when he had arrived. That, my friend, is faith. Abram had no map, only the north star to guide him.

A young girl’s first boyfriend should be her father. If she has a good relationship with her father, she’ll choose a man exactly like her father, and will not settle for less. If she has stumbled over her father, a “veil” is put on her eyes. Like Lot, she is left with only her five senses to make a decision. Because I “ruled over her mother,” my oldest daughter told me, is why she allowed bitterness to come into her heart. In her selection of a mate, the “veil” was apparent. To hold bitterness or the love of money, are the two roots we cannot feed and allow to grow in our hearts. These two roots will veil our eyes to where we can never see clearly what is right in front of us.

Lot made his choice while in the “land flowing with milk and honey,” but settled for what he thought was instant success! He had won the “lottery.” It was the exact opposite of the hard life endured with his father, Haran, in the Ur of the Chaldees.

Randy B., the Ol’ Ship of Zion’s Captain of the Monterey Peninsula, is a type of the Biblical Lot. He was a convert from the Ol’ Ship of Zion church, located in Hayward, CA. Like Lot, who followed both Terah and Abram faithfully to the Promised Land, Randy has been following me for over 30 years. *“Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom.”* Gen. 13:12. The herdsmen of Abram and Lot got into a strife over the new calves that were born. “My cow impregnated your heifer.” Each claiming their right to own the new calf. They separated, even as Randy and I are now separated. We are not separated over anything between us, but Randy’s choice to marry a Presbyterian “Rodeo Queen” of the Monterey Peninsula. Her father is a reputable doctor of Sodom.

If you’ll read James 5:1-6, you’ll read about the “final sign” of the coming of the Lord—the judgment of God upon the very wealthy. The “wrath to be poured out upon them” is with this summation. *“Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.”* Jas. 5:7.

God is giving a promise to mankind that He will deal with the rich. *“Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth.”* Jas. 5:4. *“Ye have heaped treasure TOGETHER for the last days.”* Jas. 5:3.

The filthy rich love “togetherness.” This is exactly what is happening now on the Monterey Peninsula. Land and housing for the poor have completely vanished. The rich want to be “together.” Visit the bar/restaurant in Pebble Beach and witness real “togetherness.”

Of course, my own son in the faith is in the right location and in the right business to become a millionaire. The very first sermon I ever preached aboard the Ol’ Ship of Zion was, “We should hire out to the God of Abraham.” My dedication was to never reduce the high calling of God to that of a “hireling.” “You can never ‘hire’ me to preach one sermon. You don’t have enough money,” I’d tell my congregation in Hayward. “I am not a hireling!”

I prophesied over Randy when he was flat broke, and didn’t even own the car he was driving. I told the congregation then that they were looking at one of God’s future millionaires. He has followed me ever since. In order to reach a gambler from Tahoe, you must reach him when he is down on his luck! The Ol’ Ship of Zion was there for Randy.

Sodom is located by the Dead Sea.² Even the location of Sodom speaks a message to the people who live there. There is only one inlet to the Dead Sea, and is the reason everything dies. The rich are takers; they give nothing!

Speaking of Lot, the men of the city of Sodom said, *“This one fellow came in to sojourn, and he will needs be a judge.”* Gen. 19:9. I couldn’t have said it better. This Lot will become a judge over Sodom. Please pray for the Captain of the Monterey Peninsula that represents the doctrines as taught aboard the Ol’ Ship of Zion. Ahoy, until next month!

Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined. Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people. Ps. 50:2-4.

² Dead Sea in Arabic is Bahr Lut, “the Sea of Lot.”