

## **The Mystery of Lot's Sad Ending**

*by Pastor Roy Hogan*

### **He had a good heritage, why such a bad ending?**

Gen 11:27-28

Lot's father, Haran, brother of Abraham, died (Gen 11:28). It is sad to lose a father or a mother or brother or sister. Lot's father, Haran, died before his father, Terah. It is unusual for a son to pass before the father passes. This indicates to us that Lot's father, dying before his own father, possibly died while Lot was a young man. This is painful. Then, his grandfather, Terah, likely took Lot in under his wing. However, four verses later grandfather Haran died at age 205 (Genesis 11:32). But God had a plan, a very good plan. Lot's wonderful uncle, Abraham, took him in. With no father and no grandfather, it was a noble thing for Uncle Abraham to show kindness to his nephew Lot in allowing him to come under his wing.

God nudged Abraham to continue the journey begun out of Ur of Chaldees with father Terah as leader. The journey had stalled in Haran (Gen 11:31). God told Abraham to go on into Canaan (Gen 12:1). Abraham obeyed God and packed his belongings, took his wife, and nephew Lot and journey onward with God. God graciously filled the void in Lot's life made by the loss of his father and grandfather.

A good heritage is more valuable than gold. Timothy had a good heritage. Paul said to Timothy, stay with the Scripture you were taught by your mother Eunice and your grandmother Eunice as a child. Timothy had a good heritage. David, king of Israel, had a wonderful bloodline going back to the great man Boaz. I have, as well, a wonderful heritage. My great-grandfather was a preacher of the Gospel, my grandfather a Godly deacon and counselor, my father preached the Gospel 47 years.

Yes, it is hard to lose your father, then lose your grandfather. But, look at God! I believe gracious God did well in letting an uncle like Abraham take you under his wing. *How could Lot's tragic ending be blamed on his heritage?*

Often blame our beginning, our heritage, for our dreadful ending. Be careful. You can have best parents, but fail in the end. Sons and daughters of God's champions have failed in the end. A good beginning is no guarantee of a good ending.

### **He was blessed financially early in life, why such a sad ending?**

Abraham rendezvoused into Egypt and Lot and Sarai with him. Got off track. Egypt was not God's will for Abraham (Gen 12:10). Abraham got back on track and returned to Bethel (Gen 13:3). In the meanwhile, great blessings of wealth fell on Uncle Abraham (Gen 13:2). Likewise, great blessings of wealth fell on nephew Lot (Gen 13:5). Flocks, herds, and tents: sheep, cattle, and people. God has blessed this orphan-boy. His wealth was so great his animals and Abraham's animals could not dwell on the same plot. Lot seemed "set for life."

It is truly strange that men and women who had moms and dads that provided for them in a fine fashion growing up, and they crashed in the end. Good homes. Good cars. Money for school. Money for athletics. A car at 15-years-old. Some of those children with financially fluent parents now are barefoot, empty, living under a bridge and out of a box. May never recover they are so low. How could this be? This seems *impossible*. **Naomi. Large developer in North Carolina.**

Lot died with nothing. Dad could not give his six children very much. A poor country preacher he was. He did something better- he served God like a champion. God was his life. Church was his life, hobby, occupation, and favorite pastime. He gave us the essentials and watched God do the rest.

Be care- how did Lot have such a sad ending?

### **He was blessed with his own family, why such a sad ending?**

A wonderful thing marriage is. The Word says "I would that the young marry." The joy of being a groom, a husband. It is somewhat amazing to me that a woman will forgo her family name and take a

man's family name to be her own. She trades her identity for his. She leaves her family for his.

The family is an institution of God. It is the first institution established on earth. The family is a God-thing. This is why it is under attack.

Lot had a wife. He became a husband. As life progressed, one day news from the wife "you are going to be a papa." What a blessing. A baby. Underneath God's heaven, there is nothing so precious, so pure, so innocent as a precious baby. A few months go by and the day came. The midwife announces "Papa Lot and mama Lot, it's a girl." That not the end. The day came when once again Mrs. Lot said to Lot "you're going to be a papa again." A few months later and another precious baby girl came on the scene.

Marriage is honorable in all. Children are a heritage of the Lord. Yesterday, we were invited by an infertile couple to attend the celebration of their adopted son's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. What a joyous time! Around lot's tent, two little girls played in the sand. Two little girls sat on the knees of Daddy Lot. What a joy, what pleasure. How good God is.

Those girls grew to be young women. The joy of seeing a baby crawl, then stand, then walk, then run, then go to school, then become a young man or woman. Next thing you know, they have something called a *wedding*.

Lot had it all. What man was blessed as much as was he?

Do you think staying with God matters? Do you think living with the Bible as your guide matters? Do you think church is a worthwhile part of your life?

Lot crashed and burned. One wrong move is all it took (Gen 13:11-13).

Merciful God sent angels to rescue Lot from Sodom. The vile sodomites who were neighbors to Lot and his family approached Lot asking that he make the two visiting angels available to them. That is the beginning of Lot's sad ending. The sodomites were smitten by blindness and the Lot's two male visitors were spared. They said unto Lot "get out of the city. God has had enough. The end is nigh." Lot yelled to his sons-in-law in Genesis 19:14 "Up, get you out of this place for the Lord will destroy this city." Lot's words to the sons-in-law "seemed as one that mocked."

Lot lingered. The angels took Lot, his wife, his two daughters by the hand (Gen 19:16) lest they be destroyed (Gen 19:24). His wife looked back and became a pillar of salt. Genesis 19:30 records that he and two daughters lived in a cave outside the city of Zoar. Genesis 19:33 they made their father drunk with wine. Both lay with their father. Two baby boys were born (Genesis 19:37-38). The descendants of these two boys hate, and war against, Uncle Abraham's people to this very day.

What a sad ending. I could cry. Lot's life started so well. He had the silver spoon in his mouth growing up. Why did it come to this sad ending? One wrong turn, and one wrong turn is all it takes: Genesis 13:11-13.