

Lesson VIII.

ABRAM AND LOT

February 23, 1913

Genesis 13 : 1-12. Study Genesis 13 : 1-18—Memory Verse, 8.

Golden Text—The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow therewith.—Proverbs 10 : 22.

1 And A'bram went up out of E'gypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the south.

2 And A'bram *was* very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.

3 And he went on his journeys from the south even to Beth'-el, unto the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Beta'-el and Ha'i ;

4 Unto the place of the altar, which he had made there at the first : and there A'bram called on the name of the Lord.

5 And Lot also, which went with A'bram, had flocks, and herds, and tents.

6 And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together : for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together.

7 And there was a strife between the herdmen of A'bram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle and the Ca'naanite and the Periz'ite dwelled then in the land.

8 And A'bram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen ; for we be brethren.

9 *Is* not the whole land before thee ? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me : if *thou wilt* take the left hand, then I will go to the right ; or if *thou depart* to the right hand, then I will go to the left.

10 And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jor'dan, that it *was* well watered every where, before the Lord destroyed Sod'om and Gomor'rah *even* as the garden of the Lord, like the land of E'gypt, as thou comest unto Zo'ar.

11 Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jor'dan ; and Lot journeyed east : and they separated themselves the one from the other.

12 A'bram dwelled in the land of Ca'naan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched *his* tent toward Sod'om.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Soon after Abram settled down to live in Canaan, a terrible famine came upon the land. So Abram took his wife and his nephew Lot and his servants and all his possessions and went to live in the land of Egypt till the famine was over, when he returned again to Canaan.

Now Abram was very rich, and besides gold and silver had many flocks and herds ; so they traveled by slow easy stages, till they came at last to Bethel where Abram had built the altar to the Lord, and there he praised God for his safe return.

Now Abram's nephew Lot had also a great many flocks and herds, and is was soon found that there was not enough pasture for both, and their herdmen began to fight as to who

should have the best ground and the most convenient wells.

Abram was grieved when he saw this, and said to Lot, "It is not right that the servants of us who are kinsmen should quarrel in this way. It would be better for us to separate and each go different ways. See, now, the whole of this rich and fertile land is before us to choose from ; take whichever part of it you wish. If you would rather go to the right hand, then I will go to the left, and if you take the left, then I will go to the right."

Then Lot looked about him on every side, and when he saw how much more beautiful than all the rest the plain of Jordan was, being "fair as a garden of the Lord," he selfishly chose the whole of the plain as his