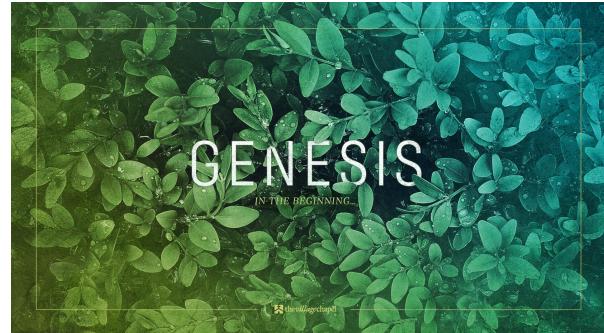


Genesis 13

Pastor Jim Thomas

April 18, 2021

SERMON NOTES

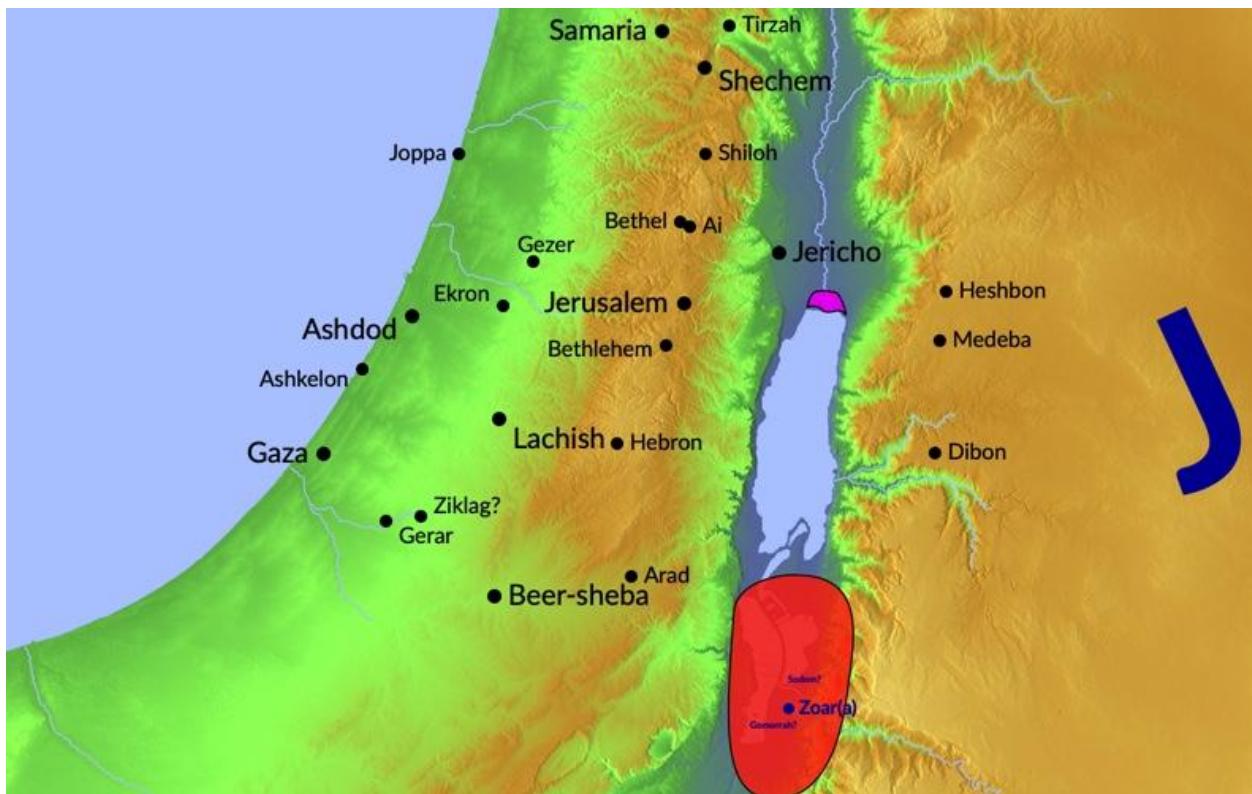


Genesis 13

Can we trust and rest in the promises of God?

Anxiety is what happens when we trust an outcome to anything or anyone that is not God.

Whenever God chooses to use any of us to accomplish His purposes, God is using sinners. It is then we see the Gospel in motion and the glory ascending upwards, to God.



"No man's life is completely worthless. Even the worst person can always serve as a bad example."

- Pastor John Courson

Genesis 13

1. Abram returned to the Lord. Lot tagged along.
2. Abram was selfless. Lot was selfish.
3. Abram trusted and rested in the promises of God.

"God is looking into the distance for me, trying to find me, and longing to bring me home... When I look through God's eyes at my lost self and discover God's joy at my coming home, then my life may become less anguished and more trusting."

- Henri Nouwen, *The Return of the Prodigal Son*

When we are trusting and resting in God's promises, it's easier to be gracious towards others.

"Now the LORD said to Abram,
'Go forth from your country,
And from your relatives
And from your father's house,
To the land which I will show you;
And I will make you a great nation,
And I will bless you,
And make your name great;
And so you shall be a blessing;
And I will bless those who bless you,
And the one who curses you I will curse.
And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.'"

- Genesis 12:1-3

- There's always more than enough for the selfless.
- There's never enough for the selfish.
- The selfless know peace, contentment, gratitude, and joy.
- The selfish are chronically unsatisfied, ungrateful and bitter.

"True freedom is not freedom from all responsibility to God and man in order to live for myself, but the exact opposite. True freedom is freedom from myself and from the cramping tyranny of my own self-centeredness, in order to live in love for God and others. Only in such self-giving love is an authentically free and human existence to be found."

- John Stott

When we are on the road to spiritual ruin, we become increasingly more comfortable with those who live their lives as if God does not matter. At the same time, we become increasingly uncomfortable around the people who remind us of God and His ways.

“And gradually, though no one remembers exactly how it happened, the unthinkable becomes tolerable. And then acceptable. And then legal. And then applaudable.”

- Joni Eareckson Tada

“We don’t live on explanations, we live on promises, and the promises of God are based on the character of God.”

- Warren Wiersbe, *Be Amazed*

Abram

- Remembered
- Repented
- Returned
- Rested