



Welcome to

**Genesis**

Week 3



The grass withers and the flowers fall,  
but the word of our God  
*endures forever.*

II Timothy 3:16, 17

“All scripture is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness so that the servant of God may be thoroughly quipped for every good work.”



**Comments/Questions**

# Genesis 11

The background of the slide features a dark blue field on the right side. On the left, there are several overlapping, semi-transparent triangles in various shades of blue and purple, creating a dynamic geometric pattern. Thin, light-colored lines intersect these shapes, adding to the abstract design.



# Abram

# Towards the Promise Land

## Chapter 11B

Genesis 11:27-32

Terra, Abraham, Lot and Sarai lived in  
Ur of the Chaldeans

# Genesis 11:31b

- They set out for Ur of the Chaldeans, to go to Canaan,
- But when they came to Ur, and they settled there

## Why?

- Both Ur and Haran were centers for moon worship



## Joshua 24:2

Tara ,the father of Abraham and Nahor  
lived beyond the river and worshipped  
other gods

# Discussion

- What causes us start following, then stop before we get to where God is calling us to go?

# Genesis 12



# Genesis 12:1

The Lord said to Abram

The Lord gave a command to Abram

# Genesis 12:1

## Leave

- Your Country
- Your People
- Your Father's Household

# Genesis 12:1

The Lord *said* to Abram

*Go* To the Land I will Show You

# Genesis 12:2a

## The Lord Gives Abram Promise:

- I Will Make You into a Great Nation
- I Will Bless You

# Genesis 12:4

- Abram *Heard* the Voice of the Lord
- Abram *Listened* to the Voice of the Lord
- Abram *Obeyed* the Voice of the Lord



# Abram Left as the Lord Had Told Him

Abram Obeyed God:

- Left Family
- Left Home
- Left City

# Abram Believed and Trusted God

- *Left* what he could see and experience
- *Went* forward - obeying without seeing
- He *exchanged* the known for the unknown

# Question

- What do we exchange for things?
- What tradeoff or advantage do we expect to gain when we trade?

# Genesis 12:5b

- Abram Arrived!
- Did not stop or go to another city

# The Lord - Initiated

The Lord appeared to Abram

Made himself known in some way –  
there was no mistake it was God

Exodus 33:18-20 (Moses)

# **The Lord Said to Abram:**

➤ “to your offspring I will give this land”

## **Adds to Promise**

➤ Will make you a great nation  
bless you

## Abram - Responded:

- Built an altar there to the Lord who had appeared to him
- Believed God who he could not see
- Believed God's promises were true even when he saw no evidence

# Genesis 12:8 The Lord Gives Promise:

From there he went on towards the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent

- *Built* an altar to the Lord
- *Called* on the name of the Lord
- *Again*



- The only structures Abram left behind were alters
- Abram built alters for God, pitched tents for himself
- Only property owned was a burial cave

# Discussion

➤ Are we **building** for God or for ourselves?

What will be **remembered**:

➤ Gods powerful, miracle working name - or our name?

## Genesis 12:10-20

- Abram and Sari in Egypt
- A famine, went to Egypt

# Genesis 12:11 –

- As he was about to enter Egypt he said to his wife Sarai, I know what a beautiful woman you are. When the Egyptians see you, they will say this is his wife then they will kill me but let you live. Say you are my sister so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you.

- Sari beautiful (65 years old – looks and acts 33 years old)
- Patriarchal life- life-span double - spreading out of
- Abraham 175 years old, Sarah 127 years old

# Genesis 20:13b

- This is how you can show your love to me: everywhere we go, say of me, “He is my brother”.

# Genesis 12:14-19

15 When Pharaoh's official saw her they praised her to Pharaoh and she was taken into his palace.

# Genesis 12:14-19

16 He treated Abram well for her sake and Abram required sheep and cattle male and female donkeys, menservants and maidservants and camels.



# Genesis 12:14-19

17 But the Lord inflicted serious disease on Pharaoh and his household because of Abram's wife Sarai.

# Genesis 12:14-19

18 So Pharaoh summoned  
Abram ‘What have you done to  
me’ he said ‘Why didn't you  
tell me she was your wife

# Genesis 12:14-19

19 Why did you say she is my sister so that I took her to be my wife? Now then here is your wife take her and go.

# Question

➤ How did the king know Sarai was Abram's wife?



10 Minute  
Break

# Genesis 13



# Genesis 13: 3

Abram went from place to place

- Until he came to a place between Bethel and Ai
- Where his tent had been earlier
- Where he had first built an altar

# Genesis 13: 3

Abram went from Place to Place

- There Abram called on the name of the Lord
- Called on God - again
- Came back to where he had talked to God before



# Discussion

- Coming back to where we met God before

# Genesis 13:1-18

Lot and Abram Divide Land

# Character Traits of Abram and Lot

- 5 Now Lot who was moving about with Abraham also had flocks and herds and tents
- 7 And quarreling arose between Abrams herdsman's and the herdsman's of Lot.

# Character Traits of Abram and Lot

- 8 So Abraham said to Lot, let's not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herdsman and mine, for we are brothers
- 9 Is not the whole land before you? Let's part company, if you go to the left I'll go to the right, if you go to the right I'll go to the left

# Abram's Response:

- Initiated the conversation
- Would rather inconvenience himself than have quarreling
- We are brothers

# Abram's Response:

- Selfless
- Practical - eliminated tension then and in the future
- Had experienced God's faithfulness and provision
- Generous

# Lot's Actions:

- Chose Selfishly
- Did not consider Abram
- Chose the plain of Jordan -the best
  - Well- watered
  - Like the garden of the Lord,

# Genesis 13:12

## Lot and Abram go Separate Ways

- Abram lived in the land of Canaan
- Lot lived among the cities of the plain



# The Progression of Sin in Lot's Life

Lot Pitched His Tents *Near* Sodom

- Still living in tents
- Same customs
- Same way of life
- Near the sinful town

# Genesis 19:2

1 The two angels arrived at Sodom in the evening and lot was *sitting in the gateway* of the city. When he saw them he got up to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground.

# Genesis 19:2

2 My Lords he said please turn aside  
to your servant's *house*.

# Lot Lived *in* Sodom

- At the city gates
- Acting as part of the sinful city
  - Living in a house
  - New customs
  - New relationships
  - New way of living

# Genesis 13:14

- The Lord said to Abram, after lot had parted from him
- All the land *you see* I will give to you and your offspring forever.
  - God gave Abram the Land
  - Abram did not lose land by seeking peace

# Genesis 13:18

- Abram Moved his Tents Near the Great Tree of Mamre at Hebron
- Built an Altar to the Lord
- Again Abram Sought God



**Genesis 14**

Abram Rescues Lot

# Genesis 14:12

- Lot was living in Sodom
- 4 kings seized Sodom and Gomorrah's food, goods and people, including Lot
- Abram and 318 men brought back Lot, goods and people



# Genesis 14:18

## Melchizedek

### Who Melchizedek Was:

- King of Salem (Jerusalem)
- Priest of the Most High
- Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life

# Genesis 14:18

Melchizedek

Who Melchizedek Was:

- A prefiguration (shows a pre-picture – before - in advance) of Jesus Hebrews 7:1 - 3
- Jesus our Great High Priest

# Genesis 14:18

Melchizedek

Who Melchizedek Was:

➤ Jesus, whose priesthood is in the order of Melchizedek, not in the order of Aaron.

Hebrews 4:14, 7:11

# What Melchizedek Did:

- As a King - brought bread and wine
- As a Priest — Blessed Abram from God
- Refers to God as God Most High, and Creator of Heaven and Earth

# Genesis 14:29b

## Abram's Response:

- Gave Melchizedek a 10th of Everything

# Genesis 14:22

## Abram's Response:

- *Referred* to Melchizedek as God Most High, Lord of Heaven, and Creator of earth –
- Terms commonly applied to the chief Canaanite deity in ancient times.

# Genesis 14:22

## Abram's Response:

- However, when Abraham *identified* Melchizedek's God Most High and added the title The Lord, *Yahweh*,
- In verse 22, he was Speaking of *The One True God*.
- Raising a hand was customary - oath

# Discussion

➤ Who is  
Melchizedek?



# Genesis 15

➤ God's Covenant  
with Abram

# Genesis 15:1

- Do not be afraid Abram I am  
your shield your very great  
reward

# Genesis 15:2

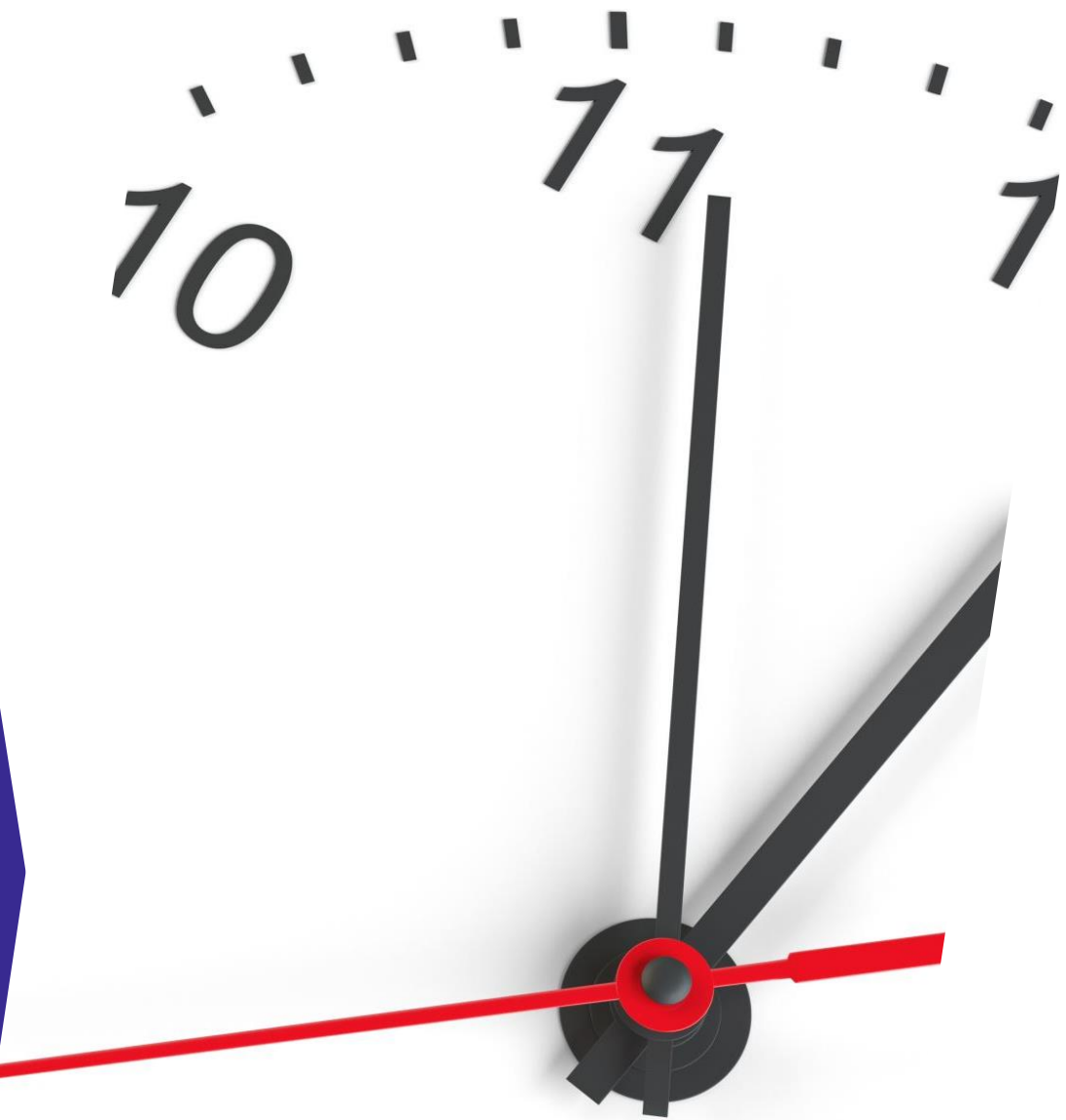
- Abram asked, what can you give me since I remain childless?
- Abram was focused on having a child.
- It was more of more important to have a child than to have God himself as his reward.

## Discussion

- What are the priorities in culture today that are seen as more desirable and important than having God himself as our reward?

# Discussion

- Is this because we really do not know who God is?
- Psalms 9:10
- Give other scriptures



**30 Minute  
Break**

# Genesis 15:4

**Then The Lord Came to Him**

**Promised 3 things**

- A son coming from your own body will be your heir.
- A great nation from your son
- The Land

# Genesis 15:6

Abraham Believed the Lord and  
He Credited to Him as Righteousness



# Genesis 15:7 - 20

## The Promise Covenant

- 7 I am the Lord, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it.
- 8 But Abraham said ‘Oh sovereign Lord, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?’

# Genesis 15:8

- How can I know?
- (Lord I believe, help my unbelief)
- God does not rebuke
- God reassures
- God knows our heart
- God knows our weaknesses

# Genesis 15:9 - 20

## The Promise Covenant

- 9 So the Lord said to him ‘Bring me a heifer, a goat, and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon.
- 10 Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two, and arranged the halves opposite each other.

# Covenant:

The ritual of cutting the animals in half -  
both parties walking between the two halves

- An official treaty between the two parties
- Formal covenant agreement/relationship
- Official treaty between God and Abraham

# Jeremiah 34:18

- Both parties pass between the two halves of the animal, agreeing this would happen to them, if they broke their covenant promise.

# Genesis 15:9 - 20

## The Promise Covenant of God with Abram

- 12a As the sun was setting Abraham fell into a deep sleep
- 17 When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking fire pot with a blazing torch appeared and passed between the pieces

# Genesis 15:9 - 20

- 18a On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram and said ‘to your descendants I give this land’

# God's Covenant with Abram

- Abram was asleep
- God alone passed through the animal pieces
- God alone made the covenant promise to Abram



- An unconditional treaty
- Responsibility of fulfilling the treaty - God.
- Abraham believed the Lord and God credited him to righteousness.

# God talked with Abram

- Future events
- A Good Outcome
  - For Abram
  - ▶ For His Descendants

# God talks with Abram

## God

- ▶ Assures Abram
- ▶ Gives Abram Promises
- Confides in Abram

# Genesis 16



# Genesis 16:1-3

- To have a child by another woman was culturally acceptable
- God seemed to be slow or have forgotten after 10 years,
- Reasoning self-effort of Sarai
- Agreement of Abram

# Discussion

➤ Genesis 16:4-12, 15

# Genesis 17



# Genesis 17

➤ The visible Covenant



# Genesis 17:1

Thirteen years later years later... (99 years old)

God: Initiates

- Appeared to Abram
- Reminded Abram
- Who God Is
- What Abram Must Do

# Gods Promise

Abram: Responded

➤ Fell face down

# God:

- Gave Him a New Name
- More to the Promise
- A Covenant with Abraham's Participation - Circumcision

- God:
- *Came* to Abraham
- *Initiated* the Conversation
- *Confirmed* his Promise
  - A Child
  - Many Descendants
  - Land

# A Different Covenant – Circumcision

God *Required* Abrams Participation

➤ Abraham and His Entire Household Forever

▶ A Sign to God

As a Wedding Ring

A Visible Outward Sign of an Inward  
Commitment

- To Gods People
- Symbol -Discarding Heathen Ways and Beliefs
- Open - Gentiles that Belonged to the Community

- A Sign to Others
- Not a Sign of Manhood
- A Sign of Commitment to God No Other Requirements

# **Genesis 17:5, 15-16**

- Genesis 17:5, 15-16
- New Names



# Questions

- Why are people given new names?
- What does your name mean?

# Genesis 17:5-8

## Abram (Great Father)

- Abram - Ab (father) Ram (high)
- Abraham - God adds Hamon (father of a multitude)

# Genesis 17:15 – 16

## Sarah

- Sarah - a newer form of the Sari, princess
- Renaming Sarah was very important
- Brought her into God's promise *in her own right*

# Discussion

➤ Genesis 17: 6-21

# Genesis 17:23

- On the Same Day Abraham Obeyed
- He Fulfilled His Part of the Covenant

# Discussion

- What does Abrahams immediate obedience tell us about his relationship with God?



10 Minute  
Break

# Lifestyles and Customs

The nomad Arabs of Palestine have been living in tents for centuries and their customs and manner of life is strikingly like those of biblical people. A study will throw light on how the people of early Bible times actually lived and build a proper background for understanding the life and contributions of these people.

Bedouin life in the Bible lands W M Thompson 1937



## Lifestyles and Customs

The nomad Arabs of Palestine have been living in tents for centuries and their customs and manner of life is strikingly like those of biblical people. A study will throw light on how the people of early Bible times actually lived and build a proper background for understanding the life and contributions of these people.

Bedouin life in the Bible lands W M  
Thompson 1937

## Sacred Duties of Hospitality

- Because it is believed guests are sent by God
- Hospitality becomes a sacred duty and privilege
- Strangers become guests
- A man will sit at the entrance of his tent in order to watch for strangers that can be their guest.

Hebrews 13:2, Romans 12:13

## Tents

- Abraham pitched his tent Genesis 12:8
- Isaac pitched his tent Genesis 26:17
- Jacob pitched his tent Genesis 33:18
- Pitched - in a circle - not clusters -protection

# Tents

- Abraham pitched his tent  
Genesis 12:8
- Isaac pitched his tent  
Genesis 26:17
- Jacob pitched his tent  
Genesis 33:18

## Inside the Tent

- Oblong - divided by goat hair curtains 2 or 3 sections
- The entrance leads into the men's section – reception - sleeping area.
- Other areas - women and children

## Inside the Tent

- Goat hair curtains provide privacy - everything can be heard.  
Sari heard what the angel said to Abraham
- Larger families separate tents for women.

## Inside the Tent

- Tents for women.
- Genesis 31 Jacobs tent -  
Lee's tent - Rachel's tent -  
tent of the maidservants.
- There is no separate place  
for dining and sleeping it  
is all one men's area

## Houses

- Nice well- furnished room near the door - provided for guests so they would not disturb the family




## Tent Fabric

- Black goats hair
- Course
- Heavy
- Prickly
- Waterproof after first rain

## Tent Fabric

- Also referred to as Sackcloth - black goat's hair - not burlap
- The sun became black like sackcloth Revelation 6:12

- 
- Also referred to as  
Sackcloth - black goat's  
hair - not burlap
  - The sun became black like  
sackcloth Revelation  
6:12

## **Worn as a Sign of:**

### ➤ Sorrow

- Genesis 37:34, II Samuel 3:31

### ➤ Humility

- I kings 21:27 II kings 19:1

### ➤ Repentance

- Daniel 9:3 Jonah 3:5

### ➤ John the Baptist and other prophets wore camel's hair

## Privacy and Hospitality

- A guest would think it rude if their host left them alone at any time. The guest would not sleep by themselves or eat by themselves. If a sleeping place was given to them in an upper room, then some of the family sons would sleep alongside of them so they can have companionship.

## **Privacy and Hospitality**

- Guests would feel deserted if left alone

## Customs when Entering

### **Bowing customary between a host and guest**

#### ➤ Bowing Low

- Or royalty
- To express thanks
- To ask a favor
- Of least importance

## **Customs when Entering**

### **Removing shoes**

- Practical
- Respectful
- Exodus 35



## **Customs when Entering: Washing Feet**

### **Washing Feet**

- A guest is offered water to wash his feet
- A servant will assist
- Anointing the head with oil
- Oil sometimes mixed with spices

## Customs when Entering: Washing Feet

### Washing Feet

- Luke 7:46
  - Simon the pharisee was accused of not having hospitality
  - because he did not anoint Jesus with oil
- Psalms 23:5
  - You anoint my head with oil

## **Customs when Entering: Giving a drink of water**

### **Giving a Drink of Water**

- Recognizing the guest as worthy of a peaceful reception
- Welcome to be a guest in the home
- Pledge of friendship

## **Customs when Entering: Giving a drink of water**

Genesis 24:17,18

- Ebenezer, Abraham servant ask for a drink of water
- She answered drink my Lord
- Indication she welcomed him into her home

## **Customs when Entering: Giving a drink of water**

Mark 9:41

- Samaritan woman
- Jesus asked for a drink of water
- She countered with a question -not water
  - No indication He was welcome in her home

## **Customs when Entering: Giving a drink of water**

Mark 9:41

- Jesus said He would give her living water
- Jesus welcomed into his home in Heaven!
- Jesus invited a despised, morally compromised, Samaritan, woman to heaven

## **Customs when Entering: Serving and sharing a meal**

### **Serving and sharing a meal**

- A very special act of hospitality
- A way to make a covenant of peace

## **Customs when Entering: Not eating a meal**

### **Not Eating a Meal**

- Someone on a mission of importance will not eat until their purpose has been made known to their host.



## Customs when Entering: Not eating a meal

### Not Eating a Meal

- Abraham servant refused to eat with Laban until he first told him of his mission - seeking a wife for Isaac  
Genesis 24:33
- The Last Supper - Jesus said he would not eat it again until he could eat it with us in heaven

## Customs when Entering: Guest Made Lord of the House

### Guest Made Lord of the House

- A common eastern proverb, ‘the guest while in the house is Lord’
- Common when a guest asked for something to reply ‘you do me honor’.

## **Customs when Entering: Guest Made Lord of the House**

### **Guest Made Lord of the House**

- Lot told his guests ‘behold now my Lords turn in I pray you into your servants house’      Genesis 19:2

## Customs when Entering: Protecting a Guest

### Protecting a Guest House

- When a host accept someone as their guest there is a binding agreement that whatever the cost to defend the guest from enemies during the time they are in the home, he is willing to pay.

## Customs when Entering: Protecting a Guest

### Protecting a Guest House

- Doctor Cyrus Hamlin an American missionary in the East was entertained by a governor. The host handed the missionary a piece of roasted mutton, saying “Now do you know what I have done? By that act I have pledged you every drop of my blood that while you are in my territory, no evil should come to you. For that space of time, we are brothers.”

Studies in Oriental Social life Trumbull,  
pg 110

## Customs when Entering: Renewing a Broken Covenant

### Renewing a Broken Covenant

- When a covenant of friendship had been broken - Renewed by again eating together.
- Jacob and Laban restored their strained friendship by eating together. Genesis 31: 53,54.

## **Customs when Entering: Renewing a Broken Covenant**

### **Renewing a Broken Covenant**

- Jesus ate at least three times with different disciples in order to renew a broken relationship     Luke 24:30, 41-43 John 21:12,13

## Customs when Entering: Departure

### Departure of a Guest - When a Guest Leaves

- Guest announces going to leave -host asks them to stay longer
- ‘Just one more meal, just one mor night” Judges 19:5-10



## Customs when Entering: Departure

### When the Guest Insists that they Must Go

- Host will say “go in peace” Genesis 26:31
- Host wants to give guest a special goodbye - will walk with them out of town, up to an hour. Then the guest will say not to go any further with them.

## **Customs when Entering: Departure**

### **When the Guest Insists that they Must Go**

- Abraham walked with his departing guests. Genesis 18:16.

## Customs when Entering: Departure

### When the Guest Insists that they Must Go

- Genesis 18
- Genesis 18:1 – 8  
Hospitality customs
- Genesis 18:9-15

## Customs when Entering: Departure

### When the Guest Insists that they Must Go

- Genesis 18:17 Then the Lord said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?”
- Isaiah 41:8 Abraham was a friend of God. John 15:15, in Christ, so are we

# Discussion

- God confided in Abraham. Does God confide in people today?

# Genesis 18:20 -33

- Sodom and Gomorrah - their sin is great
- Abraham pleads for Sodom and Gomorrah from 50 to 10 people
- God is a responsive God

# Discussion

- Give biblical and personal examples of God responding
  - In Love
  - In Anger
  - In Grace
  - In Mercy
  - In Justice
  - Jesus is touched by the feelings of our infirmities

# Homework



Both reading and  
written work



Helpful to process  
information from class



Helpful for studying for  
the Final



# Homework

**Readings:**

Bible:

Chapters 19- 24

Text: *Genesis* by Kidner,  
19:1-29

The visitation of Sodom  
19:30-38 Epilogue:

Lot and his daughters

Pages 144-148 in text book

# Homework

## Written:

- Complete written work previously assigned last week
- Directions on last week's class PDF



**Questions?**

“The Lord bless you and  
keep you;  
the Lord make his face shine  
upon you  
and be gracious to you;  
the Lord turn his face toward  
you and give you peace.”

Numbers 6:24-27 NIV