

## Conflict through Eyes of Faith Pt. 2

Genesis 13:10-18, CBC, Sunday AM, August 24, 2025

Abraham? Who is he? Genealogy showed two branches—Eber's son Joktan ended with account at Babel where man tried to come up w own significance—**legacy from earth to heaven**; brother Peleg's descendants follow Babel, lead to Abraham, called **Legacy from heaven to earth** b/c God called, told to leave (3 forms of identity), **but forward gaze—TO land I will show you**—first of 7 I wills, 5-fold blessing; Abram obeyed—went and worshipped; **amazing example of faith**, but **we** are not merely looking for an example of faith, but a life of faith; **includes 175 years** w countless other episodes don't have; **Exposing Faith in life's choices takes careful study as look between tangible/intangible evidence of life lived in right relationship with Creator/Redeemer**; so followed to Egypt and saw conflict of faith—not easy, everything laid out (ie. Go, he went)—saw plan, fears—sloppy at best; **what happens to man of faith in this shaky time?** GOD delivered—brought great plagues to Abimelech—fear of God made him repent of actions and God used him to rebuke Abraham “What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife? 19 “Why did you say, ‘She is my sister,’ so that I took her for my wife? take her and go.” No room for discussion 20 Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him; and they escorted him away, with his wife and all that belonged to him. This conflict of faith left with question marks concerning Abram's example of faith and worship for God's mercy and deliverance; as continued last week, **asked couple of questions I. To what do you return? vv. 1-4**

1 So Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, left fertile Egypt for **Negev** he and his wife and all that belonged to him, and Lot with him. 3 He went on his journeys from the Negev as far as **Bethel**, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai, Pharaoh's palace for a tent; why? verse 4 helpful 4 to the place of the altar which he had made there formerly; and there Abram called on the name of the LORD. this brings back 12:7-8, whole reason THERE b/c believed God and left country, culture, family—altars focal point; **in face of failure, returned to formal, public worship of One who called him here and made promises to him and descendants—To what do you return?** whether success or failure, what evidence of transcendence—of personal relationship with God as He intends? Iain Duguid “Here, then, is the key test of the kind of faith you have: does your failure drive you from God or toward him? If your faith is in the power of your faith, failure will drive you away from God. If you are trusting in your own goodness to gain access to God's presence, you will either try to conceal your failure and pretend that it never happened, or you will be devastated by your failure and driven away from God by it. The reason is simple: your failure exposes the emptiness of your claim to stand before God on your own merits . . . if your faith rests in God and what he does for your ability to enter his presence, then your failure won't destroy you. It will drive you back to square one, back to the altar where you started, so that you can repent and call on the name of the Lord.” Duguid, p. 29 **True faith returns from battles yielded to unbelief and moves toward the next normal test of faith with worship and obedience.** So came to next normal test of faith II. **What are your goals in conflict? vv. 5-12 A. Conflict Because of Material Blessing vv. 5-6** 5 Now Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents. 6 And the land could not sustain them while dwelling together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to remain together. Problem? too much blessing b/n two of them—land couldn't sustain. No sin to be rich, though plenty of temptations to take eyes from God as provider, protector, sovereign over life's goals, but even after these considerations, **extra weight of responsibility**; 7 And there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. If can't find food/water, then sick/die, strain for herdsmen—large households, Gen. 14:14 **318 trained men born into his house**; perhaps Lot had similar numbers, even if Abram/Lot doing okay, hard to keep this many trusting God's provision/leading rather than focusing self/your tribe's needs; in addition, land inhabited already **Now the Canaanite and the Perizzite were dwelling then in the land.** THEY had first of watering holes, grazing—opportunity for opportunists to wipe out and take wealth of these wealthy strangers **B. Conflict Resolution Exposes Priorities vv. 8-9 1. Priorities Showing Eternal Values vv. 8-9** 8 So Abram said to Lot, “Please let there be no strife between you and me, nor between my herdsmen and your herdsmen, for we are brothers. 9 “Is not the whole land before you? Please separate from me; if to the left, then I will go to the right; or if to the right, then I will go to the left.” When conflict, so much advice—much good/needed, **but listening should lead to not merely caring for another, hearing another perspective, but a different triage of priorities—therefore, different values—here, chief values?** NO STRIFE b/n you and me (our herdsmen), motivation? Second value **We are brothers** **how much does this mean to Abraham?** Willing to give best of what had, every benefit rightly promised to him to meet the need creating the strife; **see how much cared for Lot!** Peace and sacrificing for brother highly valued in Scripture, **Lev. 19:17-18, Ps. 133:1; Matt. 5:43-48**—God of peace **Rom. 15:33**; **Abraham followed warnings of rich I Tim. 6:17-19** showing had other hopes/greater love; **how much do you value working through strife?** **Rom. 12:18** what does possible mean/entail? With whom? Family, does that include family of God? how different Abraham's actions in this conflict than Egypt, **This is conflict through eyes of faith**; Abram's made proposition, now, all eyes turn toward Lot

### I. Priorities Showing Immediate Resolution of Present Needs

10 **Lot lifted up his eyes and saw all the valley of the Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere** problem, no water, grazing—eyes looking for this and locks on water, growth Baldwin, Lot attracted by promise of prosperous farming, improved standard of living in sub-tropical fertility of **Jordan valley—rivers/springs created oases, growth of vegetation, including trees and luscious fruits, contrasted w**

barrenness of hills all round; Waltke central ridge where Bethel and Hebron located depend upon Lord to send rain Deut. 11:10-12 you weigh it out, like looking for a house, scoping out a hotel/vacation spot—Lot, you have definitely focused on the right spot—this was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah; wait, what? Music changed to foreboding as narrator knows more than what see; almost blows your mind—I see life, future, peace; destruction?!?—Phillips reminds that by time Israelites arrived in Canaan, region east of Jordan blasted wasteland leading to salt-infested Dead Sea—Moses writes this to show it had not always been this way; but Lot doesn't see this; sees what sees—like the garden of the LORD Gen. 2:10-14 river divided into four parts watered garden of Eden, like the land of Egypt as you go to Zoar. Egypt well-watered b/c of Nile, place went in famine—what saw like this; 11 Se Lot chose for himself all the valley of the Jordan, I see peace, life—we CAN'T go on like this; I've got work to do; agreed, makes sense, but already, shadow lies over choice as narrator makes aware that more to come; seems like loved uncle, last remaining family, wonder how much weighed on him; did he think about how uncle will make out? is this fair/hard on him? Don't know, but DO know lifted up his eyes and where he focused showed what looking for and it obscured other values; Calvin "whosoever is too eagerly intent upon his own advantage, is wanting in humanity towards others." p. 373 Must have been ecstatic at his good fortune; Duguid—in prosperity, you receive an abundance of what you crave—if success and wealth, you actually attain it; if marriage or good grades, get it—feel great b/c your idols are blessing you; your emotions now become overwhelming joy, peace, and happiness; and Lot journeyed eastward. Baldwin—went eastwards, down steep drop of some 3000 feet into rift valley to seek fortune in the plain of Jordan—lived among cities of the plain, namely Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboiim, and Beal (or Zoar) listed in 14:12 Sense of foreboding, eastward not good in Genesis; expulsion from Garden toward east 3:24, Cain 4:16 went from presence of Lord and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden, Tower of Babel journeyed east, found a plain in land of Shinar and settled there 11:2 Thus they separated from each other. 12 Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled in the cities of the valley, and moved his tents as far as Sodom. just like that, immediate conflict resolved—what wisdom, forethought! results? Peace, life for both; Good, but can't help wondering as Abram watched leave, did it hurt? Leave father's house—father/Lot came w from Ur; father died in Haran; Lot last one—loved him as will continue to see in chapter 14, So cold, want to hear weeping that heard when Orpah/Naomi separated; don't hear regret as moved off—also Ross, what happens to promise of good land if land can't even sustain both of them, and he just gave up most fertile part; meant hard work for him/herdsmen to keep animals/family alive; Canaanites/Perizzites still vying for land; discouraged? At all? Don't know, but thoughts like this can lead to shrinking focus; present crisis resolved, present needs met, but what about other things God values more? In fact, where is God in this whole episode?

#### A. Where is God's place in your conflict and resulting choices? vv. 13-18

##### A. Seeking God in the path of your kingdom's values v. 13

have to work toward this point—what have here is another input from narrator; I thought problem resolved, needs met, yes, but (buyer's regret) ever made big purchase and drove away and wondered what you did—narrator has trouble leaving it alone—DONE, decided, gone—but wait, tents toward Sodom—look out and see Sodom, asks readers, Where are your tents pointed and What do you see? 1. Do you recognize seriousness of problem? Lot saw choice land, narrator saw 13 Now the men of Sodom were wicked ra—evil (bad, unwholesome, of no value) sexual sins, but also social evils against alien, widow, and orphan Gen. 19:9, Ezek. 16:49-50 and sinners against the LORD. not just before man, disobeyed divine command, therefore liable—focuses on to whom? answerable to the LORD this sin offence against Him; exceedingly Bush, not only depraved character common to all mankind, but most vile, unblushing, abominable, and awful exhibitions of that character; high-handed and heaven-daring sinners; when look at this sin, and who against? (all people affected dwarfed by Yahweh—even speaking His name required reverence, to know who He is is to know He WILL act to bring judgment—moving towards it; Ross notes few passages in Genesis describe wickedness of a people so strongly; link to flood Gen. 6:5, 12-13—their corruption wiped out 7, 8:21, as will this corruption ch. 19; all of a sudden, look at v. 12 and see tents—look out Lot's window and see Sodom & shudder; Lot couldn't have been ignorant of their character, Didn't he believe in God? then did he have faith that would stand if forced to be in Sodom? See that didn't; how did it happen? 2. Do you recognize the subtlety of the problem? How do you determine God's blessings? God had blessed them materially, now seems that God blessed parts of land Lot chose—fertile/alive, famine/barrenness opposite shows cursed land—TRUE, but more; as face decisions, changes, so many pieces—what categories and standard of measurement do you use? today, use therapeutic language talk about normal/livable/abusive--mental, emotional, physical, spiritual—how separate/prioritize? How do you interpret your experiences and what place do they hold in future decisions? Didn't Lot have same "experiences" of God as Abraham/experienced blessings of God along w Abraham? Is God and His Word more powerful and more majestic? Is it sufficient? perhaps Lot hadn't owned God's word during these experiences for himself; Boice, perhaps seeds sown [in experiences] that went elsewhere than Abram's faith;

“swept into the current of Abram’s faith.” Baldwin **this chapter shows that though he went with Abram, didn’t appreciate what motivated his uncle in leaving the rest of the family in response to God’s call—did not share his vision—therefore, inevitable that at some point that separation would occur p. 40** FB Meyer (in Boice) says he was like Pliable—thought he was as much in earnest about spiritual things as Abram, but mistaken—when real tests came, chose world and its rewards, escaping destruction w nothing but soul’s salvation; how did sin creep in? Easy to go after Lot and try to guard against pitching tents toward Sodom—but how? **problem isn’t** that not thinking, but that focus of our thinking is myopic; not secret knowledge, but other aspects that haven’t considered—that is fascination with David Gordon’s books, Why Johnny Can’t Sing Hymns, Why Johnny Can’t Preach, **not just sing new song, preach differently, but why so hard? What has changed what we value/listen to?** Idiot word you hear not to insult, but fascinating in that since speak own language, can’t fathom, don’t believe need another language (measurement)—think seeing enough; so touchy/defensive as say don’t judge, but judging—**know we are sinners, but triage our own way out and so skittish of another’s meddling b/c of our great sacrifice and no one really knows all we do, want as seek to follow God;** If not careful, solution is as myopic as the blindness of the problem “**assurance and self-confidence; eager to do the very best for themselves; prepared to consider the moralities only in so far as these did not interfere with what they held to be the main chance of life—thus have succeeding generations looked towards the plains of Sodom from afar. And alas! Like Lot, they tried to make stones into bread; they have cast themselves down from the mountain side, for angels to catch; they have knelt before the tempter, to find his promise broken, the vision of power an illusion, and the soul beggared for ever—whilst the tempter, with hollow laugh, has disappeared, leaving his dupe standing alone in the midst of a desolate wilderness.**” FB Meyer in Boice **II Pet. 2:6-10** Look at evil in/around us—fears from past experiences, present judgments as look at hypocrisy around us—desire to get rid of bad influences, bad media, protect from wrongful sexual encounters—Yes, should care/make judgments here, but **need something deeper than seeing evil and seeking godly character or will not get away from torment of Lot and his choices;** how can this be? **We** can build Godlike character only upon the foundation of a whole-hearted devotion to God. God must be the very focal point of our lives if we wish to have godly character and conduct. This point cannot be overemphasized. Too many of us focus on the outward structure of character and conduct without taking the time to build the inward foundation of devotion to God. This often results in a cold morality or legalism, or even worse, self-righteousness and spiritual pride... Godly character flows out of devotion to God and practically confirms the reality of that devotion. Jerry Bridges *The Practice of Godliness*, NavPress, 1996, p. 54, 55, 56, www.navpress.com.—easy to give to Compassion International, to help person at work/neighbor and not ever get to root; Ps. 1 very relevant—stand in counsel of ungodly for His delight in Law of Lord/meditates day night; speaks of devotion to God that not only weighs decisions according to Word, but according to love for God of Word; Gordon’s latest book, Choose Better—just opened and saw paragraph about not solving how God speaks today, but deeper question is why so concerned about new revelation for making choices? God given us revelation—if we would learn to make use of what He has given us including those around us who have walked w Lord—thinking slowly changed so decisions made in line w who God is and what He desires—all about slow change of focus and desires, not merely toward God, but toward God as He IS—what would drive that? **3. Do you agree with God’s root of the Problem** how devoted are you to God? how much do you worship and trust promises for present and future so can live now without? Leads to focus on Abram

### **B. Seeking God In the path of God’s kingdom purposes vv. 14-18**

If Lot’s tent toward Sodom, where was Abram’s tent? At place of the altar b/n Bethel/AI, v. 3, 12, don’t know how feeling about what just took place, DO know **14 The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, “Now lift up your eyes** was it a surprise? How did He speak to him? don’t know, but know God who called him, the One who promised Him, the One He publicly/formally worshipped talked to him—of course lifted eyes **and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward;** I see it Lord**15 for all the land which you see, I will give it to you and to your descendants forever.** You are so kind/gracious, don’t have descendant, nephew just left **16 “I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth, the dust, Lord? there sure is a lot of it, soon I’ll be dust, so that if anyone can number the dust of the earth, then your descendants can also be numbered.** My descendants as many as the dust? **17 “Arise, walk about the land through its length and breadth; for I will give it to you.”** Waltke—to walk symbolizes legal acquisition of it—kings asserted right to rule by tracing out is boundaries; whatever thoughts as Lot left, as thought about future, one who offered choice of land, gave up best, told that ALL land his/his descendants—fresh manifestation of God’s favor, words to obey show promise NOT in jeopardy; And what do you suppose He did?**18 Then Abram moved his tent and came and dwelt by the oaks of Mamre, which are in Hebron,** whole company moved again; Kidner lift up eyes, now steps were to follow what eyes saw; Calvin reminds that **Must trust completely the sufficiency of God’s word; otherwise, why should he walk the land, just to be reminded that a stranger—nothing his; make feel even more discouraged that don’t have possession of anything permanent here;** Bush surmised perhaps year/two before came to Hebron located in south central mountains of Judah—highest city in Palestine 3,040 ft. about 19 miles south southwest of Jerusalem Matthews; Mamre associated w Amorite allied w Abram and others pursuing eastern kings 14:13, 24; **center of Abram’s movements,** near Machpelah where he was buried along w Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, Leah Gen. 49:31, 50:13; first city to acknowledge David as King; **and there he built an altar to the LORD. We leave him today where we’ve seen him go continually, at the altar—12:7-8, 13:4, good example, Abraham all way through chapter.** Yes, but don’t you dare focus on Abraham’s generosity and Lot’s greed without focusing on what drove Abraham; **what preceded/surrounded altar?** Promises; this

fueled generosity as looked beyond what could see and always understand Ross “The one who believed that God promised to give him the land did not have to reserve it for himself.” p. 285 Ross--not threatened by possibility of losing out; difficult, yes, but not more difficult than path of Lot who chose what looked like good/freedom/peace, but ended with devastation for him and for his descendants eternally; Abraham’s trust freed him, anchored his soul; Phillips “When we rest our faith in God’s Word and its promises through Jesus Christ, we will find not only our stride lengthening but also our desire to be with the Lord growing stronger. Like Abram, our faith is leading us upward into heaven. While still on earth, the bowing of our hearts in worship brings us closest to our eternal home.” p. 534 **Where are your tents pointed and What do you see?** leads back to third point in avoiding Lot and joining Abraham **3. Do You Agree with God’s Root of the Problem** trust tied to obedience which comes from worship—seeing God as worthy of worship; no way to avoid the deception Lot faced apart from growing devotion/hunger thirst for righteousness--**Point isn’t that you love something else too much, but that you love God too little**; this will leave too much room for your own ideas (The Corrupt Imagination Emily Finley 6/25, WORLD article about ideas—dream dreams whether or not others accept them—damage of this romanticized worldview that comes w self-centeredness and often side effects of mental instability and depression)—watch just checking the “love God” box and focusing on own life, dreams, staying away from fears, good habits, disciplines, better parenting methods, healthier life habits, good Bible studies—NO, **two kinds of looking today—Lot looked w deep longing at land—Abram lifted eyes at God’s command—obedience that came from different longing—looked farther**, gotten to this place b/c let God create hunger for more than now, what could see—look at the stars (amazing—yes, but your descendants will be like them); longing created by One who could fill THAT longing—devotion to God John Calvin **For until men recognize that they owe everything to God, that they are nourished by His fatherly care, that He is the Author of their every good, that they should seek nothing beyond Him — they will never yield Him willing service. Nay, unless they establish their complete happiness in Him, they will never give themselves truly and sincerely to Him. Institutes of the Christian Religion. if beating head against wall b/c feel can’t love God enough, make sure you recognize that first step toward God is recognizing can’t love Him on own—love self, blinded to Him; need foreign righteousness, need heart change that can only come from understanding all Christ is for the sinner; Are you born again? Don’t ever get bored w rehearsing the gospel from God’s Word/perspective until IS the gospel—Perhaps say, think I have gospel foundation—want that, but still feel that everyone and everything gets in the way of me trying to love, serve, please God!** Jerry Bridges—if haven’t read him, read something by him **—If God is not sovereign in the decisions and actions of other people as they affect us, then there is a whole major area of our lives where we cannot trust God; where we are left, so to speak, to fend for ourselves. Trusting God 1988, p. 58 Think can trust about sins, hell, heaven, can change you, can show Himself glorious, UNTIL get to work, or UNTIL come home, --someone else’s choices wrecked you; God in/over all these as well! Waltke God mingles hardships w blessings so his people don’t equate morality w pleasure—develops virtues such as faith, hope, patience, and upright character Rom. 5; God IN and OVER not only what is needed to save your soul (Are you His? Have you accepted the gospel?) but that He is working through people/situations to make you like His Son—where are your eyes/where are you looking? Are you living looking to the God who promised, or are you distracted by immediate pressing needs? do God’s promises live, lead to faithfulness with what YOU have been given? parable of the talents, steward—do you feel weight of that with what have NOW—NOT focused on what don’t have or what they have--Others May, You Cannot; look farther, higher I Pet. 4:10-11; incarnate God’s promises in your current circumstance now; Eph. 1:3-6 living by faith pushes eyes ahead, not just present or behind—evil in past so loud, success in past so loud—but we by faith like those in Heb. 11:16 desire a better country, a heavenly one, and by faith in Christ’s atoning work, look for the city God has prepared; Barnhouse “Right now we have untold promises of God which we have not experienced. We accept them on His Word and we want to begin the possession. He will make good.” In Phillips, p. 533 this echoes our summary of chapter 13’s lesson of faith; **True faith returns from battles yielded to unbelief and moves toward the next normal test of faith with worship and obedience.** will you take this amazing picture of faith and follow it to the God Abraham trusted fully? Where did we leave Abraham? Look, there he is over there worshipping? He doesn’t have it all figured out, doesn’t always do it right, but THIS is his regular posture--Will you join Him? If you do you will be imitator of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises**

**Genesis 6:5, 12-13** <sup>7</sup> Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. <sup>12</sup> God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth. <sup>13</sup> Then God said to Noah, “The end of all flesh has come before Me; for the earth is filled with violence because of them; and behold, I am about to destroy them with the earth.

**Genesis 19:9** But they said, “Stand aside.” Furthermore, they said, “This one came in as an alien, and already he is acting like a judge; now we will treat you worse than them.” So they pressed hard against Lot and came near to break the door.

**Leviticus 19:17-18** “You shall not hate your fellow countryman in your heart; you may surely reprove your neighbor, but shall not incur sin because of him. <sup>18</sup> “You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the sons of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the LORD.

**Psalms 84:9-12** Behold our shield, O God, And look upon the face of Your anointed. <sup>10</sup> For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand outside. I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness. <sup>11</sup> For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly. <sup>12</sup> O LORD of hosts, How blessed is the man who trusts in You!

**Psalms 133:1** Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brothers to dwell together in unity!

**Ezekiel 16:49-50** “Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had arrogance, abundant food and careless ease, but she did not help the poor and needy. <sup>50</sup> “Thus they were haughty and committed abominations before Me. Therefore I removed them when I saw it.

**Matthew 5:43-48** “You have heard that it was said, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.’ <sup>44</sup> “But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup> so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. <sup>46</sup> “For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup> “If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? <sup>48</sup> “Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

**Romans 12:18** If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.

**Romans 15:33** Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.

**Ephesians 1:3-6** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, <sup>4</sup> just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love <sup>5</sup> He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

**1 Timothy 6:17-19** Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. <sup>18</sup> Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, <sup>19</sup> storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.

**Hebrews 12:14** Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.

**1 Peter 4:10-11** As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. <sup>11</sup> Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**2 Peter 2:6-10** and if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing them to ashes, having made them an example to those who would live ungodly lives thereafter; <sup>7</sup> and if He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men <sup>8</sup> (for by what he saw and heard that righteous man, while living among them, felt his righteous soul tormented day after day by their lawless deeds), <sup>9</sup> then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment, <sup>10</sup> and especially those who indulge the flesh in its corrupt desires and despise authority. **Daring**, self-willed, they do not tremble when they revile angelic majesties,