

Genesis 18-20  
“Don’t Forget What You Have”

~ LET’S PRAY ~

NOTE TAKERS...

- I’ve titled this message: “Don’t Forget What You Have.”

~ INTRO ~

YESTERDAY...

- Jodi & I celebrated 31 -years of marriage...
  - AND we took a trip up to Keystone to relax for the day.

IT WAS SPECIAL...

- Because we had a chance to re-visit the spot where we did...
  - Our 25<sup>th</sup> vow renewal ceremony.
    - (Pics)

NOW... TONIGHT...

- We take the next step forward in our overview of (Genesis).

BUT... LET’S START WITH (Ps. 78:1-8) NLT...

- And the importance of remembering what God has done in the past!
- When we forget the incredible stories, God revealed over time...
  - We lose touch with soul-stirring emotions...
    - AND... *Forget What We Have.*

ASAPH...

- Singer / Poet / & Prophet...
  - Who reminded the people not to forget what God has done.

@ (v.3) NLT = “*hidden lessons from the past.*”

@ (v.5) NKJV = “”*He established a testimony in Jacob...*”

- Think about this as a changed life from Jacob TO Israel.

KEY...

@ (vv.7-8) NLT

DON’T FORGET WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR YOU!!!

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## CHAPTER #18

### IDEA #1 – FRIEND OF GOD:

(v.1) God again appears to Abraham...

- (v.10) God restored the life producing capacity to Abraham & Sarah.
- (v.14) The principal for all our problems is right here!
  - Your impossibilities are God’s opportunity to show Himself...
    - Strong on your behalf.

(2 Chron. 16:9-a) NKJV

*“... the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him.”*

THEN THE CHAPTER ENDS...

- With a demonstration of *intercessory prayer*...
  - (Abraham asking God to help someone else.)

I LOVE THIS...

- Because (James 2:13-b) NKJV
  - “... *Mercy triumphs over judgment.*”

ABRAHAM STARTED BY ASKING GOD TO SPARE THE CITY...

- If there were 45-righteous-people, all the way down to 10-people.

BUT GOD’S DESIRE...

- Didn’t stop at 10-people... because he RESCUED 4-people...
  - But He was coming for ONE (2 Peter 2:4-10) NKJV.
- Remember (John 3:16) NKJV

## CHAPTER #19 & 20

### IDEA #2 – SAVED BY GRACE:

#### Chp #19

Lot was a saved soul with a wasted life...

- Because he had lost his witness to family & friends (v.14).

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Nonetheless, look at (Gen. 19:16) God was merciful to them as a family.

BUT notice how his wife still wanted to go back (Gen. 19:26)...

- And she died.

(Gen. 19:27) when trouble came Abraham stood before the Lord...

- This is a benefit in our relationship with God (Jer. 33:3).

### **Chapter #19**

- ENDS with the continued tragic nature of sin & compromise!
  - (v.32) & (v.36)
    - The daughters had a twisted morality after Sodom.

Back in (Gen. 19:8) Lot was going to throw his two virgin daughters...

- To a crowd of perverse men.

THE BIBLE SAYS...

- (Rom. 12:2) NKJV
  - God’s word renews the way we think about things...
    - A heavenly perspective for our lives.

### **Chapter #20**

(Gen. 20:13) NKJV

- This was the family policy that Abram put in place.

(Gen. 20:2)...

- Twenty-five years **earlier** (Gen. 12:13-15) NKJV
- **Later** (Gen. 26:6-7) NKJV...
  - Isaac did the same thing as his dad (Abraham).

I WONDER HOW MANY TEST...

- We go thru before we begin to TRUST God?

(Gen. 20:12) the half-truth that surfaces again...

- The stubborn nature of sin has a lasting impact if we don’t put it to death.

Jesus said to *pluck out* and *cut off* (Matt. 5:27-30) NKJV.

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- In this case Jesus was dealing with inner desires left unchecked...
  - Gives way to the outer activity.
    - (Unchecked lust is the on-ramp for greater sin!)

~ IN CLOSING ~

Recognizing the hand of God...

- Will help us deal with our pet sin.

AND...

- By what we’re reading...
  - Somethings take a while to change!
    - (Sanctification a lifelong process.)

THIS IS NOT EXCUSING SIN...

- It’s merely a recognition...
  - That God does not abandon me when I falter in weakness.

(Rom. 5:20-21) NKJV

- “... *where sin abounded grace abounded much more...*”