

# JANUARY 5

## Read Genesis 13–15

### CHAPTER 13

**A**ND Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the south.

2 And Abram *was* very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.

3 And he went on his journeys from the south even to Bethel, unto the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Hai;

4 Unto the place of the altar, which he had made there at the first: and there Abram called on the name of the LORD.

5 ¶ And Lot also, which went with Abram, 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 Abram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle: and the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelled then in the land.

8 And Abram 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 Jordan, that it *was* well watered every where, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, *even* as the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar.

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

12 Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched *his* tent toward Sodom.

13 But the men of Sodom *were* wicked and sinners before the LORD exceedingly.

14 ¶ And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward:

15 For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

16 And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, *then* shall thy seed also be numbered.

17 Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.

18 Then Abram removed *his* tent, and came and dwelt in the plain of Mamre, which *is* in Hebron, and built there an altar unto the LORD.

## CHAPTER 14

**A**ND it came to pass in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of nations;

2 *That these* made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, which is Zoar.

3 All these were joined together in the vale of Siddim, which is the salt sea.

4 Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth year they rebelled.

5 And in the fourteenth year came Chedorlaomer, and the kings that *were* with him, and smote the Rephaims in Ashteroth Karnaim, and the Zuzims in Ham, and the Emims in Shaveh Kiriathaim,

6 And the Horites in their mount Seir, unto Elparan, which *is* by the wilderness.

7 And they returned, and came to Enmishpat, which *is* Kadesh, and smote all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites, that dwelt in Hazezontamar.

8 And there went out the king of Sodom, and the king of Gomorrah, and the king of Admah, and the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (the same *is* Zoar;) and they joined battle with them in the vale of Siddim;

9 With Chedorlaomer the king of Elam, and with Tidal king of nations, and Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar; four kings with five.

10 And the vale of Siddim *was full of* slimepits; and the kings of

Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and fell there; and they that remained fled to the mountain.

11 And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their victuals, and went their way.

12 And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

13 ¶ And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram the Hebrew; for he dwelt in the plain of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol, and brother of Aner: and these *were* confederate with Abram.

14 And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained *servants*, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued *them* unto Dan.

15 And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto Hobah, which *is* on the left hand of Damascus.

16 And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

17 ¶ And the king of Sodom went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Chedor-

laomer, and of the kings that *were* with him, at the valley of Shaveh, which *is* the king's dale.

18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he *was* the priest of the most high God.

19 And he blessed him, and said, Blessed *be* Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

20 And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

21. And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself.

22 And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth,

23 That I will not *take* from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that *is* thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich:

24 Save only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men which went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion.

## CHAPTER 15

**A**FTER these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I *am* thy shield, *and* thy exceeding great reward.

2. And Abram said, Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house *is* this Eliezer of Damascus?

3 And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir.

4 And, behold, the word of the LORD *came* unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir.

5 And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.

6 And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

7. And he said unto him, I *am* the LORD that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it.

8 And he said, Lord GOD, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?

9 And he said unto him, Take me

an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon.

10 And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another: but the birds divided he not.

11 And when the fowls came down upon the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

12. And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him.

13 And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land *that is* not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;

14 And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.

15 And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age.

16 But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites *is* not yet full.

17. And it came to pass, that,

when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces.

18 In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto

the great river, the river Euphrates:

19 The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites,

20 And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims,

21 And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.

## DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

In today's reading we see that Abraham did leave Egypt and God forgave him and restored him to fellowship. But God could not overrule the sad consequences of the trip to Egypt. There was a loss of time and testimony. Sarah's maid, Hagar, came from Egypt, and brought untold trouble to the family. Lot had developed a taste for Egypt. Though Abraham took Lot out of Egypt, he could not take Egypt out of Lot! How tragic when a mature believer leads a younger Christian astray!

Are you a mature believer who is guilty of leading others astray? Many Christians are careless in their daily living. There is an old saying that our actions speak louder than our words. Be assured that the world is always watching the Christian! God forbid that we should ever be guilty of bringing reproach upon our Lord and Saviour. As Christians, we should carefully guard our testimony. We are God's children, the Holy Spirit lives within us, and our every action should be controlled by Him. Let's not be guilty of leading others astray by our careless living.

## PROVERB FOR TODAY

"Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many" (Proverbs 4:10).

## TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

**ASSIGNMENT 1:** For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 8.

## HYMN FOR TODAY

### HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

Author unknown

A believer's stability in this life, as well as his confi-

dence for eternity, rests solely on the written promises of God's word. The direction of the living God for our lives is very definite. It is found in a firm foundation—the written revelation: "Thus saith the Lord."

In the first stanza the sure foundation of the Christian faith is established as being the word of God. This challenging question is posed: What more can God do than provide His very word as a completed revelation of Himself to man? The succeeding verses personalize precious promises from His word:

Verse Two—Isaiah 41:10—"Fear thou not, for I am with thee, be not dismayed, for I am thy God..."

Verse Three—Isaiah 43:2—"When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee..."

Verse Four—2 Corinthians 12:9—"My grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness..."

Verse Five—Hebrews 13:5—"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee..."

The authorship of the text has always been a mystery to hymnologists. Its first appearance was in 1787 in *Selection of Hymns*, published by Dr. John Rippon, pastor of the Caster's Lane Baptist Church in London. He was one of the most popular and influential dissenting ministers of his time.

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in His excellent word!*

*What more can He say than to you He hath said—  
To you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?*

*Fear not, I am with thee—O be not dismayed,  
for I am thy God, I will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
upheld by my gracious, omnipotent hand.*

*When thru the deep waters I call thee to go,  
the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;*

*for I will be with thee thy troubles to bless,  
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.*

*When thru fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
the flame shall not hurt thee—I only design  
thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.*

*The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
that soul, tho all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never—no, never—no, never forsake.*

## **ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY**

**576 B.C.**

**THE APPROXIMATE DATE THAT THE NEWS CAME THAT JERUSALEM HAD BEEN SMITTEN.** Ezekiel 33:21.

**1779**

**STEPHEN DECATUR WAS BORN.**

It was Stephen Decatur, a naval hero, who said, "My country—right or wrong!"

**1867**

**CHANCELLOR ADENAUER OF GERMANY WAS BORN.**

**1933**

**PRESIDENT COOLIDGE DIED.**

Let us pray for our President today.

## **ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY**

**1804**

**OHIO LEGISLATURE PASSED THE FIRST OF A SUCCESSION OF NORTHERN BLACK LAWS** which restricted the rights and movement of free blacks in the North. Most Northern states passed Black Laws. Constitutions of three states —Illinois, Indiana, Oregon—barred black settlers.

**1875**

**PRESIDENT GRANT SENT FEDERAL TROOPS TO VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI.**

**1943**

**WILLIAM H. HASTIE, CIVILIAN AIDE TO SECRETARY OF WAR, RESIGNED** to protest segregation and discrimination in armed forces.

**1943**

**GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER DIED.**

As he died, he said, "They are preparing for me over there." George Washington Carver was a slave, born in 1864 and promptly traded for a race horse. He became one of the country's most prominent scientists. He read his Bible every day and only God knows and eternity will reveal what contributions he made to our society. Let us pray today for our black friends, for the faithful black preachers, and the fine black Christians across America and around the world.

# THE STORY OF THE PSALMS

## Psalm 2

### **AUTHOR: David**

This is beautifully verified in Acts 4:25 where David is specifically mentioned as the author of the second Psalm.

### **THE STORY BEHIND THE PSALM:**

David's son, Absalom, rebelled against his father. He gathered an army and a following and led in an attempt to overthrow David and to make himself the king. Notice this implication in verse 2. When the civil war began, David refused to fight against his son. He fled the city to a place called Mahanaim and there watched the dust of battle rise, realizing that his own son had marshalled an army against the king. Notice his unwillingness to retaliate. He left revenge to the Lord, and the Lord adequately took care of this duty.

Victory did come to David, but it was accompanied by tragedy, for his son was killed in the battle. You will find the victory mentioned in verses 6, 8 and 9.

### **THE WAY IT WAS USED BY GOD'S PEOPLE:**

This Psalm was used by the Jewish people when seeing the wicked prosper. They turned to it when good seemed to turn out bad and bad

seemed to turn out good. Every Christian has faced such times. There are occasions when it seems that no matter how sincere one is or how hard he works for God, those who live unrighteous lives seem to be on the mountaintop while we are in the valley. When such feelings arise, what a comfort it is to have the second Psalm to which to flee. When you are living righteously in poverty, want, illness, etc., and your neighbor is living a sinful life midst plenty, pleasure and fortune, take refuge in the second Psalm. Right will turn out right, and right is its own reward. Victory will come if we will wait on the Lord and not take matters into our own hands.

Once an unsaved farmer came to the preacher and said, "Reverend, this year I plowed my field on Sunday, I planted seed on Sunday, I chopped weeds on Sunday, and I harvested my crop on Sunday, and this October I had the best crop I have ever had. What do you say to that, Reverend?"

The preacher quietly, confidently replied, "God does not always pay off in October."

While reading this Psalm, picture David with tear-stained cheeks and a broken heart enduring a rebellion led by his own son. With that mental image, read the Psalm.

# The Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

## MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

### WHY MEMORIZE THE WORD?

(Assignment 1)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see “The Treasure Path to Soul Winning” link back on the DailyKJV.com main page.)

#### **A Command**

( ) Deuteronomy 6:6

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

#### **An Imperative**

( ) Deuteronomy 11:18

Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes.

#### **A Necessity**

( ) Job 22:22

Receive, I pray thee, the law from his mouth, and lay up his words in thine heart.

#### **A Promise**

( ) Proverbs 3:3-4

Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:

so shalt thou find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man.