



Deciding To Build a Future

July 13-14, 2019

Big Question for the Year: Are you distracted, focused on the wrong thing, and building a future you will not love?

Big Point: What will it take to get you to the future God desires for your life?

Amazing Truth: The life you see me live is not the future I saw for myself? God saw it.

Question: Whose job is it to build your future?

First Answer: (John 14:26)

- "But **the Helper**, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you." (**English Standard Version**)

Note: He teaches and reminds; He does not do all the work alone.

Second Answer: **I Corinthians 3:9**

- **For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building (KJV)**

What We Learned from How God Built Abraham's Future

I. Four Things God Had to Teach Abraham That Helped Him Build a Future

1. He had to teach him where his right place was for his destiny (Genesis 12:1)

- Now the Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you. (NKJV)

2. He had to teach him that he did not need to compromise during a famine (Genesis 12:10-13)

- 10 Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to dwell there, for the famine was severe in the land. 11 And it came to pass, when he was close to entering Egypt, that he said to Sarai his wife, "Indeed I know that you are a woman of beautiful countenance. 12 Therefore it will happen, when the Egyptians see you, that they will say, 'This is his wife'; and they will kill me, but they will let you live. 13 Please say you are my sister, that it may be well with me for your sake, and that I may live because of you."

3. He had to teach him that manipulation was not necessary (Gen. 12:10-13)

- **Note: Start with Why, by Simon Sinek, differentiates between manipulation and inspiration**
- 10 Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to dwell there, for the famine was severe in the land. 11 And it came to pass, when he was close to entering Egypt, that he said to Sarai his wife, "Indeed I know that you are a woman of beautiful countenance. 12 Therefore it will happen, when the Egyptians see you, that they will say, 'This is his wife'; and they will kill me, but they will let you live. 13 Please say you are my sister, that it may be well with me for your sake, and that I may live because of you."

4. He had to teach him how to manage challenging people (Genesis 13:5-9)

- 5 Lot also, who went with Abram, had flocks and herds and tents. 6 Now the land was not able to support them, that they might dwell together, for their possessions were so great that they could not dwell together. 7 And there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. The Canaanites and the Perizzites then dwelt in the land.
8 So Abram said to Lot, "Please let there be no strife between you and me, and between my herdsmen and your herdsmen; for we are brethren. 9 Is not the whole land before you? Please separate from me. If you take the left, then I will go to the right; or, if you go to the right, then I will go to the left."

**II. Two Things God Did Not Need To Teach Abraham
That Helped Him Build a Future**

1. He did not need to teach him to be prepared to fight (Genesis 14:14-17)

- 14 Now when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, **he armed his three hundred and eighteen trained servants who were born in his own house**, and went in pursuit as far as Dan. 15 He divided his forces against them by night, and he and his servants attacked them and pursued them as far as Hobah, which is north of Damascus.
- 16 **So he brought back all the goods, and also brought back his brother Lot and his goods**, as well as the women and the people.
17 And the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley), after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him.

2. He did not need to teach Abraham to give (Genesis 14:18-20)

- 18 Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. 19 And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth;
20 And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand. **"And he gave him a tithe of all.**

Next Time: We will continue talking about the importance of decisions.

Closing

- I love to ask people in their moments of great crisis "can they see." Abraham came to moments in his life where he could not see.
- He was blinded by DEA, he had Destination, Expectation, and Anxiety.
- He dreamed to get to a destination and expected it to solve all of his problems but found that once he got there he found himself anxious and unfulfilled. Next time we gather I will show you how to manage DEA.
- A hint to hold you until next time, "Chill out and wait your turn."