

**Lot: The dangers of living independent of God  
(Genesis 13:5-13)**

- Wealth and material possessions can cloud our perspective of life (vs 5-7)
- Living by our own desires leads to problems (10-13)
  - We look (v 10)
  - We choose (v 11)
  - We separate (v 11)
  - We move away from God (v 12)
  - We are taken captive by sin (v 13; Gen 14:11-12)

*The danger.* Living independently from God leads to compromise today and loss tomorrow.

**Abraham: The benefits of living in dependence  
on God (Genesis 12:8-9, 14-18; 14:13-24)**

- Dependence on God:
  - Allows me to be generous toward others (13:8-9)
  - Frees God's hand of blessing (13:14-17)
  - Enables fellowship and worship to flow (13:18)
  - Prevents and attitude of indifference (14:12-16)
  - Acknowledges God is my sufficiency (14:17-24)

*The benefit.* Living in dependence upon God brings guidance today and blessing tomorrow.

**“Declaration of Dependence”**

When in the course of spiritual events, God's people find that the faith that shaped their nation is attacked and rejected; and when the churches that gave hope and stability to a struggling young country are cast out of meaningful participation in the culture because they have ceased to be influential in culturally relevant ways; and when Christians have been lulled into a materialistic stupor to the point that there is no evidence of the power of God in their lives, it is time for us to admit that we have *trusted in our own cleverness, organization, and wealth* and have abandoned *real dependence* on God.

Desperately in need of the presence and power of God in our lives, our homes, our churches, and our nation, we now confess our prayerlessness, indifference, and self-centered living.

Further, we purpose to *return to God*, seeking Him in the fear of the Lord, and trusting that He will forgive, cleanse, guide, and protect those who obey Christ.

With *renewed, sincere dependence on our Redeemer*, we pledge to Him, and to one another as brothers and sisters in Christ, our blood-bought lives, our God-entrusted resources, and our sacred honor as the children of the living God.

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