

## Genesis 13

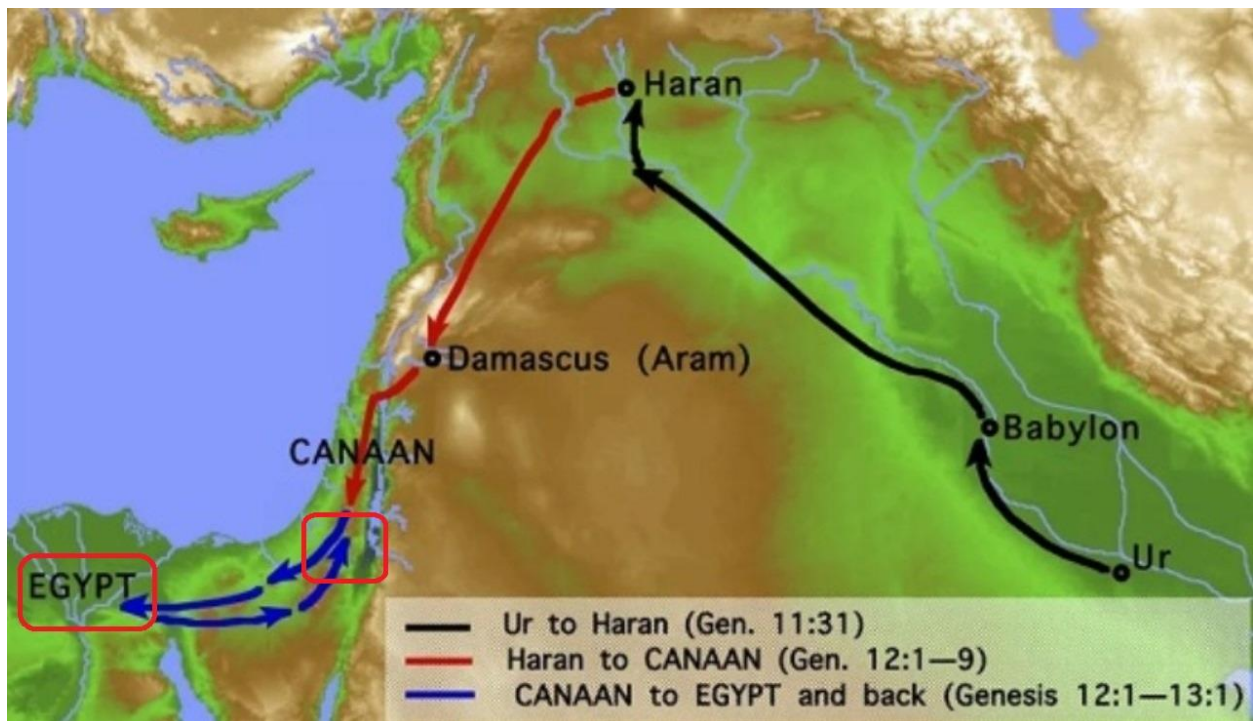
Verse 1

**So Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, he and his wife and all that belonged to him, and Lot with him.**

Abram had overstayed his welcome in Egypt and was escorted out of town

So he headed back to Canaan

See Map 1305



Verses 2-4

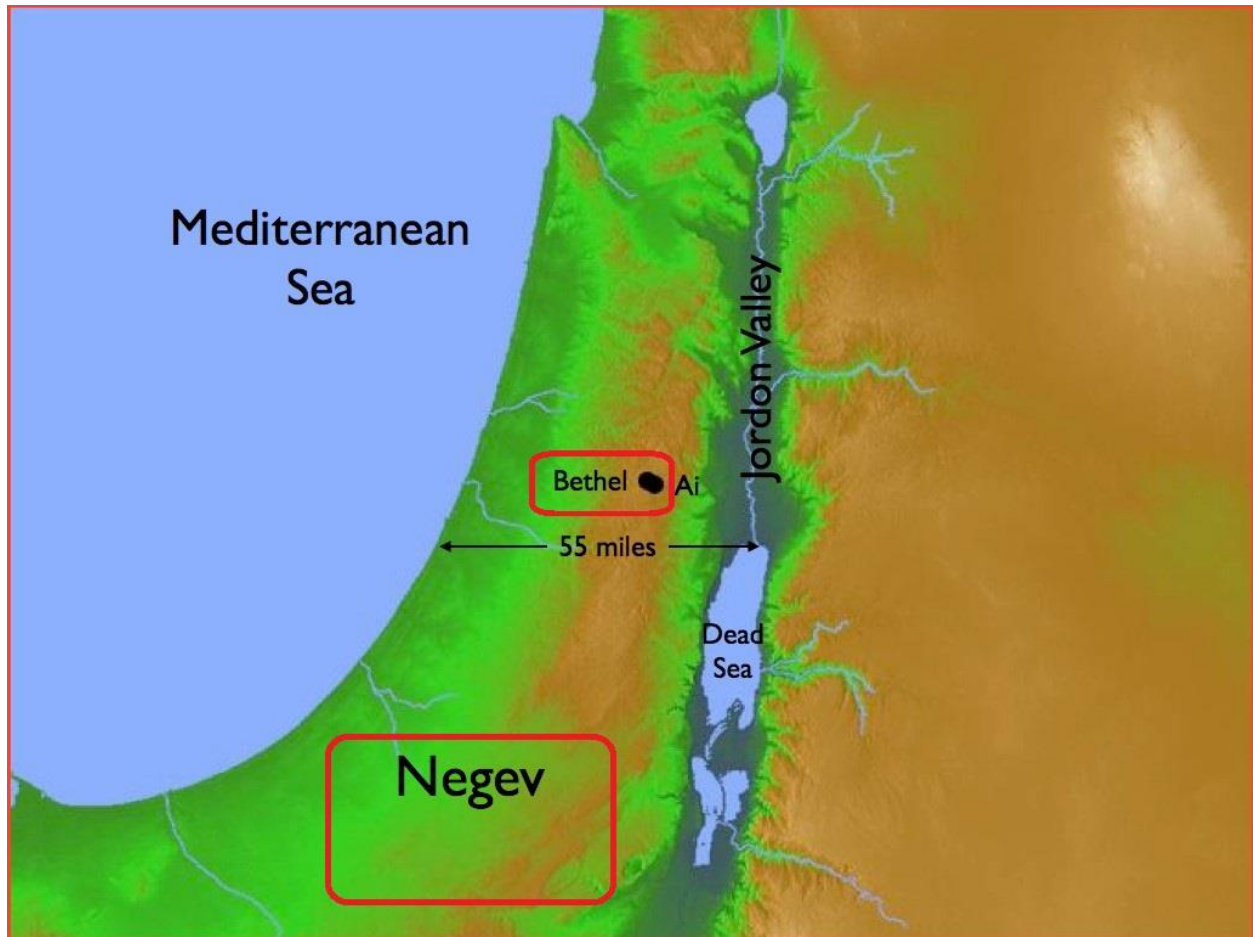
**<sup>2</sup> Now Abram was very rich in livestock, silver, and gold. <sup>3</sup> And he went on his journeys from the Negev as far as Bethel, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai, <sup>4</sup> to the place of the altar which he had made there previously; and there Abram called on the name of the Lord.**

God used Abraham's favored status in Egypt to bring him great wealth

One of the promises He had made to Abram

**And he went on his journeys from the Negev as far as Bethel**

See map 1310



The Negev is a desert area south of the Dead Sea

**There Abram called upon the name of the Lord**

Calling on the name of the Lord started back in Genesis 4:26

Enoch lived from 4905 to 4000 BC

2000 years before Abraham came along

So this custom was well established among people of faith

Verses 5-9

<sup>5</sup> Now Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks, herds, and tents. <sup>6</sup> And the land could not support *both of them* while living together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to remain together. <sup>7</sup> And there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. Now the Canaanites and the Perizzites were living in the land at that time.

<sup>8</sup> 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 relatives! <sup>9</sup> Is the entire land not before you? Please separate from me; if *you choose* the left, then I will go to the right; or if *you choose* the right, then I will go to the left."

<sup>5</sup> Now Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks, herds, and tents

Lot had been in Egypt with Abraham and benefited from Abram's favored status

The size of their flocks and herds was too much for the land

**Is the entire land not before you?**

As leader of the expedition into Canaan Abram had the first choice of the land

But he graciously yielded that choice to his nephew

Verse 10

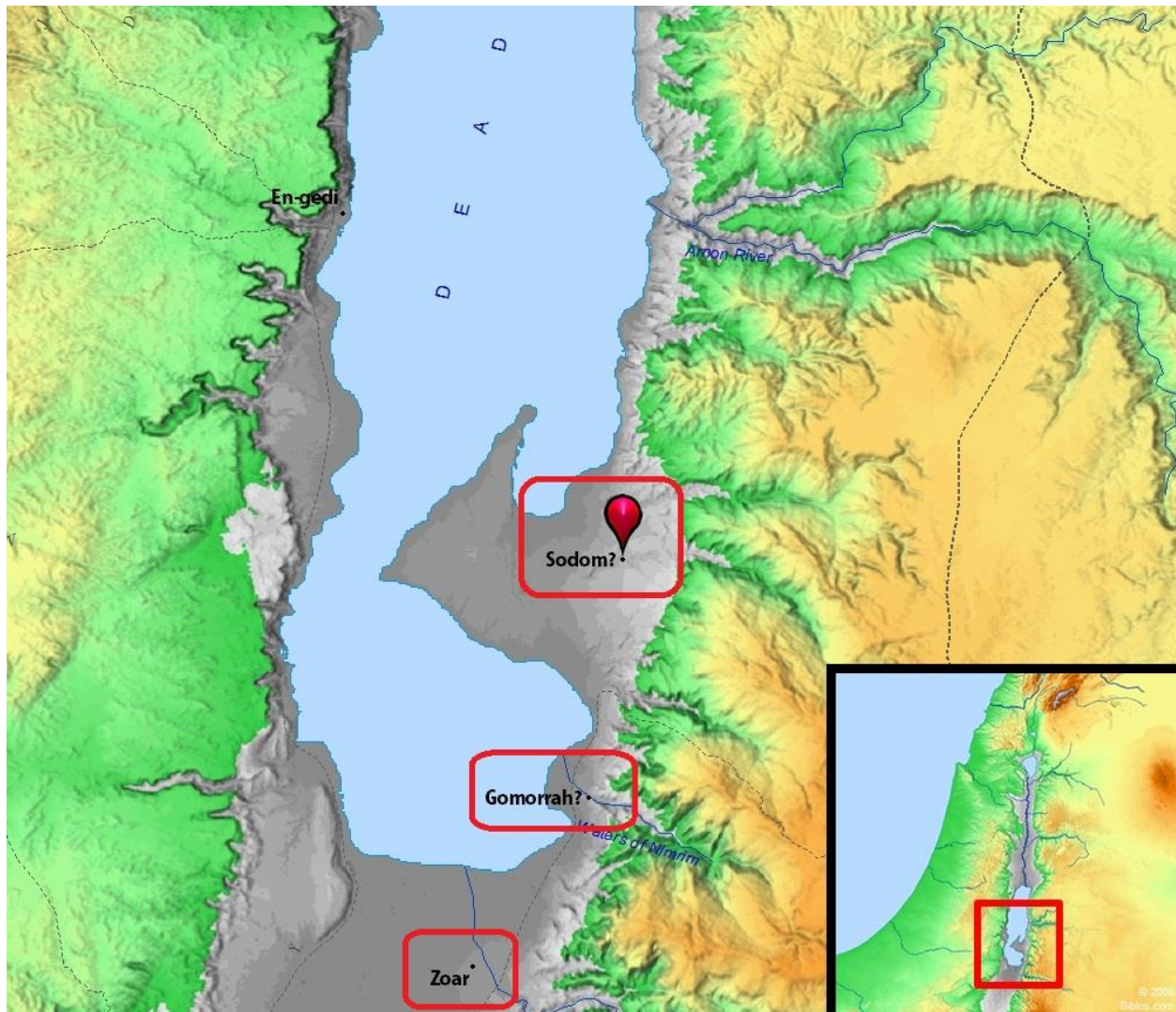
<sup>10</sup> Lot raised his eyes and saw all the vicinity of the Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere—*this was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah*—like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt going toward Zoar.

This area is around the southern portion of the Dead Sea

It was fertile and well-watered before God judged Sodom & Gomorrah

See map 1315 below

Map 1315



Verses 11-13

**<sup>11</sup> So Lot chose for himself all the vicinity of the Jordan, and Lot journeyed eastward. So they separated from each other. <sup>12</sup> Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled in the cities of the vicinity of the *Jordan*, and moved his tents as far as Sodom. <sup>13</sup> Now the men of Sodom were exceedingly wicked sinners against the Lord.**

It turned out that Lot choose a bad place to live

The men in this area were evil to an extreme

Verses 14-18

**<sup>14</sup> The Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, “Now raise your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward, and eastward and westward; <sup>15</sup> for all the land which you see I will give to you and to your descendants forever. <sup>16</sup> I will make your descendants as *plentiful as the dust of the earth*, so that if anyone can count the dust of the earth, then your descendants could also be counted. <sup>17</sup> Arise, walk about in the land through its length and width; for I will give it to you.” <sup>18</sup> Then Abram moved his tent and came and lived by the oaks of Mamre, which are in Hebron; and there he built an altar to the Lord.**

**For all the land which you see, to you will I give it, and to your seed forever**

Here is the promise of land to Abraham and his posterity forever

However, the Jews were exiled from the land of Israel by the Romans in 135 AD

And the Jews did not have any control over the land again until 1948

That was for 1812 years

Given these facts, one should question what was meant by your seed

The land was promised to those who believed and trusted in God like Abraham did

Since that covenant of belief was broken by Israel when they rejected the Messiah

They were no longer entitled to the land by promise

If this was not the case, what did God mean by forever?

**And I will make your seed as the dust of the earth**

We don't know the exact number of descendants that came from Abraham

But Israel has been around for 4,000 years

So the total number has to be in the 100's of millions over that time frame



Arise, walk through the land

See map 1320



This had to be quite a journey

The length and width of Canaan was around 120 miles by 55 miles

And many areas have severe changes in elevation

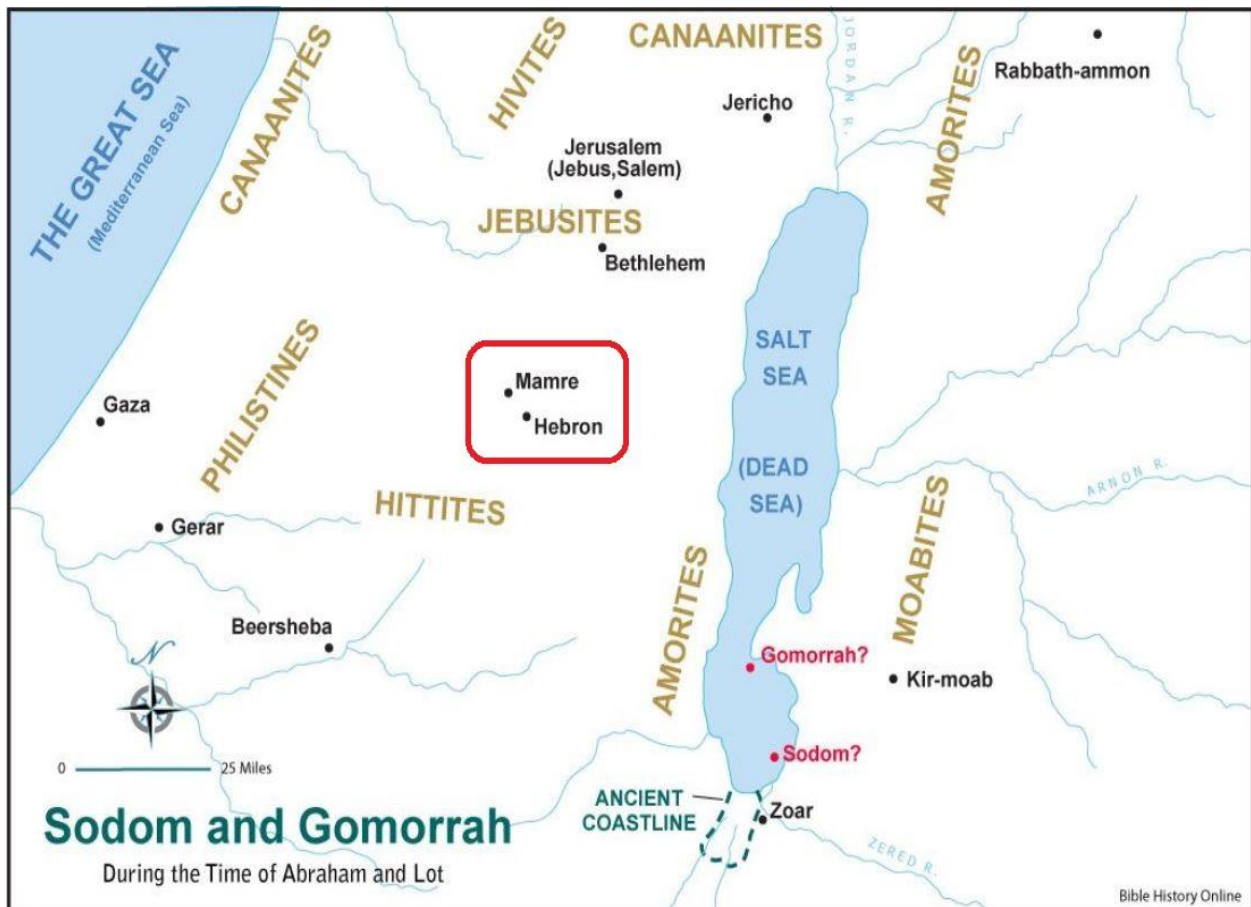
From 4,000 feet above sea level in the mountains

To 1200 feet below sea level at the Dead Sea

A change of 1 mile in altitude

Then **Abram** moved his tent and came and lived by the oaks of Mamre, which are in Hebron; and there he built an altar to the Lord.

See Map 1325



**Lived by the oaks of Mamre**

The oaks of Mamre were about two miles north of Hebron.

**Hebron**

Hebron was a very old city, even when Abram settled there.

This area was 3,040 feet above sea level

**There he built an altar to the Lord**

This is now the 3<sup>rd</sup> time that Abram has built an altar to the Lord

He does this every time he moves to a new area