

Collinsville-Troy CHURCH OF CHRIST

# Minor Bible Characters

Fall 2024

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## Lessons From Lot

1. What do we know about Lot? Genesis 11:27, 13:1-7, 19:1-3, 29 (18:32)
2. Why did Lot choose the Jordan Valley? Genesis 13:8-13, 1 John 2:15-17
3. What were the consequences of this decision? Genesis 14:8-12, 19:4-8, 12-14, 23-26, 30-38
4. What do we learn about decision making from Lot? How should we make decisions? Genesis 13:10, 19:14, 30-38, 1 Corinthians 15:33, James 4:13-17, 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Psalm 119:105
5. How is Lot remembered in the New Testament? 2 Peter 2:7-8

What should we take away from Peter's statement?

## Lessons from Rahab

1. What produced faith in Rahab? Joshua 2:8-11, John 8:12-18, 1 Peter 1:8, John 17:20

2. What did Rahab's faith lead her to do? Joshua 2:1, 12-21, James 2:14-17, Luke 6:46, John 3:36

3. Was Rahab selfish with her faith? Joshua 2:12-13, Romans 1:14, John 4:25-30, Matthew 10:32-33

4. What was the result of her faith? Joshua 6:16-17, 22-23, 25, Hebrews 11:31, James 2:25

5. What significant role did she play in God's plan of redemption? Matthew 1:5

## Lessons from Elijah

1. What is the historical setting of the work of Elijah? 1 Kings 16:29-34

2. What significant events take place during the work of Elijah? 1 Kings 17:1-7(18:41-46), 8-24, 18:17-40, 19:1-18, 21:1-24, 2 Kings 2:1-14

3. What caused Elijah's discouragement? 1 Kings 18:7, 21:20, 19:4, 9-18

4. How do we combat discouragement? Hebrews 3:13,10:24,13:15 (1 Kings 19:18-21), Matthew 10:24-25, 1 Peter 4:12, Ezekiel 3:16-21, 1 Thessalonians 4:8, Ephesians 6:18

## Lessons from Hezekiah

Texts: 2 Kings 18-20, 2 Chronicles 29-32, Isaiah 36-39

1. What kind of man was Hezekiah? 2 Kings 18:1-8

2. What do we learn about religious reform from Hezekiah? 2 Chronicles 29-31 (29:3, 35, 30:5, 18, 31:20-21)

3. What did he do when Sennacherib rose up against Jerusalem? 2 Kings 19:1-7, 14-19, Isaiah 37:1-13, 14-20

4. What did Hezekiah do when he became ill? 2 Kings 20:1-3, Isaiah 38:1-3

a. How did God respond to him? 2 Kings 20:4-11, Isaiah 38:4-8

5. What did Hezekiah do after recovering from his illness? Isaiah 38:9-20

a. What do we learn from his psalm? Isaiah 38:9-20

6. According to 2 Chronicles 32:24-33, why did wrath come upon Judah and Jerusalem? See also 2 Kings 20:12-19

## Lessons from Josiah

Texts: 2 Kings 22-23:30, 2 Chronicles 34-35

1. What years (roughly) did Josiah reign?

2. What do we learn about personal commitment to God from Josiah? 2 Chronicles 33:20,25, Matthew 10:34-39

a. Do you notice the progression seen in Josiah's life? 2 Chronicles 34:3, 18-21, 30-33

b. Does age matter in our service to God? 2 Chronicles 34:3, Psalm 92:12-15

3. Why did God spare Judah during the reign of Josiah? 2 Chronicles 34:18-21, 27, 2 Kings 22:19

a. What does this show us about God? Matthew 23:37, James 4:8

4. Why were Josiah's actions at Bethel significant? 2 Kings 23:15-20

5. What was the point of emphasis during Josiah's reform? 2 Chronicles 34:21, 30-33, 2 Kings 23:21-22 (2 Chronicles 35:18)

a. Should we adopt the same mentality? Why or why not? John 12:48, Colossians 3:17

6. How is Josiah remembered? 2 Kings 23:25, Matthew 22:37

## Lessons from Esther

Text: Esther 1-10

1. When (generally) do the events of Esther take place? Esther 1:1-3
2. What is distinct about Persian law? Esther 1:19, 8:8, Daniel 6:8
3. Who is never mentioned in the book of Esther?
4. What do we learn about the dangers of pride and anger? Esther 3:5-6, 6:6, Proverbs 16:18, Ephesians 4:26
5. How should God's children conduct themselves when dealing with injustice? Esther 8:8, 1 Peter 2:13-15, 1 Timothy 2:1-2
6. How is God's providence on display in this account? Esther 4:16, Jeremiah 32:27, Ephesians 3:20

## Lessons from Ezra

1. When do the events of Ezra take place?
2. Who is Cyrus and what is so important about him? Ezra 1:1-11, 2 Chronicles 36:22-23, Isaiah 44:21-45:1-13
3. Who led the first return from captivity? Ezra 2:1-2
4. What role did Ezra play in the second return?
5. What do we learn from Ezra's preparation? Ezra 7:10
6. How had the children of Israel been faithless to God? Ezra 9:1-2, 10-15
7. How did they respond to Ezra's message? Ezra 10:1-19
8. Why was Ezra successful? Ezra 7:6,9, 28; 8:18, 31



## Lessons from Judas

1. Why is Judas' betrayal of Jesus so shocking? Matthew 10:1-4, 5-15
2. Why did Judas betray Jesus? Mark 14:3-6, John 12:1-8, 1 Timothy 6:6-10, Colossians 3:5
3. Did Judas have a choice? Acts 1:16, Psalm 41:9, 69:25, 109:8, Acts 4:27-28, Romans 8:29, Exodus 9:16
4. What characteristics describe a betrayer? Luke 22:6, Matthew 26:17-25, 27:3, 2 Timothy 3:2
5. How did Jesus treat Judas? John 13:1-20, 27-30, Matthew 26:50
6. Can we betray Christ today? If so, how? Matthew 10:33, Hebrews 6:4-6, 10:26-31

## Lessons from Barzillai

Background: 2 Samuel 15-19

Absalom, King David's son, was at odds with his father. He plotted to take the reign of the kingdom from David. When David learned of his plot to take Jerusalem by force, David and his faithful fled. Eventually, Absalom was slain in battle and David returned to Jerusalem.

Read especially 2 Samuel 17:27-29 & 19:31-39

1. What did Barzillai do for David?
2. How could Barzillai's actions have affected his future?
3. Considering Barzillai's age and health, what do you think of his service?
4. As David returned to Jerusalem, what was Barzillai's concern and request?
5. In summary, how would you describe Barzillai?
6. What lessons can we learn from Barzillai?

## Lessons from Barnabas

1. What does Barnabas mean? Acts 4:36
  
2. What do we learn about Barnabas in Acts 4:32-37?
  
3. Why did the disciples not accept Paul? What did Barnabas do? Acts 9:26-27, (v. 13-14)
  
4. Why was Barnabas sent to Antioch? Acts 11:19-22
  - a. How did Barnabas respond when he saw the conversion of the gentiles? Acts 11:23-26
  
5. What important lesson(s) do we learn from Barnabas in Acts 15:1-2?
  
6. Why did Paul and Barnabas separate from one another? Acts 15:36-41
  - a. Did this disagreement permanently alter Paul and Barnabas' relationship? 1 Corinthians 9:6, Acts 18:1-3, 2 Timothy 4:1, Colossians 4:10

## Lessons from Aquila and Priscilla

1. What important background information do we learn from Acts 18:2? Acts 2:9
  
2. Why had they left Italy? Acts 18:2, Claudius Caesar (41-54 A.D.)
  - a. Suetonius (Roman historian) records in "Life of Claudius" Chapter 25 "he expelled the Jews from Rome, who were constantly exciting tumults under their leader, Chrestus."
  
3. In what ways do people typically respond when faced with hardship? Job 2:9, Ruth 1:20-21
  - a. How should Christians react to challenges and persecution? Job 1:20, 2:10, Ecclesiastes 7:14, Romans 5:3-5, Hebrews 12:3-11, Romans 8:28
  
4. What advantage did Aquila and Priscilla have when facing these hardships? Genesis 2:18-24, Proverbs 18:22, 31:10-31, Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, 1 Thessalonians 5:11
  
5. How did they treat Apollos when he taught error? Acts 18:24-28, Ephesians 4:15, Colossians 4:5-6, 2 Corinthians 10:3-6
  
6. How are Aquila and Priscilla examples of the new commandment (John 13:34-35)? Romans 16:3-4, Acts 18:2, 9-11, 19:21-4