

WHAT DOES TRUE FELLOWSHIP WITH THE LORD LOOK LIKE?
Learning from the Lord's visit to Abraham (Ch.18) in contrast to Lot (Ch.19)
Genesis 18:1-15

I. **THE CONTEXT OF TRUE FELLOWSHIP:** Chapters 18-19 help us see by contrast that fellowship with the Lord does not occur in the context of sin, but in the context of faith (Gen.18-19, 1Jn.1)

II. **CHARACTERISTICS OF TRUE FELLOWSHIP AND FRIENDSHIP WITH THE LORD** illustrated in the Lord's visit to Abraham (Gen. 18)

A. ***THERE IS HUMBLE AND REVERENT SERVING OF THE LORD:*** The Lord appears to Abraham and he humbly serves the Lord in response **(1-8)**

B. ***THERE IS A STRENGTHENING OF ONE'S FAITH THROUGH HIS ENCOURAGING AND CONVICTING WORD:*** The Lord reaffirms His promise to Abraham (with Sarah listening) that she will conceive and then reproves Sarah's unbelief with His marvelous Word **(9-15)**

1. **The Divine promise:** The Lord reaffirms His promise to Abraham (with Sarah listening) that she will conceive a son and reveals it will be within the year (9-10)

2. **The human reality:** Abraham and Sarah were old and she past childbearing (11)

3. **Sarah's internal response:** She laughed to herself, revealing a lack of faith (12)

4. **The Lord's gracious and marvelous rebuke: IS ANYTHING TOO MARVELOUS FOR THE LORD?** (13-14)

5. **The Lord's stern rebuke** to Sarah's lie from fear (15)

(Next week, Lord willing)

C. ***THERE IS OPEN COMMUNICATION AND A DRAWING NEAR TO HIM IN HUMBLE AND REVERENT PETITION:*** The Lord confides in and reveals to Abraham that He is about to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah. Abraham thus draws near and humbly petitions the Lord in response **(16-33)**