

GREAT STORIES FROM

THE
Old Testament

Don't Look Back...



Don't Look Back...

*Be in the world,
but not of the world.*

John 17:14-18

¹⁴ I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. ¹⁵ My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, even as I am not of it.

John 17:14-18

¹⁷ Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world.

Luke 9:62

Jesus replied, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

Don't Look Back...

1. Looking back can stop you in your tracks.

Genesis 19:23-26

²³ By the time Lot reached Zoar, the sun had risen over the land. ²⁴ Then the LORD rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the LORD out of the heavens. ²⁵ Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, destroying all those living in the cities—and also the vegetation in the land. ²⁶ But Lot's wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

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- a. **Guilt** – *paralyzes*
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- d. **Focusing on past success** – *brings complacency*

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- a. **Guilt** – *paralyzes*
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- c. **Focusing on past failures** – *brings discouragement*
- d. **Focusing on past success** – *brings complacency*
- e. **Temptation** – *builds on past sin*

Philippians 3:13

Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,

Don't Look Back...

2. Love of the world.

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2. Love of the world.

- a. Friendship with the world makes us enemies of God.

James 4:4

...don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.

Don't Look Back...

- 2. Love of the world.
 - a. Friendship with the world makes us enemies of God.
 - b. Anything that leads us away from God or distracts us from our calling.

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- 2. Love of the world.
 - a. Friendship with the world makes us enemies of God.
 - b. Anything that leads us away from God or distracts us from our calling.
 - c. It will cause you to miss God's deliverance.

Genesis 19:15-16

¹⁵ With the coming of dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Hurry! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away when the city is punished." ¹⁶ When he hesitated, the men grasped his hand and the hands of his wife and of his two daughters and led them safely out of the city, for the LORD was merciful to them.

Don't Look Back...

3. Lessons learned from Lot

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**3. Lessons learned from Lot.
a. Don't be selfish.**

Genesis 13:11-12

¹¹ So Lot chose for himself the whole plain of the Jordan and set out toward the east. The two men parted company: ¹² Abram lived in the land of Canaan, while Lot lived among the cities of the plain and pitched his tents near Sodom.

Don't Look Back...

- 3. Lessons learned from Lot.
 - a. Don't be selfish.
 - b. Don't play with fire.

Don't Look Back...

- 3. Lessons learned from Lot.
 - a. Don't be selfish.
 - b. Don't play with fire.
 - c. Don't let culture influence you...instead be an influence on culture.

Christ's goal is not to put sinners out of business, but to put sin out of sinners...


