

Genesis - Lesson 19

Genesis Chapter 19

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Memory verses for this week: *Nah 1:3 The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet.*

Introduction: We continue our study on the book of Genesis this week as we see Lot and his family delivered from the destruction in Sodom and Gomorrah.

I. The Debauchery of Sodom

Gen 19:1 *And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;*

Gen 19:2 *And he said, Behold now, my lords, turn in, I pray you, into your servant's house, and tarry all night, and wash your feet, and ye shall rise up early, and go on your ways. And they said, Nay; but we will abide in the street all night.*

Gen 19:3 *And he pressed upon them greatly; and they turned in unto him, and entered into his house; and he made them a feast, and did bake unleavened bread, and they did eat.*

The angels visit Lot as they come to warn him of the upcoming destruction. Verse 1 says Lot sat in the gate of the city. This was a place of authority. We might speculate that Lot had an important job, and might have even been the mayor of the city. It appears that the angels were reluctant to enter Lot's house. Their visit with Abraham and Lot was a great contrast.

When they arrived in our study last week in chapter 18, Abraham sat at the tent door where he lived there in the plain. Lot sat at the gate of the wicked city where he was no longer a pilgrim. The Lord went to Abraham, but not to Lot. They gladly accepted Abraham's hospitality, but were reluctant to come into Lot's home.

Abraham made a feast, but Lot gave them only unleavened bread.

Gen 19:4 *But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter:*

Gen 19:5 *And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.*

Gen 19:6 *And Lot went out at the door unto them, and shut the door after him,*

Gen 19:7 *And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly.*

We see the horrible condition of the city as the men of Sodom compass the city to seek

out these new men. This city was filled with lusting Sodomites.

The men of the city gather and demand homosexual activities. Although this is an unpopular topic in many churches today, this is universally condemned in the Scriptures. God has not changed his opinion of sin, and man can call it some new name and pretend it is acceptable, but it is still the same reprehensible sin that cause the destruction of the city of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Rom 1:26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:

Rom 1:27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

Rom 1:28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

Rom 1:29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,

Rom 1:30 Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,

Rom 1:31 Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

Rom 1:32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

1Co 6:9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

1Co 6:10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

1Ti 1:8 But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully;

1Ti 1:9 Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers,

1Ti 1:10 For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine;

1Ti 1:11 According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.

Gen 19:8 Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes: only unto these men do nothing; for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof.

Gen 19:9 And they said, Stand back. And they said again, This one fellow came in to

sojourn, and he will needs be a judge: now will we deal worse with thee, than with them. And they pressed sore upon the man, even Lot, and came near to break the door.

Gen 19:10 But the men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door.

Gen 19:11 And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great: so that they wearied themselves to find the door.

We see the real heart of Lot as he makes a shameful suggestion in verse 8. Here is a man that is willing to give up his own daughters to be used in some horrible sexual party in order to protect his visitors. We should show hospitality to all who visit with us, but a man is commanded to take care of his family far more than to take care of strangers. This is another example of some of the customs of the day that did not show proper respect to women as they did to men. In verse 9, the lusting men accuse Lot of being judgmental. They threaten Lot and are ready to break down the door. The angels rescue Lot and blind the Sodomites it says in verse 11.

II. The Deliverance from Sodom

Gen 19:12 And the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, bring them out of this place:

Gen 19:13 For we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of the LORD; and the LORD hath sent us to destroy it.

Gen 19:14 And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law.

The angels question Lot about who of his relatives are in this place. Destruction is on the horizon, and Lot is warned to get his relatives out. Parents today should be concerned about their children.

Deu 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:

Deu 6:5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Deu 6:6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

Deu 6:7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Deu 4:9 Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons;

Ezr 8:21 Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river of Ahava, that we might afflict ourselves before our God, to seek of him a right way for us, and for our little ones, and for all our substance.

Neh 12:43 Also that day they offered great sacrifices, and rejoiced: for God had made them rejoice with great joy: the wives also and the children rejoiced: so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard even afar off.

Effective Christian living has a positive effect on those around us. And living in a place full of sin that you tolerate also has an effect. Lot seemed as one that mocked it says in verse 14. Want to have a testimony that others will believe? Then live for God and act like a Christian. Lot had pitched his tent toward Sodom and now his testimony was gone. The bible is very clear that will always reap what we sow. Sow good seeds, and good plants come up. Put out bad seed, and it will follow you.

Today, there are many scoffers who question whether the Lord will return as He has promised.

2Pe 3:2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:

2Pe 3:3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

2Pe 3:4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

2Pe 3:5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

2Pe 3:6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

2Pe 3:7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

Gen 19:15 And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city.

Gen 19:16 And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city.

Gen 19:17 And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed.

The angels urged Lot to leave, and led him out of Sodom. Unfortunately, not all of his family went with him. Only he, his wife, and 2 daughters escaped. Because Lot lacked a good Christian testimony, he wound up with a divided family.

2Pe 2:4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

2Pe 2:5 And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

2Pe 2:6 And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrhah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;

2Pe 2:7 And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:

2Pe 2:8 (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;)

2Pe 2:9 The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:

Lot does not hurry to leave, but rather lingers. His home, family, possessions and investments were there. What is most important to us comes to the surface in times of trial.

Luk 9:57 And it came to pass, that, as they went in the way, a certain man said unto him, Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.

Luk 9:58 And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.

Luk 9:59 And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.

Luk 9:60 Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God.

Luk 9:61 And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house.

Luk 9:62 And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

Even though Lot hesitates, the Lord shows mercy, which is the cause of his deliverance. The family escapes from the destruction. Sodom was a type of the world, but the mountains stand for closeness to God.

Gen 19:18 And Lot said unto them, Oh, not so, my Lord:

Gen 19:19 Behold now, thy servant hath found grace in thy sight, and thou hast magnified thy mercy, which thou hast shewed unto me in saving my life; and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me, and I die:

Gen 19:20 Behold now, this city is near to flee unto, and it is a little one: Oh, let me escape thither, (is it not a little one?) and my soul shall live.

Gen 19:21 And he said unto him, See, I have accepted thee concerning this thing also, that I will not overthrow this city, for the which thou hast spoken.

Gen 19:22 Haste thee, escape thither; for I cannot do any thing till thou be come thither. Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

Gen 19:23 The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar.

Finally they obey, and Lot and his family are outside of Sodom. Even then, Lot is trying to talk God out of making him leave and flee to the mountain. God certainly could have protected them in the mountain. This is a foolish and compromising request in verse 19. But even in a time of weak personal faith, God hears his request and lets him go the small city of Zoar. Zoar was spared it says in verse 21.

III. The Destruction of Sodom

Gen 19:24 Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven;

Gen 19:25 And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

Gen 19:26 But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

We have many records of cities being destroyed in the bible, but the method Sodom and Gomorrah was destroyed is unique. God rained down brimstone and fire from heaven. This was not an earthquake or like an oil well exploding. It was a thorough destruction of all the inhabitants and the city. The destruction was total. I think we see the love for their old home when Lot's wife turned and looked back. She didn't do what they commanded to do, and it cost her life. The bible has these examples for us to know we can and should trust God. We are told to "Remember Lot's wife". One of the shortest verses in the bible is Luke 17:32.

Luk 17:32 Remember Lot's wife.

Gen 19:27 And Abraham gat up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the LORD:

Gen 19:28 And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace.

Gen 19:29 And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt.

In verse 27, we have the record where Abraham got up early in the morning and looked towards Sodom and Gomorrah. Abraham witnesses Sodom's Destruction.

Here Abraham looked the direction that Lot had looked earlier when he made one of his first mistakes.

Gen 13:10 And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar.

Gen 13:11 Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.

Gen 13:12 Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom.

Gen 13:13 But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the LORD exceedingly.

There were several instances when people or angels looked to Sodom.

- a. Lot looked toward Sodom. Gen. 13:10
- b. The angels looked toward Sodom. Gen. 18:16
- c. The Lord looked on Sodom. Gen. 18:20,21
- d. Lot's wife looked back toward Sodom. v. 26
- e. Abraham looked toward Sodom. v. 28

In last week's lesson, we saw Abraham attempting to try and reason with God to not destroy the people if there were just a few righteous. But there were not as few as 10 righteous in the city. But through it all, God remembered Abraham. God never forgets His own, just as he didn't forget Lot, even though he was living in a place where it vexed his righteous soul every day.

IV. The Debasement of Lot

Gen 19:30 And Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the mountain, and his two daughters with him; for he feared to dwell in Zoar: and he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters.

Gen 19:31 And the firstborn said unto the younger, Our father is old, and there is not a man in the earth to come in unto us after the manner of all the earth:

Gen 19:32 Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.

Gen 19:33 And they made their father drink wine that night: and the firstborn went in, and lay with her father; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose.

Gen 19:34 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the firstborn said unto the younger, Behold, I lay yesternight with my father: let us make him drink wine this night also; and go thou in, and lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.

Gen 19:35 And they made their father drink wine that night also: and the younger arose, and lay with him; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose.

Gen 19:36 Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father.

Beginning in verse 30, we see a sowing to the flesh.

Gal 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Gal 6:8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

Lot did get out of Sodom along with his daughters, but they did not escape the immoral influence of Sodom. After they left their home in Sodom, they began dwelling in a cave. They looked on their condition from a physical fleshly way. These daughters lacked faith. Things would probably have been different had they been raised in a good environment. But together, they come up with a sinful plan.

Verse 35 says they made their father drink a lot of wine. We have many verses

denouncing the use of alcohol, and Lot partakes in the sin of drunkenness. One error leads to another, and he winds up committing incest with both daughters. Never think a small sin can be correct and not hurt anyone. It always has an effect on us and many times on others also. If Lot had never been tempted to drink, he most certainly would not have committed this worse evil.

Gen 19:36 Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father.

Gen 19:37 And the firstborn bare a son, and called his name Moab: the same is the father of the Moabites unto this day.

Gen 19:38 And the younger, she also bare a son, and called his name Benammi: the same is the father of the children of Ammon unto this day.

Because of their sin, their flesh reaped corruption. Two sets of people came from these daughters. The Moabites and Ammonites, the result of Lot's sin.

Can you name one Godly Moabite, who was in the family lineage of Jesus Christ?

(Ruth)

"No Christian can find his pleasure and profit in the world and at the same time bear effectual testimony against the world. No heart can mature two crops choose between the Word and the world."--Keith L. Brooks

"To profess to be His, while at the same time seeking great worldly influence, will mean the loss of all influence and spiritual power, even over the members of one's family."--Ibid

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Give a comparison of the angels' visit to Abraham with their visit to Lot in Sodom?

They found Abraham in the door of his tent, whereas Lot was in the gate of the ungodly city in a place of authority. The angels came in quickly to Abraham's home, but seemed to not want to go into Lot's home. When fed, Abraham gave them a great feast. Lot fed them just some unleavened bread.

2. What did the men of Sodom ask Lot to give them?

The two men who had come in that they might 'know them' or in other words have homosexual sex with them.

3. What was Lot's shameful suggestion?

He tries to trade his two daughters for their pleasure rather than his guests.

4. How many of Lot's family was delivered from Sodom?

Just 4 including Lot, and his wife perished when she looked back.

5. How did Lot's warning to his married children seem to them?

He seemed as one that mocked.

6. To what city did Lot desire to escape?

Zoar.

7. What happened to Lot's wife?

Turned into a pillar of salt.

8. What was the sinful plan of Lot's two daughters?

To get their father drunk and have sex to perpetuate their lineage.

9. Who are the descendants of this sinful act?

Moabites and Ammonites.

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Prov 4:18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

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Practice Random Acts of Kindness. Each act spreads, and many will be blessed.