

## **SALT Church**

**Genesis 19:30-38**

***“What a Mess”***

March 17, 2026

***“In the Beginning”***

### **Recap Genesis 19**

- The angels of the Lord had come to Sodom to do two things:
  - Rescue Lot and his family
  - Destroy Sodom and Gomorrah (and the surrounding villages)
- The outcry from the victims of these cities had become so great that God had decided to destroy them completely.
- We also learned that Lot was the only righteous person living within the two cities.
  - We should take note that God rescued righteous Lot prior to bring judgement upon those cities.
    - This is important to note as it gives us some insight as to how God does what He does.
    - We should also note that the “outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah” had been great.
      - Meaning that there were a lot of victims prior to this moment.
        - This is a testimony to The Lords patience with sinful man.

As we enter into this last portion of Genesis 19 we should remember a few very important things:

- There is no written Word of God yet.
  - There is oral tradition that would have been passed down.
  - We are approximately 400 years from the flood.
    - Meaning that we are 3 to 4 generations from the destruction of the world due to man's sin.
  - Meaning that all these people would have been told something about God and His judgement of sin.
    - How quickly we return to our wicked ways when we turn from the one true God.
      - The Bible is full of this kind of math, it is always the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generations that rebel.
      - Such is the prediction in the millennial kingdom for they are the ones who rebel against Jesus.
        - In Exodus 20 it is the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generations that hate God.
          - This grieves my soul as I now live with the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation of my family.
          - To think that they would rebel and would produce rebellious children would grieve my soul.

### **Back to Genesis 19**

- Lot and his two daughters have survived the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.
- They fled to the village of Zoar, but they did not stay.

- There is no concrete explanation for their departure from Zoar.
  - If you recall Lot asked for permission to go to Zoar (which was supposed to be destroyed) because he thought, he would be destroyed in the mountains.
  - Now we find him and his two daughters living in a cave in the very mountains he was afraid.
  - As for his departure, some say that the people of Zoar blamed Lot for the destruction as he and his daughters were allowed to survive.
    - This is a plausible theory as people were very superstitious.
      - No matter the reason, Lot now finds himself where he did not want to be.

My question is this:

- Why not return to Abraham and his family?
- After all it was Abraham's prayers that played a huge part in God's mercy upon Lot and his family.
- We must also remember that Abraham had already rescued Lot and his family from foreign invaders.
  - Surely Lot knows that Abraham loves him.
- If Lot had returned to Abraham several things would have occurred:
  - His daughters would have found men to marry.
  - He and his daughters would have been surrounded by a godly community.
  - They would have (presumably) been drawn to the one true God that had rescued them from destruction.

- But we know this would not be the case.
  - Things are going to get worse.
    - Like Esau before him, Lot will create generations of people who will be enemies of Gods people.

As we move forward in the study of Lot's life let's recall how he got to where he is.

- He left Ur with his faithful uncle Abraham.
  - He traveled by foot the 800 miles to the place where he now lives.
  - Rescued by his uncle once already he found himself in need of rescue again as God sent 2 angels to make sure he and his family were removed before judgement came.
    - The interesting thing about this is that after the miracle of blindness that was cast upon those trying to destroy him, Lot resists their command to leave, so much so that Lot and his family were taken forcefully by the hands and led out of the city after hours of patience.
  - Now Lot finds himself in a cave.
    - Caves were often used for tombs.
    - They are dark and musty.
      - They are the kind of place that people filled with shame or depression would want to go.
        - Away from people, especially righteous people.
          - This is what happens when you are not walking with God.

If you and I learn nothing else, may we learn this from Lot:

- Righteous people can rebel
- They can be disobedient
- They can walk without God causing unneeded damage to their selves and their families.
  - But we must also remember that God never took His eyes off of Lot and in the end, he was rescued and called righteous because of his faith in the God of Abraham.

### **Genesis 19:30**

***30 Afterward Lot left Zoar because he was afraid of the people there, and he went to live in a cave in the mountains with his two daughters.***

- This is not where Lot nor his daughters wanted to be.
- We need to humanize this moment
  - These girls had never lived anywhere but the big city
  - They had been surrounded by distractions, sin, and people.
  - Now they live in a cave on the side of a mountain with their dad.

As we read the next verse keep in mind that some time had passed by.

- There would have been a lot of grieving by this little family.
- They had watched their mom and wife be burned alive.
- I wonder if they had returned to the site.
  - Would they have wept over her remains?
  - Could they recognize any part of the city?
  - Was there ever a temptation to return to Abraham?

- What did they do with all the emotions that they were experiencing?
  - The loss of extended family and friends
  - Wealth
  - Power
  - Fiancé's
    - My point is that it took a while before they come to this ridiculous solution.

Back to Genesis 19

***31 One day the older daughter said to her sister, “There are no men left anywhere in this entire area, so we can’t get married like everyone else.***

- **A lot of really bad decisions start with lies.**
  - There would have been men in Zoar.
  - We know that Abraham and his people which totaled into the hundreds maybe even a thousand were a day’s trip away.

**1 Thessalonians 5:21-22**

**21 Test all things; hold fast what is good. 22 Abstain from every form of evil.**

***And our father will soon be too old to have children. 32 Come, let’s get him drunk with wine, and then we will have sex with him. That way we will preserve our family line through our father.”***

- This way of thinking is evidence of the home and culture that they were brought up in.
- Again, we are only 3 to 4 generations from the flood.
- 3 to 4 generations from Noah and his family that saw the entire world judged for their sin, particularly their sexual sin.
  - You know those stories were passed down.

***33 So that night they got him drunk with wine, and the older daughter went in and had intercourse with her father. He was unaware of her lying down or getting up again.***

- This could be a time stamp
  - Meaning, like Noah they could have grown their own grapes and made their own wine, or they could have bought it from Zoar which insinuate that there would have been other men to chose from.
- Pay attention to the pronouns
  - They got him drunk (which does not excuse him from his sin)
    - The older daughter goes 1<sup>st</sup> as was planned.
      - Don't miss the irony in this moment.
        - Lot is now doing what he was willing to allow the men of Sodom to do the night of its destruction.
          - He is having his way with his daughters.

Back to Genesis 19

***34 The next morning the older daughter said to her younger sister, "I had sex with our father last night. Let's get him drunk***

***with wine again tonight, and you go in and have sex with him. That way we will preserve our family line through our father.”***

- Sinners always love for others to join them in their sin.
- Why?
  - They do not want righteous people to make them feel guilty.

***<sup>35</sup>So that night they got him drunk with wine again, and the younger daughter went in and had intercourse with him.***

- Again, we must see the team effort as “they got him drunk.”

***As before, he was unaware of her lying down or getting up again.***

- Lot is still responsible his actions
- The Bible has a lot to say about drunkenness and the sin that it leads to.
  - Which is odd because preachers always try to convince you that the wine that they drank in those days was not as strong as the wine we drink today.
    - I ask you this question.
      - If you have ever drank homemade wine and store-bought wine, which is stronger?

Another irony is that Sarah the righteous woman wanted children so badly but could not conceive until she in in her 90's.

- These to unrighteous women sleep with their dad one time and have no issue with conceiving.
  - Why would God allow such a thing?

- His ways are higher than ours and we must trust Him not fully understand all that He is doing.
  - Let me just say this is going to get worse!

Back to Genesis 19

***36 As a result, both of Lot's daughters became pregnant by their own father.***

- We are appalled by this behavior.
- They knew it was bad because they understood that they had to get Lot drunk to pull this off.
  - Lot's drunkenness does not excuse his behavior.
    - He was responsible for what he did.
      - He wasn't unconscious for if he had been this would have never happened.
- God had rescued them out of Sodom, but Sodom was still within these girls.
  - While the death of Sodom and Gomorrah is recorded in this chapter, we should also understand that the rebirth of Sodom and Gomorrah is also recorded in the births of these two boys.
    - Yes, righteous Lot was the father of the rebirth of Sodom and Gomorrah.
- What was the plan after they did this?
  - Did they lie to him about how they got pregnant?
    - I guessing he knew.
      - This is a mess
        - Messes are created when people chose to walk in disobedience.

- Messes that can be forgiven but have a lifetime of consequences.

The \$50 question:

- Who did they learn this kind of behavior from?
  - Lot!
    - If you say that perhaps their mother you may be correct but at the end of the day it is Lot who the Bible blames.

***37 When the older daughter gave birth to a son, she named him Moab.***

- Well, if Lot didn't know where the boy came from, he knows now, as Moab means "***seed of my father***"
  - That is so messed up!
    - There doesn't appear to be any shame in this group.

***He became the ancestor of the nation now known as the Moabites.***

- The same Moabites who become the enemies of Gods people.
  - One night of drunken stupidity created several generations of war and bloodshed.

***38 When the younger daughter gave birth to a son, she named him Ben-ammi.***

- "Son of my people" yup, no shame!

***He became the ancestor of the nation now known as the Ammonites.***

- Yes, another enemy of Gods people was born.
- More war, death, and bloodshed.

## **WHAT A MESS!**

- Things get so bad that God says these words to His people in Deuteronomy 23

### **Deuteronomy 23:3-6**

*<sup>3</sup>No Ammonite or Moabite or any of their descendants may enter the assembly of the Lord, not even in the tenth generation.<sup>4</sup> For they did not come to meet you with bread and water on your way when you came out of Egypt, and they hired Balaamson of Beor from Pethor in Aram Naharaim to pronounce a curse on you. <sup>5</sup> However, the Lord your God would not listen to Balaam but turned the curse into a blessing for you, because the Lord your God loves you. <sup>6</sup> Do not seek a treaty of friendship with them as long as you live.*

## **WOW!**

In Numbers 25, the men of Israel began to indulge in sexual immorality with Moabite women, ultimately leading the men to worship false gods.

- This provoked God to anger, and He struck the nation of Israel with a plague that killed over 24,000 people.
- The plague was ended when Phinehas, the grandson of Aaron put to death an Israelite man who was caught in a sexual act with a Midianite woman.
  - He did this by driving a spear through both of them while in the act.

## **WHAT A MESS!**

But God...

- In this mess comes a redemption story that only God could pull off.

Matthew 1

**1** This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham:

**2** Abraham was the father of Isaac,

Isaac the father of Jacob,

Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,

**3** Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar,

Perez the father of Hezron,

Hezron the father of Ram,

**4** Ram the father of Amminadab,

Amminadab the father of Nahshon,

Nahshon the father of Salmon,

**5** Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab,

Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth,

Obed the father of Jesse,

**6** and Jesse the father of King David.

## **WHAT A MESS!**

Now lets look at Ruth 1

*1 In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. So, a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. 2 The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.*

*3 Now Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. 4 They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, 5 both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.*

Ladies and gentlemen this is the same Ruth that is in the line of king David and King Jesus!

### **WHAT A MESS!**

- Why would God let this happen?

God had a plan to redeem all kinds of people.

### **Galatians 3**

***3 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." 14 He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.***

***<sup>15</sup> Brothers and sisters, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case. <sup>16</sup> The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. Scripture does not say “and to seeds,” meaning many people, but “and to your seed,” meaning one person, who is Christ.***

***<sup>29</sup> If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.***

**So, we close with that promise from God.**

- Even the Moabites with all of their sexual sin can be forgiven.
  - Not only forgiven but used by God to bring forth the Chosen One, the Messiah, Jesus Christ.
    - What a mighty God we serve!!!