

Cultivate Genesis Study
Chapter 19

Read and meditate on Genesis Chapter 19 this week
and prayerfully answer the following questions before Tuesday's class.

In Chapter 19, we find that our perfectly Holy and Just God must, again, act with a severe judgment on sinful men. In Genesis 9:11, God promised Noah that He would not universally judge with a worldwide flood, again. However, God cannot let sin continue without repercussions. The destruction of Sodom was devastating, but it was cast on a defiant city that had less than 10 righteous, God fearing, people.

Read Genesis 19:1-3

Genesis 19:1 *"Now the two angels came to Sodom in the evening as Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground."*

SITTING AT THE GATE...Skip Heitzig uses 2Timothy 3:5 as an example of Lot's life. It serves as a metaphor for a worldly, half-hearted believer who has a knowledge of God but denies His power. Read 2Timothy 3:5

1. Think about what gates you might be allowing yourself to sit in. We are **in** the world but should not be **of** the world, though we are to witness to the lost.

Write a prayer asking the Lord to give you discernment and guidance in this area of your walk with Him.

From Ellicott's Commentary For English Readers

"He (Lot) had therefore become a citizen of Sodom, probably after the deliverance from the Elamite invasion, when, as a relative of Abraham, he would be treated with great honour. This personal respect had made him close his eyes to the sinfulness of the people, and he had consented to live inside the town, and even to let its citizens marry his daughters. Meanwhile all intercourse between him and Abraham apparently had ceased, and he had lost all share in the covenant of circumcision."

Read Genesis 19:4-9

Sodomy, as it was commonly known, was a practice among the Canaanites, the cursed pagan descendants of Ham in Genesis 9:25. The act was prohibited through the Law as an affront to God's design for sex.

Read Leviticus 18:22 and Leviticus 20:23.

Genesis 19:6-7 *"But Lot went out to them at the doorway, and shut the door behind him, [Z](#)and said, "Please, my brothers, do not act wickedly." and 19:9, "But they said, "Stand aside." Furthermore, they said, "This one came in as an alien, and already he is acting like a judge; now we will treat you worse than them." So they pressed hard against Lot and came near to break the door."*

Note that Lot calls the men "brothers" or "fellow countrymen" and they refer to him "an alien, a stranger or a temporary resident".

It appears that he tried to make a difference, being accused of "acting like a judge".

Read 2Peter 2:6-9

Lot did not belong in sinful Sodom anymore that we should feel we belong here on earth.

Read Philippians 3:20

2. How well do your speech and actions line up with this truth? How can you represent your "home country" well?

Read the reminder to us in 1 Peter 2:11-12

The Holy Bible has some difficult passages and Genesis 19:8 is one of them. This verse is not implying Lot was correct in offering up his daughters but is truthfully showing what people in the Bible actually did (and the consequences of their sin following sooner or later.) The question should be, 'what would lead Lot to behave in such a manner'? How has he directed his life, his walk with God'?

3. Can you think of other biblical examples where the actions of a notable person is hard to understand? What might have led them to behave that way? Did God just turn a 'blind eye' to it or was there an eventual cost?

Read Genesis 19:12-15

The angels take measures to save Lot and his family. Much like with Noah in Genesis 7:1 and Rahab in Joshua 2:17,18; grace and blessing extends to the family members of those that are in right standing with the Lord. However, Lot's Sodomite son-in-laws did not believe his warnings.

Genesis 19:16 *"But he hesitated. So the men seized his hand and the hand of his wife and the hands of his two daughters, for the compassion of the LORD was upon him; and they brought him out, and put him outside the city."*

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:9 Praise our God who spares His children from the coming wrath.

From Gill's Exposition of The Entire Bible

"the Lord being merciful unto him; and so saved them from the ruin and destruction of the city, in which had they stayed a little longer they would have been involved. It was not owing to their merits, but to the mercy of God that they were spared"

Lot hesitated. (lingered, delayed, waited)

With God's foreknowledge, He sent **two** angels to Sodom; knowing that there would only be four people that needed to be, *literally*, pulled away to salvation. The angels held on to one person in each hand. Our God provides precisely what is needed.

In Genesis 19:19-21, Lot may have lost a special blessing and avoided a huge problem later by not obeying and fleeing to the mountain immediately as the Lord had directed. Throughout Scripture the Lord calls His people to the mountains.

4. Search the Scriptures and find out what special events happened on Mt. Moriah, Mt. Sinai, Mt. Pisgah, Mt. Carmel, Mt. Hermon, and Mt. Calvary?

Read Genesis 19:24-26

Lot's wife looked back (beheld, considered, gazed)

Did she believe that what she was leaving behind was more important to her than what God had planned for her?

5. What do these verses warn us about placing importance on the past things and not what the Lord has for the future?

Luke 17:28-33, Philippians 3:13, Isaiah 43:18,19, 2Corinthians 4:17,18

In Genesis 19:30, Lot finally heads to the mountains as he was originally commanded to do.

Ellicott's Commentary for English Readers

"He feared to dwell in Zoar. Though this little place had been granted him for an asylum, yet, terrified at the sight of the smoking valley, and remembering that he had been originally commanded to go to the mountains, he summons up his courage and proceeds thither. The limestone regions of Palestine are full of caverns; and the patriarch, whose wealth had been so great that he and Abraham could not dwell together, is now content to seek in one of these caverns a miserable home."

From Thomas Constable's Notes on the Bible

"Isn't it interesting that The Apostle Paul referred to Lot as "righteous," 2 Peter 2:7-9. The reminder of Lot shows that God will not only punish the wicked but He will also extricate the righteous from the judgment He will send on the ungodly that surround them. This example, as well as the example of Noah (v. 5), assured Peter's faithful readers that God would not lose them in the mass of sinners whom He would judge. Note that Peter said God is able to deliver the righteous. He did not say that He would do so in every case. This is still a ground for comfort in that if the will of God is such, the righteous will not suffer with the wicked. In the end God will separate these two groups eternally, and no righteous person will suffer eternal judgment (cf. Matt 13:30)."

"It's pretty clear in Lot's case that *righteous* does not mean perfect." Even though Lot was sickened and grieved by the sin around him, he had no influence to do anything about it. His character had so declined that it would prove hard to get him out of town, even with obvious judgment on the way." -Skip Heitzig

Read Genesis 19:30-38

Just as with Sarah in Genesis 16:2, Lot's daughters take matters into their own hands to bear children and preserve the family line. They didn't not consult their father as to their future. Were they unaware of having family in Abraham, that they could have traveled to? Did they believe that the entire world was destroyed, and they alone survived with their father?

Moab and Ben-Ammi, the sons born to Lot's daughters were the fathers of the Moabites and the Ammonites.

In Numbers 25:1-3, we learn how the Moabite women seduced and turned the Israelite men to worship their false god. The evil of that region is spread throughout the Old Testament.

However, during the time of the Judges, one young Moabitess, attached herself to a family arriving from Bethlehem. After becoming a widow, she rejected the pagan worship of that place. She turned to The God of Israel, before traveling to Bethlehem with her mother-in-law, Naomi.

Ruth was a Moabitess, geographically, but she became a follower of the One True God, married the righteous Boaz; and the Lord used her to pass down the Seed of the promised Messiah. She was the great grandmother of King David.

Ruth 4:21-22 and Matthew 5:1-6.

6. Share what the Lord showed you in Chapters 12-19 of Genesis. What new thing did you learn? What stood out the most to help you in your personal walk with the Lord?
