

“God Rescues Lot & Destroys Sodom”

Genesis 19:1-38

For the week of March 7, 2021

Our Story in One Paragraph

Lot had moved to Sodom to pursue the good life (Genesis 13:10). He had done well financially. He lived in a house in a prosperous city (Ezekiel 16:49). He may have had a seat on the city council, as seen in his sitting in the gate (comparable to city hall). It doesn't end well, though. He ends up escaping with the clothes on his back, losing his wife, and hiding in a cave with his two daughters who make him drunk and commit incest with him so that they can have children. This story reveals a man (Lot) who sought to gain his life but lost it. Although he was saved by the grace of God, it was through the discipline of the Lord.

Lot's Visitors

Read Genesis 19:1-3. Verse 1 describes the appearance of two angels. Were these the same two as mentioned in chapter 18? Why were they referred to as “men” in chapter 18, but here they are described as “angels”?

What does it say about Lot's position in the city by him being “sitting in the gate of Sodom”?

Did Lot recognize that they were angels? Why or why not?

Men of Sodom Demand and Lot's Response

Read Genesis 19:4-11. This passage highlights the men of Sodom desiring to engage in homosexual behavior with the two angels. The Bible clearly and consistently declares that homosexual activity is a sin. Read the following passages and describe what each passage says about this subject:

- Leviticus 18:22; 20:13
- Romans 1:26-27
- 1 Corinthians 6:9-10

Now read 1 Corinthians 6:11. What encouragement is given from the apostle Paul regarding sinful activities? Describe the meaning of these key words in verse 11:

Washed

Sanctified

Justified

Leave! Now! Quickly!

Read Genesis 19:12-22. Why did Lot's future sons-in-law not take him seriously in verse 14?

Why did Lot and his family "linger" and not leave Sodom promptly?

How is God's mercy shown by allowing Lot's request to escape to the small city of Zoar?

Fire and Brimstone

Read Genesis 19:23-29. Lot's wife was turned into a pillar of salt for looking back at Sodom. Read Jesus' take on this story in Luke 17:28-32. His focus was that people were unprepared and living life normally. Fast forward to today: Do you see any similarities of people not ready for judgment? Share your thoughts below and discuss in your community group.

Lot and His Daughters

Read Genesis 19:30-38. By the time Lot and his daughters have left Sodom, they have already deteriorated morally. There is a phrase that says, "You can take people out of Sodom, but taking Sodom out of the people is a different matter." Was the problem here that the daughters lived in Sodom? Or was it lax parenting? Or something else?

Lot's Life

Look at the progression of Lot's life since leaving Abraham in the following passages. What does he exhibit about his faith and character?

Genesis 13:12-13

Genesis 14:11-12, 16

Genesis 19:1-2

Genesis 19:8

Genesis 19:15-16

Genesis 19:18-20

Genesis 19:30

Genesis 19:33, 35

What we can learn from Lot's choices?

Living Like the World

Like Lot, many Christians live today in conformity to this corrupt world. Below are two signs of conformity to the world. Discuss each one. How does a follower of Christ combat this?

- 1. You are living for the same goals as the world.** How was this true for Lot? How can this be true today? Give examples. If you were asked this question: "How are my goals in life different than those of the guy next door who doesn't know Jesus Christ?" how would you answer? Now read Matthew 6:31-33 for direction from Jesus Christ.

- 2. Your morals are compromised and questionable.** How were Lot's morals compromised in our story? A Christian acts morally out of knowledge of the moral law given by God in His Word and having a love for God. Read Colossians 3:1-4 and dissect how this passage helps us stay focused on Christ and not on this world. How is something simple like a daily reading of God's Word and regularly praying beneficial to staying focused on God (read Psalm 25:15, 123:2)?