

Losing Yourself in Sodom

Genesis 13:10-13

Introduction:

“Good things become bad things when they keep you from the best things.”

- Adrian Rogers

Why Does the Devil Want You to Move Into Sodom?

- ♦ Sodom is a place of distraction. The Devil doesn't care if you are a Christian husband, mom, or employee, as long as he can keep you distracted, he will keep you from being effective.
- ♦ Sodom is a place of variety. The Devil offers so many kinds and ways to sin, he is sure you will participate in one of them.
- ♦ Sodom is a place of feverish pace. There are so many demands of your time and attention, he makes it easy for us to invest our life into wrong things.
- ♦ Sodom is a place of parasites. The Devil designs his world to suck you dry of your life's blood. Parasites that rob you of your initiative, bleed away your enthusiasm and plague you with habits that cripple you.

I. What Lot's soul was like when he first entered Sodom.

- A. When Lot first entered Sodom, in his spirit he was a just person.

2 Peter 2:7 And delivered just Lot,

“JUST: The practice of what is right and just. Justice (or "judgment," KJV) specifies what is right, not only as measured by a code of law, but also by what makes for right relationships as well as harmony and peace.”

- Nelson Bible Dictionary

- B. When Lot first entered Sodom, in his soul he was a righteous person.

2 Peter 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);

“RIGHTEOUS: Holy and upright living, in accordance with God's standard. The word righteousness comes from a root word that means "straightness." It refers to a state that conforms to an authoritative standard.”

- Nelson Bible Dictionary

II. What Lot's soul began to lose when he became engulfed by Sodom.

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

“Lot's selfish choice would prove disastrous, because over time it would draw him into Sodom's ways. All decisions have implications beyond the moment.”

- David Jeremiah

- A. Their filthy conversation depressed his righteous soul.

2 Peter 2:7 . . . vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked:

Poor Spiritual Habits That Develop in Sodom:

- ♦ **Self-Absorption:** preoccupation with one's own emotions, interests, or situation.
- ♦ **Selfishly motivated:** devoted to caring only for oneself, concerned primarily with one's own interests, benefits, welfare.
- ♦ **A blindness that develops from an inflated ego:** The inability to see one's weaknesses and an over emphasis on one's strengths.
- ♦ **An obsession with perfection:** always gravitating to people, things, food, clothes, that identifies one with perfection and beauty.
- ♦ **A selfish permission in conduct:** makes a person feel they can do what they want, when they want, even at the expense of the health and well-being of others.
- ♦ **An obsession with money:** it becomes the source that feeds their world of self-absorption and an obsession with having more.

B. Their wicked conduct discouraged his righteous soul.

2 Peter 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);

“When believers don’t train themselves in God’s ways, they are vulnerable to those who have trained their hearts in covetous practices. It takes very little effort to develop a habit of sin.”

- David Jeremiah

III. What Lot’s soul became among the lewd evils of Sodom.

A. Sodom’s influence caused him to forget his value system.

What Were the Signs of a Faulty Value System?

- ♦ One of the greatest values in a Christian home is the children’s purity. Here in the Scripture, Lot is using it as a bargaining tool. ***Genesis 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;***
- ♦ Small, misplaced values grew into large misplaced values. It began with the misplaced value of moving his family into the wicked environment of Sodom. It ended up with him doing to his family what Sodomites would do. ***Genesis 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.***
- ♦ He didn’t have spiritual leadership for his family. When he should have been escaping, he was hesitating and lingering in the face of danger. ***Genesis 19:16 And while he lingered,***

B. Sodom’s influence caused him to become fruitless in soul winning.

“As Abraham was bargaining for the sake of souls, Lot’s failure to win souls became obvious.”

Genesis 18:32 And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake.