

# ***Living In the Mercy of a New Day***

Genesis 19:16

## **Introduction:**

*“There is a difference between grace and mercy. Mercy is the decision of God not to punish us.  
But grace is the decision of God to save us and bless us.”*

**- Max Lucado**

### **I. God grants us mercy when we insist upon living in His permissive will.**

A. In God’s permissive will we often put Him in an imposition.

***Genesis 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. (V. 18) And Lot said unto them, Oh, not so, my Lord: (V. 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: (V. 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.***

#### **How was Lot putting the Lord in a bad imposition?**

- ♦ Even though Lot and his family would face new dangers, it was God’s Will that they escape the environment of Sodom.
- ♦ When Lot asked God to spare Zor for his sake, not only did it preserve a wickedness that should have been destroyed, but it also gave opportunity for Lot to continue in his disobedience.

B. In His permissive will, we often make His will impossible.

***Genesis 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. (V. 22) Haste thee, escape thither; for I cannot do anything till thou become thither. Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.***

### **III. God grants us mercy to realize the insanity of living in His permissive will.**

A. The encounter we endure when we live in His permissive will.

***Genesis 19:23 The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar. (V. 24) Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; (V. 25) And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.***

#### **What Did Lot See that Changed His Mind?**

- ♦ He saw how God truly felt about the lifestyle of Sodom and Gomorrah.
- ♦ He realized that when he lived in that lifestyle he was in league with those God would ultimately destroy.
- ♦ He realized that living in that environment would cause him to make wrong alliances, build wicked relationships, and keep him on the wrong side of God.

B. The experience we endure when we live in His permissive will.

*Genesis 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.*

**III. God grants us mercy when we face the challenges of living in His permissive will.**

A. We need mercy when we understand how essential it is to fear God above all else.

*Genesis 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.*

**A Critical Step in Our Lives as Christians is to Fear God Above All Else:**

- ♦ We must fear God more, for if we don't, the Devil will introduce new fears that will drown out our faith.
- ♦ Lot faced a life defining moment, for there had never been a time in his life that he feared God more than anything else until now.
- ♦ This newfound fear caused Lot to make a decision he should have made years before.

B. We need mercy when we understand the effect Sodom has had on our family.

*Genesis 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: (V. 32) Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.*