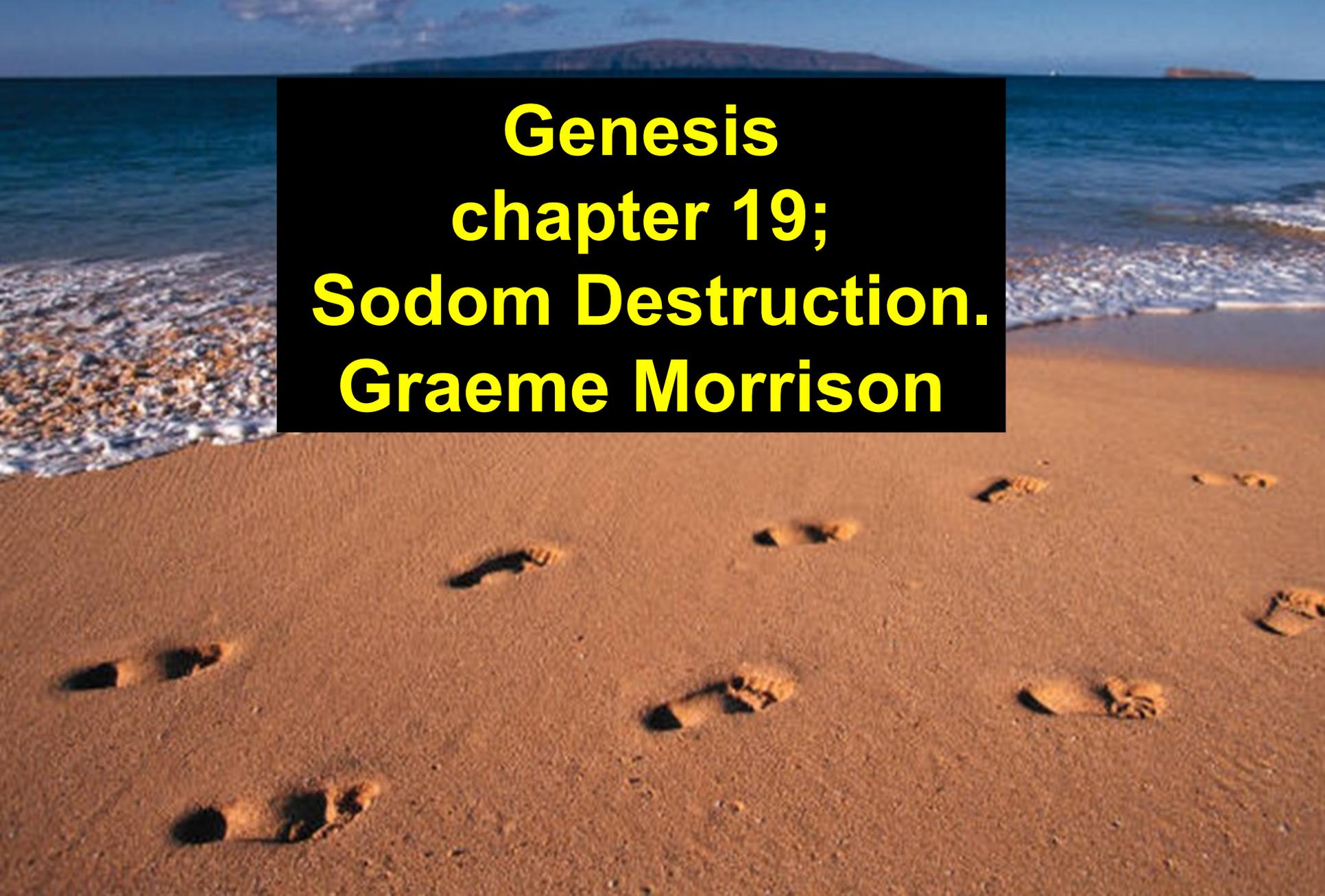


Patriarchal Age - After the flood.

**Genesis
chapter 19;
Sodom Destruction.
Graeme Morrison**



Judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah.

The angels visit the city and **enter Lot's home.**
(19:1-11;)

The angels urge Lot and his family to leave.
(19:12-16;)

The plan of escape. (19:17-22;)

The destruction of the cities. (19:23-29;)

Lot and his daughters. (19:30-38;)

Judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah.

The two angels came to Sodom. (19:1;)

**Lot insisted strongly that
they stay with him for the night.**

**The men of the city, both old and young,
from every quarter, came to Lot's house.**

Judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah.

A. Arrival of the Lord's messengers at Sodom.

B. Lot greets the visitors.

C. Lot's hospitality to the visitors.

D. Announcement of the destruction of Sodom.

E. Lot's sons-in-laws laugh.

**F. Lot intercedes with the messengers
to allow him to go to Zoar.**

The Search for Ten Righteous Men of Sodom.

19:1-11;

Gen 19:1; “When the two angels reached Sodom in the evening, Lot was sitting at the gate of Sodom. As soon as Lot saw them, he stood up to greet them, and bowed to the ground.”

Note: Walled cities **closed and locked** the **city gate** at **sundown**.

Question:- What is the **symbolic contrast** between **the time of day** the three "men" visited Abraham and **the time of day** the two messengers visited Lot at Sodom?

Answer:- The three "men" visited Abraham at the height of the day's light, but they visited Lot in Sodom in the afternoon (their "evening" is our afternoon since the day ended at sundown), when the light was waning, **symbolizing the difference in the lives of the two men and their relationship to God.**

Abraham lives in the "light" and **Lot** in the approaching **"darkness"** of Sodom.

Gen 19:1; “When the two angels reached Sodom in the evening, Lot was sitting at the gate of Sodom. As soon as Lot saw them, he stood up to greet them, and bowed to the ground.”

The gate of an important ancient city was an impressive edifice.

It was much more than a simple entrance way into a walled city.

It was also a public space where the elders and officials of the city sat on stone benches along the entry way or in side chambers discussing legal matters and making decisions on local affairs.

Lot's position at the city gate and the way he addressed the men of Sodom as "brothers" in Genesis 19:7;

Suggests that he had become a respected citizen of Sodom, perhaps an indication that Abraham's liberation of the people of Sodom from the Mesopotamians fifteen years earlier had given Lot respected status as a citizen.

Gen 19:1; “When the two angels reached Sodom in the evening, Lot was sitting at the gate of Sodom. As soon as Lot saw them, he stood up to greet them, and bowed to the ground.”

As soon as Lot saw God's witnesses, **he greeted them with respect**, but he only recognized them **as human visitors to his city and not as messengers of God.**

19:2; “My lords,' he said, 'please come down to your servant's house to stay the night and wash your feet. Then you can make an early start on your journey.’”

19:3; “No,' they said, 'we shall spend the night in the square.' But he pressed them so much that they went home with him and entered his house. He prepared a meal for them, **baking unleavened bread, and they had supper.’”**

Gen 19:1; “No,” they said, “we shall spend the night in the square. But he pressed them so much that they went home with him and entered his house. He prepared a meal for them, baking unleavened bread, and they had supper.”

Question:- Why did God's messengers initially refuse Lot's invitation?

Answer:- They have come to observe the people of the city. Staying in the city square would allow them a good vantage point from which to judge the behaviour of the Sodomites.

Like Abraham, **Lot extended his hospitality** to his visitors, making them an evening meal of unleavened bread, the customary bread that would be made in haste when entertaining unexpected guests.

Lot's His offering cannot compare, however, **with** the feast of the **fatted calf that Abraham offered** his guests, but the last meal of the day was typically a small meal.

Judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Lot pleaded for his guests. (19:7;)

Lot offered his 2 daughters.

The mob began to break the door down.

The angels struck the mob with blindness.

19:4; “They had not gone to bed when the house was surrounded by the towns people, the men of Sodom both young and old, all the people without exception.

5 “Calling out to Lot they said, 'Where are the men who came to you tonight? Send them out to us so that we can have intercourse with them.’”

6 “Lot came out to them at the door and, having shut the door behind him,

7 said, 'Please, brothers, do not be wicked.’”

8 “Look, I have two daughters who are virgins. I am ready to send them out to you, for your to treat as you please, but do nothing to these men since they are now under the protection of my roof.’”

Gen 19:5; “Calling out to Lot they said, 'Where are the men who came to you tonight? Send them out to us so that we can have intercourse with them.’”

The people of Sodom came **demanding** that Lot give them **the visitors** for their sexual pleasure. The Hebrew text reads:-
“that we might know them.”

Scripture records that all the people, **both men and women**, were in the crowd: the house was surrounded by the town's people, **the men of Sodom both young and old**, **all the people without exception.**

Lot tried to placate their wicked demands, calling them **"brothers"** he offered his own betrothed virgin daughters. (Gen 19:14;)

Gen 19:8; “Look, I have two daughters who are virgins. I am ready to send them out to you, for your to treat as you please, but do nothing to these men since they are now under the protection of my roof.”

An immoral choice that showed he foolishly valued hospitality as a greater virtue than the protection of his own children.

A betrothed virgin was the sacred bearer of God's image; therefore, the violation of a betrothed virgin under the Laws of the Sinai Covenant was death by stoning. (Deut 22:23-27;)

Question:- Can you define the sins of the Sodomites under two major categories of sin?

Answer:- Violation of the rights of others and the sin of sexual immorality.

Gen 19:8; “Look, I have two daughters who are virgins. I am ready to send them out to you, for your to treat as you please, but do nothing to these men since they are now under the protection of my roof.”

God created man in His image and likeness, and He gave man and woman the blessing of transmitting His image to the next generation. Any abuse of God's blessings is a grave sin.

Homosexuality was a capital offence under the Laws of the Sinai Covenant. (Lev 18:22; 20:13;)
'the sin of the citizens of Sodom, however, was the worst form of sexual perversion. the desire for homosexual gang rape.

Sexual intimacy between a husband and his wife was a gift from God in which the two became one flesh and entered into the mystery of creation. (Gen 2:24;)

Gen 19:8; “Look, I have two daughters who are virgins. I am ready to send them out to you, for your to treat as you please, but do nothing to these men since they are now under the protection of my roof.”

Scripture presents **homosexual acts**
as acts of **grave depravity**,
tradition has always declared that
"homosexual acts are intrinsically disordered."

They are **contrary to the natural law**.
They close the sexual act to the gift of life.
They do not proceed from a genuine affective
and sexual complementarities.

Under no circumstances can they be approved.

Some verses in Scripture that condemn
homosexual acts and other sexual perversions.

Lev 18:22-24; Deut 22:5; Rom 1:24-32; 1 Cor 6:10; 1 Tim 1:10;

Gen 19:8; “Look, I have two daughters who are virgins. I am ready to send them out to you, for your to treat as you please, but do nothing to these men since they are now under the protection of my roof.”

Question:- What was the reason God gave Israel for driving the Canaanites out from the Promised Land, and what warning did He give to Israel concerning sexual perversion? See Lev 18:2-4, 24-30;.

What is the connection to the judgment on Sodom and the other cities of the plain?

Answer:- God told Moses to address the descendants of Abraham who were the bearers of the "**promised seed**,"
“Speak to the Israelites and say:-

“I am Yahweh your God: **You must not behave as they do in Egypt** where you used to live; **you must not behave as they do in Canaan** where I am taking you, **nor must you follow their laws.**”

Gen 19:8; “Look, I have two daughters who are virgins. I am ready to send them out to you, for your to treat as you please, but do nothing to these men since they are now under the protection of my roof.”

“You must observe my customs and keep my laws following them. I Yahweh, am your God: hence you will keep my laws and my customs. Whoever complies with them will find life in them. I am Yahweh. (Lev 18:2-5;)

SPECIAL TOPIC: HOMOSEXUALITY.

There is much **modern cultural pressure** to accept **homosexuality** as an **appropriate alternate lifestyle**.

The Bible condemns it as a **destructive lifestyle**, **outside of the will of God** for His creation.

1. It violates the command of Genesis 1 to be fruitful and multiply.

2. It characterizes much of pagan worship and culture. (Lev 18:22; 20:13; Rom 1:26-27; and Jude 7;)

3. It reveals a self-centered independence from God.
(I Cor 6:9-10;)

SPECIAL TOPIC: HOMOSEXUALITY.

However, let me assert **God's love and forgiveness towards all rebellious human beings.**

Christians have no right to act hatefully and arrogantly towards this particular sin, especially when it is obvious that all of us sin.

Prayer, concern, testimony, and compassion do far more in this area than vehement condemnation.

God's Word and His Spirit will do the condemning if we let them.

All sexual sins, not just this one, are an abomination to God and lead to judgment. Sexuality is a gift from God for mankind's well-being, joy, and a stable society.

But this powerful, God-given urge is often turned into rebellious, self-centered, pleasure-seeking, "more-for-me-at-any-cost" living. (Rom 8:1-8; Gal 6:7-8;)

SPECIAL TOPIC: HOMOSEXUALITY.

The **nations mentioned** in this passage were the descendants of Ham and his son Canaan.
(Gen 10:6-7, 15-19;)

This announcement was followed by **a list of sexual prohibitions including homosexual acts:-**
You will not have intercourse with a man as you would a woman. This is a hateful thing. (Lev 18:22;)

The list of sexual prohibitions was followed by this warning:
Do not make yourselves unclean by any of these practices, for it was by such things that the nations that I am driving out before you made themselves unclean.

The country has become unclean;
hence I am about to punish it for its guilt,
and the country itself will vomit out its inhabitants.

SPECIAL TOPIC: HOMOSEXUALITY.

You, however, must keep my laws and customs and not do any of these hateful things; none of your citizens, none of your resident aliens.

“For all these hateful things were done by the people who lived in the country before you, and the country became unclean.”

“If you make it unclean, will it not vomit you out as it vomited out the nations there before you?”

“Yes, anyone who does any of these hateful things, whatever it may be, any person doing so, will be outlawed from his people.” (Lev 18:24-29;)

SPECIAL TOPIC: HOMOSEXUALITY.

Homosexual advocates have an interest in saying **homosexuals are exactly like everyone else,** except they love people of their own sex.

But when the conduct of homosexuals is observed,
In many instances this is not the case.

Some statistics on the number of partners homosexuals have: **43% of homosexuals** say they have had 500 or more sexual partners in their lifetime.

Only 1% of homosexuals say they have had four or less sexual partners in their lifetime.

77% of homosexuals say they have met sexual partners in a city park, 62% in a homosexual bar, 61% in a theatre, 31% in a public toilet.

Only 28% of homosexuals said they had known their partners for at least a week before participating in homosexual sex.

SPECIAL TOPIC: HOMOSEXUALITY.

Homosexuals also have an interest in defining themselves as “**gay,**” a word that used to mean “happy” or “carefree.”

But it is a poor description of a lifestyle that has such a high rate of death, disease, and suicide.

The judgment on Sodom was a warning to the other peoples of Canaan and a precursor to the conquest of Canaan by the descendants of Abraham's grandson Jacob/Israel.

Gen 19:8; “Look, I have two daughters who are virgins. I am ready to send them out to you, for your to treat as you please, but do nothing to these men since they are now under the protection of my roof.”

19:9; “But they retorted, **Stand back!**

This fellow came here as a foreigner, and now **he wants to play the judge.** Now we shall treat you worse than them.’ Then they forced Lot back and moved forward to break down the door.”

10; “But the **“men”** reached out, pulled Lot back into the house with them, and shut the door.”

11 “And **they dazzled** those who were at the door of the house, one and all, with **a blinding light,** so that they could not find the doorway.”

Gen 19:11; “And they dazzled those who were at the door of the house, one and all, with a blinding light, so that they could not find the doorway.”

Lot's attempt **to reason with the men of Sodom** only resulted in their rejection of his appeal to righteousness.

They had apparently forgotten that **they owed their freedom to Lot's uncle** who rescued them from Mesopotamian slavery fifteen years earlier.

The **angel witnesses** intervened, rescuing Lot by blinding the crowd with a "dazzling light." Now this mob had a **physical blindness as well as a moral blindness.**

Gen 19:11; “And they dazzled those who were at the door of the house, one and all, with a blinding light, so that they could not find the doorway.”

“And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great, with **"blindness's"** with extreme blindness, **with blindness both of eye and heart.**

The word for "blindness" is only used here and in 2 Kings 6:18; and denotes a peculiar sort of blindness; not an entire blindness with respect to every object, but only with regard to that they were intent upon;

Otherwise they would not have continued about Lot's house, or tired themselves with searching for the door of it, but would rather have been glad to have groped to their own houses as well as they could:

Gen 19:11; “And they dazzled those who were at the door of the house, one and all, with a blinding light, so that they could not find the doorway.”

The Syrians, when they were smitten at **the prayer of Elisha**, it was not total, for they could follow the prophet in the way he went and led them, but **they could not see their own way** to the place where they intended to go;

So these men of Sodom could see other objects, but not the door of Lot's house, their heads were so confused, and their imaginations so disturbed as in drunken men;

Perhaps, the air, so altered, or the form of the object to be seen so changed, that **they could not see it;** when they saw the door, it looked like the wall, and that which seemed to them to be the door, proved to be the wall:

Judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah.

The angels told Lot to get his family out of the city because it would be destroyed.

Lot ran to tell his sons-in-law. (19:14;)

They did not take Lot's warning seriously.

Gen 19:12; “The men said to Lot,
‘Have you anyone else here?
Your sons, your daughters and all
your people in the city, take them away.’”

13 “for we are about to destroy this place, since
the outcry to Yahweh against those in it has grown
so loud that Yahweh has sent us to destroy it.”

14 “So Lot went off and spoke to his future
sons-in-law who were to marry his daughters.
‘On your feet!’ he said, ‘Leave this place, for Yahweh
is about to destroy the city.’ But his sons-in-law
thought he was joking. [laughed at him].

Gen 19:14; “So Lot went off and spoke to his future sons-in-law who were to marry his daughters. 'On your feet!' he said, 'Leave this place, for Yahweh is about to destroy the city.' But his sons-in-law thought he was joking. [laughed at him].”

Lot must have finally realized his visitors were more than ordinary men. By this time the angel witnesses have seen enough and are **ready to deliver God's judgment on Sodom.**

God's messengers gave Lot enough time to warn his future sons-in-law, but they laughed (literal translation) at him, showing no respect for the man who was to be their father-in-law.

Uniting themselves to the action of the crowd of wicked men from the night before. (Gen 19:4;)

Gen 19:14; “So Lot went off and spoke to his future sons-in-law who were to marry his daughters. 'On your feet!' he said, 'Leave this place, for Yahweh is about to destroy the city.' But his sons-in-law thought he was joking. [laughed at him].”

What an irony? We saw Abraham's laughter when Isaac's birth was announced. (Gen 17:17;)

Sarah's laughter when she heard she was to have a child. (Gen 18:12;)

Now the **sons-in-law of Lot's laughter** when they were warned of God's judgment on Sodom?
(Gen 19:14;)

These men were **sons-in-law** by the ancient practice of **binding betrothal**, not by marriage yet.
Remember Mary and Joseph?

Gen 19:15; “When dawn broke the angels urged Lot on, ‘On your feet! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away in the punishment of the city.’”

16 “And as he hesitated, the men seized his hand and the hands of his wife and his two daughters ‘Yahweh being merciful to him’ and led him out and left him outside the city.”

**Even with the angel's urging and
Knowing that the city was doomed,
Lot hesitated to leave this den of inequity.**

Gen 19:16; “And as he hesitated, the men seized his hand and the hands of his wife and his two daughters ‘Yahweh being merciful to him’ and led him out and left him outside the city.”

The angels had to **take hold of Lot and his family** to take them to safety, out of the city.

Question: Why did Lot hesitate to leave Sodom?

Answer: Despite the city's wickedness, **Lot still did not want to leave.**

Lot may have been **repelled by the sinfulness** of the citizens of Sodom, but he was **still attracted to life in the midst of sin.**

The **life of Lot** shows us that it is possible to have a saved soul and a wasted life.

Gen 19:16; “And as he hesitated, the men seized his hand and the hands of his wife and his two daughters ‘Yahweh being merciful to him’ and led him out and left him outside the city.”

**Lot will be saved,
but his life will accomplish nothing,
as in 1 Corinthians 3:13-15;**

“But there is going to come a time of testing at the judgment day to see what kind of work each builder has done. Everyone's work will be put through the fire to see whether or not it keeps its value.”

“If the work survives the fire,
that builder will receive a reward.”

“But if the work is burned up, the builder will suffer great loss. The builders themselves will be saved, but like someone escaping through a wall of flames”

Judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah.

**At morning, the angels brought Lot, his wife,
and their two daughters out of the city.**

They fled to Zoar.

**The angels told Lot and his family
not to stop in the plain
and not to look back. (19:17;)**

Gen 19:17; “Run for your lives!” the angels warned.
“Do not stop anywhere in the valley. And don't look back!
Escape to the mountains, or you will die.”

Question: Where did the angels tell Lot to take his family? What was the direction?

What were the angels really recommending to Lot in sending him that direction.
(spiritual significance?) See Gen 13:11.

Answer: Lot was told to flee to the hills, which was to the west toward Abraham.

To send Lot to the west was in essence to urge Lot to repent his sins and to live in righteousness, following the example of his kinsman Abraham.

Gen 19:17; “Run for your lives!” the angels warned.
"Do not stop anywhere in the valley. And don't look back!
Escape to the mountains, or you will die.”

Question: Rejecting their advice,
what request did Lot make of the angels? Was this
a wise request? What does his request symbolize?

Answer: Foolish Lot asked to remain in the plain
and to be allowed to escape to the near-by city
of Zoar, also known as Bela (Gen 14:2;), with the
excuse, he might die if he were to go into the hills.

Lots decision to remain in the plain
was in essence **a refusal to renounce his sins,**
his attraction to sin, and it was **a rejection**
of the gift of safety which **God** was offering.

Gen 19:17; “Run for your lives!” the angels warned.
“Do not stop anywhere in the valley. And don't look back!
Escape to the mountains, or you will die.”

Question: What was ironic about Lot's request and his excuse?

Answer: He said he feared death if he fled to the hills and yet, **ironically "life" with God was in the hills to the west, not in staying in the cesspool that was the sin of the plain.**

His foolish decision was ironically fulfilled in a failed life.

Gen 19:17; “Run for your lives!” the angels warned.
“Do not stop anywhere in the valley. And don't look back!
Escape to the mountains, or you will die.”

Lot may have been **like many people** who fear
that **a commitment to God** will deprive them
of their **"freedom"** to experience life.

Like Lot they **reject the truth** that **life without God**
ends in death and loss of all freedom.

Freedom is not license
to do whatever one wants to do
despite the consequences.

**Gen 19:17; "Run for your lives!" the angels warned.
"Do not stop anywhere in the valley. And don't look back!
Escape to the mountains, or you will die."**

**The exercise of freedom does not imply
a right to say or do everything.**

**It is false to maintain that man,
"the subject of this freedom," :-**

**Is "an individual
who is fully self-sufficient and whose finality
is the satisfaction of his own interests
in the enjoyment of earthly goods."**

Gen 19:17; "Run for your lives!" the angels warned.
"Do not stop anywhere in the valley. And don't look back!
Escape to the mountains, or you will die."

Question: What is the source of genuine freedom?

Answer: Real freedom comes through being freed from bondage to sin and death through the gift of life in Jesus Christ:

By his glorious death burial and resurrection Christ has won salvation offered to all men. He redeemed us from the sin that held us in bondage. "For freedom Christ has set us free."

In Him we have communion with the "truth that makes us free."

Gen 19:17; "Run for your lives!" the angels warned.
"Do not stop anywhere in the valley. And don't look back!
Escape to the mountains, or you will die."

The Holy Spirit has been given to us and,
as the Apostle teaches,
"where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."

Already we glory in the
"liberty of the children of God."
quoting Gal 5:1; Jn 8:32; 2 Cor 17; and Rom 8:21;)

Gen 19:20-21; “That town over there is near enough to flee to, and is small. Let me flee there 'after all it is only a small place' and so survive.' He replied, 'I grant you this favour too, and will not overthrow the town you speak of. Hurry, flee to that one, for I cannot do anything until you reach it.' That is why the town is named Zoar.”

There is **a word play** on the name **Zoar (soar)** and the Hebrew word for **"small" (misar)**; (other references to Zoar. Deut 34:3; Is 15:5; and Jer 48:34;

Question: Why did Lot emphasize the smallness of Zoar in his plea to the angels? What does his plea to escape to Zoar suggest? Where was Zoar mentioned before?

Answer: He pleaded with the angels to spare Zoar; **his argument** may be that **since it was so small there must only be a small amount of wickedness.**

Gen 19:21; “Hurry, flee to that one, for I cannot do anything until you reach it.’ That is why the town is named Zoar.”

His refusal to return to Abraham and his argument in favour of Zoar show **a lack of spiritual discernment** and **an attachment to the sordid life provided by the cities of the plain.**

Zoar was one of the cities in alliance with Sodom against the king of Elam.

In the list of the five cities of the plain in Gen 14:2;

Zoar is the **only city** not to have its king named, suggesting his lack of status as ruler of such a small place.

Gen 19:21; “Hurry, flee to that one, for I cannot do anything until you reach it.’ That is why the town is named Zoar.”

Question: How is Lot's response to God's messengers different from Abraham's response? How are they alike?

Answer: Both men were generous in their hospitality, but while **Abraham** was quick to respond to his guests.

Lot hesitated

he **hesitated** to leave the city and then **he resisted the command** to go to into the hills to the west.

Gen 19:21; “Hurry, flee to that one, for I cannot do anything until you reach it.’ That is why the town is named Zoar.”

Question: What is **ironic** about Lot's statement: Let me flee there after all it is only a small place and so survive.

Answer: **Ironically**, he will **"survive"** but he will not live in righteousness.

Question: Why do **the angels permit Lot to escape** to Zoar instead of making him go west into the hills, returning to Abraham and to God's altar?

Answer: The angels directed him toward the hills because that was the direction of his salvation, but **God does not force His blessings or his gift of salvation on anyone. When someone persists in wilful and persistence rebellion. God honours their free-will decision.**

A Shadow of the Future.

God



GOD

Abraham



Christ

Lot



Us

Lot and Christians Today.

Must physically live among the world.

Be challenged by the conduct of the world.

Must fight the influence of the world.

God will ultimately destroy the world.

All without salvation, will also be judged.

Abraham and Christ.

Of the same “people.”

Loved, despite being mistreated.

Had experienced **similar circumstances**.

Proven faithfulness to God, the Judge.

Both Make intercession
for those under condemnation.

Salvation Then and Now.

Based on the power of another.

Requires leaving behind former way of life.

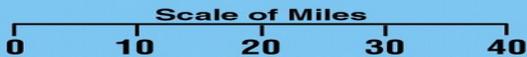
Requires submission to a simple plan.

Requires total commitment to that plan.

**Assistance provided
during times of weakness.**

Lot Escaped To Zoar.

CANAAN IN THE DAYS OF THE PATRIARCHS



The Great Sea



Canaanites

Canaanites

Dothan •

Shechem •

• Bethel (Luz)
• Ai

• Mt. Moriah
• Salem (Jerusalem)
• Bethlehem (Ephrath)

• Mamre

• Hebron (Kirjath-arba)

• Gerar

• Beersheba

• Rehoboth

• Beer-lahai-roi?

Wilderness of Paran ↓

• Sidon

• Tyre

• Laish (Dan)

Sea of Chinnereth

Yarmuk R.

Galeed? Gilead

• Mahanaim?

• Succoth

• Penuel
• Peniel

Jabbok R.

Jordan River

• Jericho

Dead Sea

Arnon R.

Ammonites

Moabites

Zered R.

• Zoar

Edomites

Mt. Seir

Hobah?

• Damascus

The cities of Sodom and Gomorrah are thought to be located beneath the shallow waters at the south end of the Dead Sea. This area was called the Vale of Siddim.

Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

**With Lot safe in Zoar,
God destroyed Sodom & Gomorrah.
(19:24-25;)**

All the cities of the plain were destroyed.

**Lot's wife looked back
and she became a pillar of salt.
(19:26;)**

Why destroy Sodom now?

Total, supernatural
Destruction
of an entire people.

**A few “righteous”
ones were delivered,**

but only because
of their relationship
to someone else.

Through **Abraham’s**
child of **promise,**
This
“plan of salvation”
would be extended
to give
the entire world
an opportunity
to be saved
from **God’s judgment**

Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. 19:23-29;

23 “The sun rose over the horizon just as Lot was entering Zoar. 24 Then Yahweh rained down on Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire of his own sending.”

25 “He overthrew those cities and the whole plain, with all the people living in the cities and everything that grew there. 26 But Lot's wife looked back, and was turned into a pillar of salt.

God saved Lot for Abraham's sake and not for any act of righteousness on Lot's part. But Lot's wife, despite the angel's warning, was still drawn to sinful Sodom.

Lot did not recognize her danger and did not intervene to save her. In looking back to that which was lost, she lost her life.

Lot's Wife formation at Mt Sodom.



Lot's Wife a Pillar of Salt.

Aventinus reports, that in Bavaria, in 1348,
more than fifty peasants,
with the cows they had milked,
at the time of an earthquake
were struck with a pestilential air,
and stiffened into statues of salt,
and which he himself saw.
Annals. Bojor and Heidegger.

Lot's Wife a Pillar of Salt

“The chancellor of Austria and Bisselius relates, that Didacus Almagrus, who was the first person with His army penetrated through the cold countries from Peru into Chile, lost abundance of his men, through the extremity of the cold and a pestiferous air; and that, returning to the same place five months afterwards, he found his men, horse and foot, standing unmoved, unconsumed, In the same situation, form, and habit, the pestilence had fastened them; one lying on the ground, another standing upright, another holding his bridle in his hand, as if about to shake it; in short, he found them just as he left them, without any ill smell or colour, common to corpses.”

Argonaut America. I. 14. c. 2. apud Witsium, ib. p. 202.

Remember Lot's wife. Luke 17:26-32;

“And as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.”

“Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.”

“Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed. In that day, he which shall be upon the housetop, and his stuff in the house, let him not come down to take it away: and he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back.”

“Remember Lot's wife.”

The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah 19:23-29;

27 “Next morning, Abraham hurried to the place where he had stood before Yahweh, 28 and looking towards Sodom and Gomorrah and the whole area of the plain, he saw the smoke rising from the ground like smoke from a furnace.”

29 “Thus it was that, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, he did not forget Abraham and he rescued Lot from the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities where Lot was living.”

Lot and His Daughters.

**Lot was afraid to live in Zoar, so he and his daughters moved to a cave in the mountains.
(19:30;)**

The daughters were concerned about Lot's lineage, since they had no husbands.

They devised a plan. (19:32;)

Lot's Sin and the Origin of the Moabites and Ammonites.

**Gen19:30; “After leaving Zoar Lot settled in the hill country with his two daughters, for he dared not stay at Zoar.”
He lived in a cave, he and his two daughters.**

**Lot was afraid to stay in Zoar.
He may have been blamed by its citizens
for the destruction of the other cities,
he may have been refused refuge in Zoar.**

**After the destruction of the plain,
food was probably scarce, or the lawlessness
after the disaster may have made Zoar unsafe.**

Gen19:30; “After leaving Zoar Lot settled in the hill country with his two daughters, for he dared not stay at Zoar.”

He lived in a cave, he and his two daughters.

He moved into the hill country, where **the angels** told him to go in the first place, but he did not return to **Abraham**.

Josephus makes mention of the mountains of Engedi; and here was a cave, where **David with six hundred men** were in side it, when **Saul went into it**. 1 Samuel 24:1;

Perhaps this may be the **same cave** where **Lot and his two daughters** lived.

Gen 19:31; “The elder said to the younger, 'Our father is an old man, and there is no one here to marry us in the normal way of the world.’”

“The older of them;” **Aben Ezra Says,**
that Lot had another wife,
who died first, and **these were by his second wife;**

This following idea is proposed by the eldest
of them to the youngest, as being bolder,
having more authority,
and a greater influence to persuade.

“our father is old;” **if he was fifty years of age**
when he was taken captive by the kings,
as says the Jewish chronology **Lot must now**
be sixty five, since the destruction of Sodom
was fifteen years after that.

Lot's Sin and the Origin of the Moabites and Ammonites.

Gen 19:32; “Come on, let us ply our father with wine and sleep with him. In this way we can preserve the race by our father.”

They thought the whole world was destroyed by fire, as it had been by a flood; they understood it would be **no more consumed by water,** but they had been told it would be by fire.

They imagined the time was now come, and this was the case; **That not only Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed by fire,** Perhaps by this time the fire had reached to Zoar, and had consumed that.

Lot's Sin and the Origin of the Moabites and Ammonites.

Gen 19:32; “Come on, let us ply our father with wine and sleep with him. In this way we can preserve the race by our father.”

If the whole earth was destroyed, and not a man left but their father, therefore it is thought it could be excusable in them, and **lawful for them** to take the following method to repopulate the world;

Or else they supposed there were none in the land, the land of Canaan, not of any of their kindred and relations, for **they might be ignorant of Abraham and his family**, or however of any good man that they knew of, that they could marry;

As for the **inhabitants of Zoar**, they had just left, they were as wicked as any, and therefore they could not think of living with them;

Gen 19:32; “Come on, let us ply our father with wine and sleep with him.
In this way we can preserve the race by our father.”

**All this is not a sufficient excuse for contriving
and executing what is later told;
for they should have inquired of their father,
who could have informed them better.**

33; “That night they made their father drunk, and the elder slept with her father though he was unaware of her coming to bed or of her leaving.

34 “The next day the elder said to the younger, ‘Last night, I was the one who slept with our father. Let us make him drunk again tonight, and you go and sleep with him. In this way we can preserve the race by our father.’”

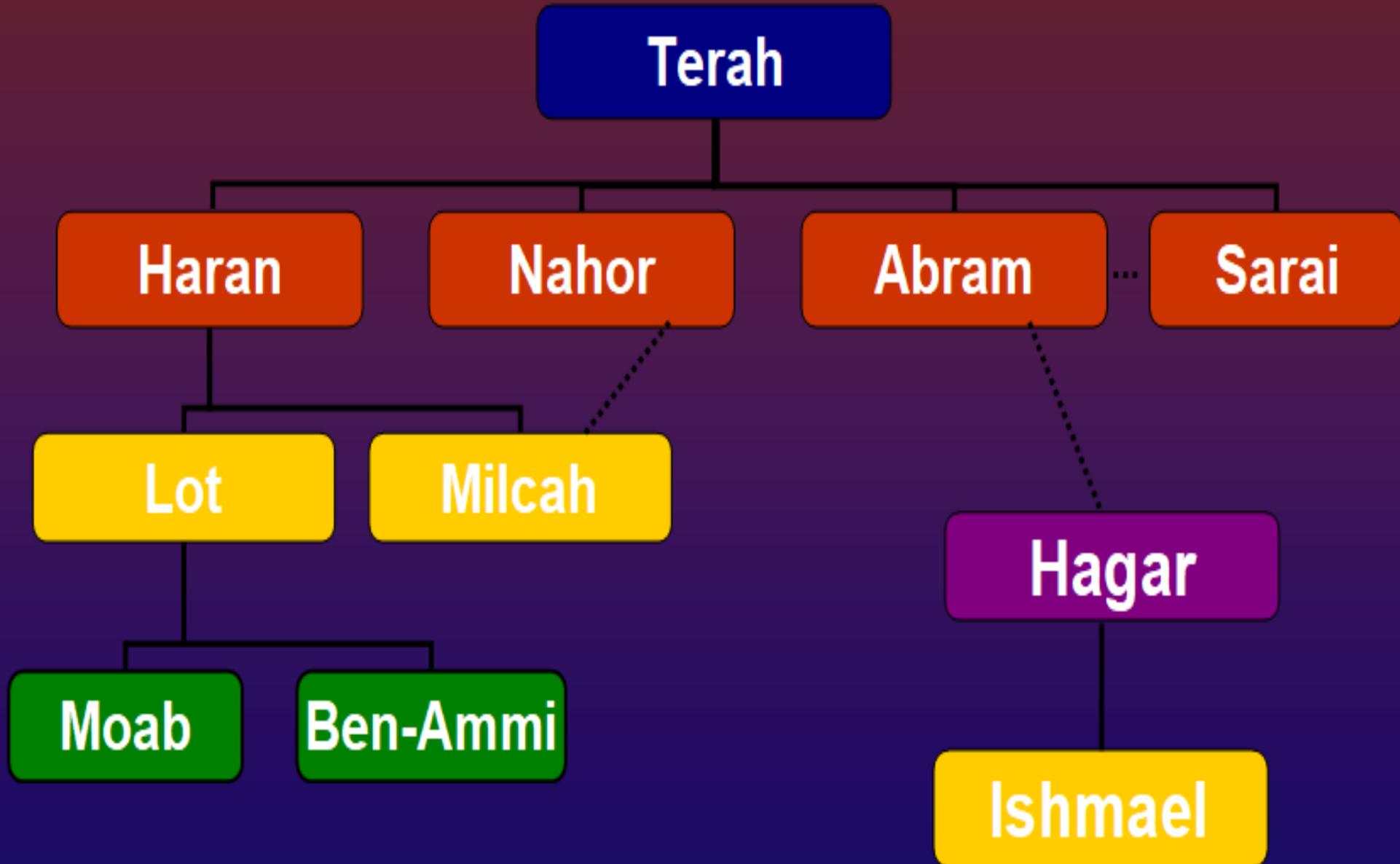
35 They made their father drunk that night too, and the younger went and slept with him, though he was unaware of her coming to bed or of her leaving.”

Lot's Sin and the Origin of the Moabites and Ammonites.

36 “Both Lot's daughters thus became pregnant by their father. 37 The elder gave birth to a son whom **she named Moab; and he is the ancestor of **the Moabites** of our own times.**

38 “The younger also gave birth to a son whom **she named Ben- Ammi; and he is the ancestor of **the Bene-Ammon** of our own times.**

Terah's Family Tree.



Lot's Sin and the Origin of the Moabites and Ammonites.

Scripture records that **these men** were the physical fathers of Israel's enemies, **the Moabites and the Ammonites**, who occupied territory on the eastern border with Israel.

The hostility of these tribes to Israel during her forty years of desert wandering brought **God's judgment against them.**

The Moabites and the Ammonites **were not to be admitted** to the **Sinai Covenant** until the tenth generation.
(Deut 23:3; Neh 13:1-3;)

Lot's Sin and the Origin of the Moabites and Ammonites.

Question: What is **ironic** about Lot's sin with his daughters?

Answer: The sin he was willing to allow the crowd of Sodomites to commit by violating his virgin daughters he has now fulfilled himself.

Question: What Moabites will play an important role in salvation history? See Ruth 1:4; 4:13-17; Matt 1:5-6;

Answer: Ruth, the great-grandmother of King David and the ancestress of Jesus of Nazareth.

Lot wasn't a wicked man; he wanted to be righteous, but he was foolish and lacked the spiritual qualities necessary to lead a fully righteous life.

Most of us do not have the spiritual strength to "go it alone" without the support and good example of fellow Christians in a faith community that is teaching the word of God.

Question: Lot's series of bad decisions and tolerance for sin led to his downfall.

Can you identify the series of four progressions that identified Lot more and more with Sodom and the final three steps that led to Lot's total disgrace. (for a total of seven)?

Hint: the **first** is in Genesis 13:11; and **the last** in 19:31-38;

Answer:

**Choosing to move east toward Sodom,
away from Abram and God.**

(Gen 13:11;)

Camping near Sodom.

(Gen 13:12;)

Living in Sodom.

(Gen 14:12;)

**Returning to Sodom after his liberation
from the Mesopotamians.**

(Gen 19:1, 6;)

**In the destruction of Sodom he refused the angel's command
to flee to the hills (to the west) in the direction of Abraham;
instead he went (east) to Zoar.**

(Gen 19:17-23;)

**Instead of returning to Abraham,
he settled in a cave in the hill country.**

(Gen 19:30;)

**He became drunk and incestuously
fathered Moab and Ammon.**

(Gen 19:31-38;)

Lot's Sin and the Origin of the Moabites and Ammonites.

It is ironic that the more Abraham grew in his faith and trust in God, and as a result, received greater blessings, the more Lot failed.

**Having been raised by Abraham. (Gen 12:4;)
Lot knew what it meant to live by righteousness.**

**Yet in the foolish choices he made,
Lot failed as Abraham's kinsman,
he failed as a host, he failed as a role model
for his city, he failed as a husband,
and he failed as a father.**

The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Like Abraham's intervention with God for the sake of Lot, a Christian can successfully petition God for the safety of loved ones.

But ultimately receiving God's gift of salvation must be each individual's decision, to accept God's the gift of salvation and eternal life or reject the gift and fail at life as Lot failed.

(Ezek 14:12-14, 18-20;)

The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Peter's mention of Lot in 2 Peter 2:7-8;

Renders a merciful account of the man:

**He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah
by reducing them to ashes
as a warning to future sinners;**

**But rescued Lot, an upright man
who had been sickened by the debauched way
in which these vile people behaved,
for that upright man, living among them,
was outraged in his upright soul
by the crimes that he saw and heard every day.**

The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

We may be uncomfortable with the idea that the Bible includes the record of such disgraceful sins.

Yet, **Donald Barnhouse observes:-**

“It is far better for children to learn the facts of life from the Word of God where sin is condemned than from dirty words on alley walls, or from lewd stories.”

No one can escape knowledge of sin.

These things are never mentioned without being accompanied by the stern warnings that **God hates sin and will ultimately punish it.**

Some Lessons learned from Genesis 18-19;

The development of Sarah's faith. (Heb 11:11;)
Sarah was to learn of the omnipotence of Jehovah.
(Gen 18:14;)

The importance of Abraham in
the lives of faithful children of God today.
(Gen 18:18; James 2:23; Rom 4:12;)

We learn that in order to receive God's promises
we must meet His conditions. (Gen 18:19;)

Some Lessons learned from Genesis 18-19;

We learn that law existed during the days of Abraham and that men were responsible to follow that law.
(cf. Gen 18:20; compared to Romans 4:15;)

We learn that there are consequences to ungodly living.

Sodom and Gomorrah go down in history as those who transgressed Yahweh's laws to the point of being destroyed.

(cf. 2 Pet 2:6; Jude 1:7;)

**Genesis
chapter 19;
Destruction of Sodom.
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**Next in the series:-
Gen chapter 20; Abraham & Abimelech.**