



MESSAGE/SERIES:

Series: BIBLICAL BEGINNINGS

Message: "SEPARATE FROM SODOM"

Text: Genesis 19:1-29, 30-38

DATE: July 26, 2020

SCRIPTURE FOR THIS WEEK:

(These verses will help you understand themes within as you read our core text as scripture proves scripture)

Genesis 19:1-22, Deuteronomy 29:23 (wasteland), Psalm 11:6 (Wrath of God), 2 Kings 7:1 (City Gates), **Mark 2:1-12** (faith of Friends), Genesis 13:12, 19:9 (Moved into city), Romans 1:20-25 (Men trade the truth for lies), **2 Peter 2:7-8** (God rescued Lot), Job 1:16, Ezekiel 38:22-23 (God uses fire from heaven), Luke 17:32-37 (Taken & left), Colossians 3:16-17, Matthew 6:33, Colossians 3:2 (Keep our eyes on eternal things),

OPENING SCRIPTURE:

[Genesis 19:1-38]

"The two angels (from chapter 18) came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them and bowed himself with his face to the earth and said, "My lords, please turn aside to your servant's house and spend the night and wash your feet. Then you may rise up early and go on your way." They said, "No; we will spend the night in the town square." But he pressed them strongly; so they turned aside to him and entered his house. And he made them a feast and baked unleavened bread, and they ate. But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both young and old, all the people to the last man, surrounded

the house. And they called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, that we may know them." Lot went out to the men at the entrance, shut the door after him, and said, "I beg you, my brothers, do not act so wickedly. Behold, I have two daughters who have not known any man. Let me bring them out to you, and do to them as you please. Only do nothing to these men, for they have come under the shelter of my roof." But they said, "Stand back!" And they said, "This fellow came to sojourn, and he has become the judge! Now we will deal worse with you than with them." Then they pressed hard against the man Lot, and drew near to break the door down. But the men reached out their hands and brought Lot into the house with them and shut the door. And they struck with blindness the men who were at the entrance of the house, both small and great, so that they wore themselves out groping for the door. Then the men said to Lot, "Have you anyone else here? Sons-in-law, sons, daughters, or anyone you have in the city, bring them out of the place. For we are about to destroy this place, because the outcry against its people has become great before the Lord, and the Lord has sent us to destroy it." So Lot went out and said to his sons-in-law, who were to marry his daughters, "Up! Get out of this place, for the Lord is about to destroy the city." But he seemed to his sons-in-law to be jesting. As morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Up! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be swept away in the punishment of the city." But he lingered. So the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the Lord being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city. And as they brought them out, one said, "Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away." And Lot said to them, "Oh, no, my lords. Behold, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life. But I cannot escape to the hills, lest the disaster overtake me and I die. Behold, this city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me escape there—is it not a little one?—and my life will be saved!" He said to him, "Behold, I grant you this favor also, that I will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken. Escape there quickly, for I can do nothing till you arrive there." Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar. The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar."

²³ The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar. ²⁴ Then the Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the Lord out of heaven. ²⁵ And he overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. ²⁶ But Lot's wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

²⁷ And Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the Lord. ²⁸ And he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the land of the valley, and he looked and, behold, the smoke of the land went up like the smoke of a furnace.

²⁹ So it was that, when God destroyed the cities of the valley, God remembered Abraham and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow when he overthrew the cities in which Lot had lived.

³⁰ Now Lot went up out of Zoar and lived in the hills with his two daughters, for he was afraid to live in Zoar. So he lived in a cave with his two daughters. ³¹ And the firstborn said to the younger, “Our father is old, and there is not a man on earth to come in to us after the manner of all the earth. ³² Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve offspring from our father.” ³³ So they made their father drink wine that night. And the firstborn went in and lay with her father. He did not know when she lay down or when she arose.

³⁴ The next day, the firstborn said to the younger, “Behold, I lay last night with my father. Let us make him drink wine tonight also. Then you go in and lie with him, that we may preserve offspring from our father.” ³⁵ So they made their father drink wine that night also. And the younger arose and lay with him, and he did not know when she lay down or when she arose. ³⁶ Thus both the daughters of Lot became pregnant by their father. ³⁷ The firstborn bore a son and called his name Moab. He is the father of the Moabites to this day. ³⁸ The younger also bore a son and called his name Ben-ammi. He is the father of the Ammonites to this day.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Ge 19:1–38

BACKGROUND & OTHER STUDY HELPS:

[SODOM & GOMORRAH] 19:1, 24. Sodom and Gomorrah. The “cities of the plain” along the eastern shore of the Dead Sea have not been positively located. Their association with Zoar (Zoara on the sixth-century a.d. Madaba map) and the bitumen pits “in the Valley of Siddim” (Gen 14:10) both point to the southern end of the Dead Sea. Arguments for their identification with the north end are based on the distance to travel from Hebron (eighteen miles versus forty miles to the southern location) and the mention of the “plain of the Jordan” in Genesis 13:10–12. Cities located in this arid region survived and prospered on the salt, bitumen and potash deposits around the Dead Sea and as trading centers for caravans traveling the road north and south. There are five sites of Early Bronze Age cities on the southeast plain of the Dead Sea, demonstrating that fairly large populations once existed here (occupied from 3300 to

2100 b.c.): Babedh Dhra' (Sodom?), Safi (Zoar), Numeira (Gomorrhah?), Feifa and Khanazir.

Victor Harold Matthews, Mark W. Chavalas, and John H. Walton, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament*, electronic ed. (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000), Ge 19:1.

(19:1-3) [SITTING AT THE GATE] “In ancient cities the gate area functioned as a public square. Its constant flow of people made it the ideal place for businessmen to set up their booths and for judges to hear cases. The fact that Lot is sitting in the gate suggests he was doing business there and had been accepted in the community of Sodom.

Victor Harold Matthews, Mark W. Chavalas, and John H. Walton, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament*, electronic ed. (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000), Ge 19:2–3.

(19:2) [HOSPITALITY/LODGING] “When a host offered a guest the opportunity to spend the night, he was also accepting responsibility for the safety and well-being of his guest. The offer generally extended for a total of three days.”

Victor Harold Matthews, Mark W. Chavalas, and John H. Walton, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament*, electronic ed. (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000), Ge 19:2.

(19:4-10)” The angels’ visit to Sodom was to determine if there were ten righteous men there. The legal formula in verse 4 makes it clear that all of the men of the city confronted Lot about his guests. In addition to the fact that homosexuality was considered a capital offense, their refusal to listen to reason and their unanimous insistence on violence as they rushed toward his house confirmed the fate of the city.”

Victor Harold Matthews, Mark W. Chavalas, and John H. Walton, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament*, electronic ed. (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000), Ge 19:4–10.

(19:8) “do to them as it seems good in your eyes” Hospitality toward strangers was generally considered a moral imperative in the ancient Near East. This honor code meant that Lot could not turn the strangers over to the men of Sodom. In a patriarchal culture, daughters would have been viewed in lesser terms than Lot’s male guests.

John D. Barry et al., *Faithlife Study Bible* (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2012, 2016), Ge 19:8.

[MOABITES] “Moab, father of the Moabites (Gen. 19:37); the Moabites live in Ar (Deut. 2:29); Moab and the Hagrites (Ps. 83:6); the sons of Ammon, Moab and Mt Seir (2 Chr. 20:10; 2 Chr. 20:22; 2 Chr. 20:23); Moabites are not to enter the assembly to the tenth generation (Deut. 23:3–6); no Moabite should enter the assembly (Neh. 13:1); do not

provoke the Moabites (Deut. 2:9); Eglon king of Moab (Judg. 3:12); the Moabite girl (Ruth 2:6); Ithmah the Moabite (1 Chr. 11:46); Mesha king of Moab (2 Kgs. 3:4); Edom, Moab and the main part of the Ammonites will be rescued (Dan. 11:41); they help the children of Lot (Ps. 83:8); the rams of Nebaioth (Isa. 60:7); Solomon loved Moabite women (1 Kgs. 11:1); Israel played the harlot with the daughters of Moab (Num. 25:1); the Jews had married women from Moab (Neh. 13:23); they married Moabite women, Orpah and Ruth (Ruth 1:4); Ruth the Moabitess (Ruth 1:22; Ruth 2:2; Ruth 2:21; Ruth 4:5; Ruth 4:10); Shimrith the Moabitess (2 Chr. 24:26); Moab rebelled against Israel (2 Kgs. 1:1); woe to you, Moab, people of Chemosh! (Num. 21:29); the people of Chemosh have perished (Jer. 48:46); Edom, Moab and the sons of Ammon [will drink the cup] (Jer. 25:21); they served the gods of Moab (Judg. 10:6); Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab (1 Kgs. 11:7; 2 Kgs. 23:13); they worshipped Chemosh the god of Moab (1 Kgs. 11:33); the Israelites have not separated themselves from the Moabites (Ezra 9:1); I will restore the fortunes of Moab in the latter days (Jer. 48:47).”

A. Colin Day, *Collins Thesaurus of the Bible* (Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software, 2009).

[AMMONITES] “Ben-ammi, father of the sons of Ammon (Gen. 19:38); Gebal and Ammon and Amalek (Ps. 83:7); the border of the sons of Ammon (Josh. 13:10); Jazer was the boundary of the Ammonites (Num. 21:24); the Jabbok was the border of the sons of Ammon (Josh. 12:2); Gilead as far as the border of the Ammonites (Deut. 3:16); Rabbah of the Ammonites (Deut. 3:11); oracles concerning Ammon (Jer. 49:1–6; Ezek. 21:28–32; Ezek. 25:2–7); you did not go near the land of the Ammonites (Deut. 2:37); Israel did not take the land of the Ammonites (Judg. 11:15); half the land of the sons of Ammon was given to Gad (Josh. 13:25); the Jews who were among the sons of Ammon (Jer. 40:11); Ishmael crossed over to the Ammonites (Jer. 41:10); that the sons of Ammon may not be remembered among the nations (Ezek. 25:10); Moab will be like Sodom and the Ammonites like Gomorrah (Zeph. 2:9); afterwards I will restore the fortunes of Ammon (Jer. 49:6); set a way to Rabbah of the Ammonites (Ezek. 21:20); Edom, Moab and the main part of the Ammonites will be rescued (Dan. 11:41); for three transgressions of the Ammonites and for four (Amos 1:13); I have heard the taunts of Moab, the revilings of the Ammonites (Zeph. 2:8); Ammonites are not to enter the assembly to the tenth generation (Deut. 23:3–6); no Ammonite should enter the assembly (Neh. 13:1); the Israelites have not separated themselves from the Ammonites (Ezra 9:1); do not provoke the Ammonites (Deut. 2:19); Ammon help the children of Lot (Ps. 83:8); they served the gods of the Ammonites (Judg. 10:6); Solomon went after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites (1 Kgs. 11:5); Solomon built a high place for Molech the abomination of the Ammonites (1 Kgs. 11:7); they worshipped

Milcom god of the Ammonites (1 Kgs. 11:33); Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites (2 Kgs. 23:13).”

A. Colin Day, *Collins Thesaurus of the Bible* (Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software, 2009).

“God sets a limit to human wickedness beyond
which judgement is inevitable”

-Phillips

OUTLINE:

The morality of Sodom was such that God had to deal with it much like He had to deal with the pre-flood civilization as well. God has limits to sin patterns of people in which His holy nature demands judgement.

I. (v1-14) LOT’S FAMILY STRIFE

A. (v1) Lot is found at the gate of Sodom

1. Lot had once lived outside the city in a tent apart from the evil people
2. Lot is now found as part of the fabric of the city
 - a) *City gate was a place of business and judgement on disputes*
 - b) *City gate was a place of welcoming into the city*

B. (v1) Lot recognizes the 2 as Angels

1. They had appeared to Abraham as men and lingered (fellowship visit)
2. They appear here to Lot on business and waste no time (Business trip)

- C. (v2) Lot understood the dangers of the city (where he brought his family)
 - 1. Urges them to stay in the safety of his home
 - 2. Urges them to leave quickly the next morning

- D. (v2) The Angels had intend to see the wickedness of the city by staying in the town square

- E. (v3) Lot convinces them to stay in the safety and hospitality of his home
 - 1. Lot made them a meal like Abraham did but the difference was Abraham treated them as heavenly guest and Lot hastily fed them

- F. (v4) The men of Sodom quickly show their true colors (beating on the door for the men to be sent out to them)

- G. (v5) The men of Sodom demanded sexual pleasure from the Angels
 - 1. Obviously common practice of Sodom to group molest
 - 2. Obviously looked at a right (become an unwritten right to trample over others)
 - 3. Could indicate that people came to Sodom for sexual sins (cities that draw others by what it is known for)--(Sin city/Los vegas, New Orleans, San Francisco as self proclaimed)

- H. (v6-7) Lot tried to protect the Angels from the men of Sodom
 - 1. What right did Lot to speak against their behavior sense he had okayed it every other day
 - a) Okay others behavior by:
 - (1) By Continuing to live among it
 - (2) By not stating the right before this point
 - 2. What effect could one man have on a whole city of reprobates
 - a) If he himself was seen as a contributor by hs residency there
 - b) If he had not cared enough before to warn them (why now)
 - c) If he had never called it sin before (act so wickedly)

- I. (v8) Lot bargains with the Sodomites (adding insult to injury)--offering His virgin daughters to be molested by the men instead of the Angels
 - 1. This sin is no less devastating
 - 2. This sin is no less insulting to God

3. If Lot had just stayed away from the walls of Sodom and taken His family far away from what he knew was wicked before now
 4. Our children are always damaged by the sinful decisions we make for them while raising them
- J. (v9) Lot is called an outsider by the Sodomites and a judge whom they do not accept
- K. (v10-11) The Angels save undeserving Lot (note v29)
1. They bring him back inside
 2. They strike all the men with blindness outside the door
 3. They disorient them so that they could not get in
- L. (v12-13) The Angels warned Lot
1. to get all of his family out of Sodom immediately as they are going to destroy the city
 2. Makes sure he knows they were sent by God to destroy the Sinful city (God had reached His limits)
- M. (v14) Lots warning to his son-in-laws was not received as serious
1. Because Lot had never taken a serious stand before against the sinful acts of Sodom
 2. Because Lot had never spoke spiritual things to them before (couldn't be taken seriously)
 - a) *We must prepare our families by talking about Spiritual matters before the crisis hits*
 - b) *We must prepare them with Spiritual direction and not our personal counsel*
 - c) *We must set the tone that your family must obey God*

II. (v15-26) LOT'S LINGERING WIFE (Luke 17:31-32)

- A. (v15) The angels warned Lot to get up and moving
- B. (v15) The warning also carried definite repercussions
- C. (v16) Lot Lingered (delayed)
1. When God has spoken to us (through people/His word) we must show reverence for the message by acting immediately

- a) *Lots lingering most likely indicates a greater love for Sodom (internal battle)*
- b) *Lots lingering most likely indicates a great desire to stay and not separate from the sinful city*
 - (1) Sanctification in view (God separating/drawing out His people to Himself)

D. (v17) *“And as they brought them out, one said, “Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away.”*

- 1. The evacuation from Sin city must be quick and thorough--
 - a) *Get as far away from it as possible*
 - b) *Do not linger (move too slowly) or sin city or it will draw you back in (radical amputation)*
 - c) *Do not stop moving in the direction God has called you to go or else the effects of the sin will overtake you (complete surrender illustrated by actions)*

E. (v18-20) Lot bargains with God’s messengers (ultimately God)

- 1. Pleas on behalf of his relationship with God
- 2. Lot claims to have a better idea (easier to accomplish)
 - a) *It was closer*
 - b) *It was less sinful*
 - c) *Lot claimed he was unable to do what God was asking of him (does go ever ask us to do something that is not possible with His help- no)*
 - (1) *Phil 4:13, 1 Corinthians 10:13*
 - d) *Lot claimed that He could easily do this lesser plan (how many times do we make plan changes on our own and do not get full victory of the sin problems?)*

F. (v21-22) The Lord’s messengers gave permission to get to Zoar

- 1. Sometimes God will allow us to reap the affects of our bad decisions to show us that His plans are perfect and we need to obey
 - a) *Lot would not be able to stay in Zoar long-*
 - (1) *The people there most likely resented Lot for the devastation around them and affecting their neighbors in Sodom (the world looks out for their own)*

(2) *The destruction could have been God causing and earthquake (which trimmers and ripple effects would have reached Zoar)*

G. (v23-25) The destruction was a complete judgement and left nothing behind (God's purification)

1. Once Lot was in Zoar God rained down fire and brimstone (Symbolic of divine judgement)
2. All of the sinful cities were destroyed (5 cities in the valley)
3. God even destroyed the vegetation in these areas

H. (v26) Lot's wife lingered far behind Lot and the daughters as she did not want to leave

1. When we play around with Sin we are forever its slave (cannot let go while holding one with the other hand)
2. When we become so in love with this world we cannot follow God's commands to leave it behind
 - a) *Colossians 3:16-17, Matthew 6:33, Colossians 3:2*
3. Lot's wife was caught up in the devastation as she did not get far enough away quick enough (take your family with you as you escape Sin city)

III. (v27-29) LOT'S SPARED LIFE

A. (v27-29) The story shift to Abraham as he watches toward Sodom in a prayerful state (the place where He and God had talked face to face)

1. Abraham had prayed for God to save Sodom because of Lot but God had done one better and destroyed Sodom and saved Lot
2. Lot was saved because of Abraham's faith
 - a) *Mark 2:1-12 (faith of the friends)*
3. God hears the prayers of the righteous (Abraham) and works out His will in spite of the sinful actions of those we are praying for (Lot)

B. (v28) The evidence of God's promise to deal with Sin was seen all the way to Abraham's house

C. (v29) While God was destroying Sodom and dealing with Sin He remembered Abraham

1. When Jesus was on the cross we were on His mind

- D. (v29) A reminder to pray for our sinful family members and those we love who may not be where they need to be that maybe God might intervene

IV. (v30-38) LOT'S FAMILY JACKKNIFE

- A. (v30) Lots plan did not pan out and he could not live in Zoar
1. People did not accept them
 2. Possibly still a sinful place
 3. Maybe affected by the earthquake/disaster God spared him from
- B. (v30) When we do not deal with our sin in a radical fashion/when we do not obey all of God's command= we live in fear
- C. (v31) Lots girls are corrupted by the place daddy raised them in and start to act like the sinful Sodomites
1. Incest with their father is the plan that is drawn up
- D. (v32-33) They get Lot drunk and have sex with him in order to have children by him
1. Wanted to preserve name (every other family member gone)
 2. (isolation) There were no other men in the cave
 3. Wanted to have someone to take care of them once old
- E. (v34-36) The Older daughter convinces the younger to do the same and they make Lot drunk again and again has sex with his daughter
1. When the family is not trained according to God's word they will lead one another to sin
- F. (v37) The children conceived from Lot and his daughters (own sinful plan) became enemies of the children of Israel just like the descendants of Ishmael Abraham's failed plan.
1. Moabites-
 2. Ammonites
- a) *Nehemiah 13:1, Judges 3:28*

When a society ceases to deal with Sodomistic type behavior ... God will step in and exercise His final word on the matter...

Interactive Application:

1) The choices of Lot lead his family to become part of a sinful society... how have you led your family to be too entangled with the world?

2) How have you lingered in association with sinful behavior when you knew God wanted it dealt with thoroughly?

3) What effects have you seen in life from not getting far enough from the sin and devastation it causes?

4) How does the fact that God honors Abraham's faithfulness in dealing with Lot encourage you?

-----Message from Pastor Michael-----
Church,

This story gives us direct order to separate ourselves from the close association with the world and sinful patterns. This story reminds us of how sin in our lives can cause domino effects in our family. This story reminds us to pray without ceasing for our family... seeking God to rescue them from the coming judgement. Have you been faithful to these principles and have you stopped trusting and seeking God?

Love in Christ,

Pastor Michael

