

WHEN SODOM LIVED IN LOT'S FAMILY

(Genesis 19)

A. **We could hardly imagine** a more horrifying picture of sin than that painted in Genesis 19.

1. In this chapter we see the great potential for evil that we human beings possess apart any knowledge of God.

a. In this matter we recall (1 Cor 10:11; Rom 15:4).

B. **There is a fierce** ongoing battle being waged between right & wrong.

1. Nation (Prov 14:34); Family (Deut 4:40); Church (Jd 3)
Individual (Jas 4:7).

2. That battle was all but lost in Sodom & Gomorrah in Lot's day (explain ch.18).

a. Apparently, there were not even 10 righteous souls in the whole area that encompassed 5 cities (Deut 29:23).

Jude 7 – Sodom & Gomorrah, & the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality & gone after strange flesh, are **set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.**

C. **Jesus, Paul, Peter & John** used Sodom to personify wickedness & its dreadful consequences.

1. There are many valuable lessons to be learned about the consequences of allowing the world (the love for sin, 1 John 2:15-17) to take up residence in our hearts as it did the family of Lot.

2. You see, not only did “Lot’s family live in Sodom” – “Sodom lived in Lot’s family”. That was the problem!

[Let us consider the consequences of that tragic state “When Sodom Lived in Lot’s Family”]

I. **When Sodom lived in Lot's family, his family lost respect for him (19:14)**

- A. **Was that Lot's fault?** To some extent it was his fault, since he moved his family into Sodom.
- B. **But the fact remains** that Lot's sons-in-law did not respect him; they did not take him seriously.
1. And because they did not respect his parental authority, they did not respect God's authority.
 2. Consequently, in a matter hours they were among those consumed in the fire.
 3. But if they had possessed the proper respect for Lot, they would have been spared.
- C. **When Sodom** (a love for the sins of the world) **lives** in one's heart today – that same kind of disrespect for parental authority/teaching will be exhibited.

1. In fact, respect for any authority figure, from God on down, will decline in direct proportion to one's love for the world.
2. Often, by the time one learns to have the proper respect for parental authority, his or her life is wrecked by sin (**Prov 28:14; 29:1; Lev 20:9; Eph 6:1-3**).

[When Sodom lives in one's family, the children will not properly respect their parents.]

II. **When Sodom lived in Lot's family there was a reluctance to flee evil (19:15-16)**

- A. **Why would anyone** not be anxious to get away from all manner of sexual perversion?
1. Unless they get some satisfaction from being close to it or involved in it—maybe they were “dabbling” in it like people dabble in internet pornography, office & online romances.

2. But Lot was a “righteous man”, he was disturbed by the filthy behavior of the men in Sodom (2 Pet 2:7) – *just not enough to flee from it & the coming wrath of God against it.*

B. **Christians are commanded** to flee the evils of this world.

1. Fornication (1 Cor 6:18); Idolatry (1 Cor 10:14); Love of money (1 Tim 6:10-11); Youthful lusts (2 Tim 2:22).
2. To do otherwise make us God’s enemy (Jas 4:4).
 - a. The love of the Father cannot dwell in one who loves this world (1 John 2:15).
 - b. He will reap corruption (Gal 6:7; Matt 25:46).

Rom 8:1 – *There is...now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.*

[When Sodom lives in one’s family, they will be reluctant to flee from evil.]

III. **When Sodom lived in Lot’s family fear was stronger than faith (19:17-22)**

A. **A person who knows** the outdoors, knows the dangers (from man & beast) of being out there alone.

1. However, when it is the LORD telling you to go into the mountains, what is there to fear?
2. Perhaps Lot wasn’t entirely ready to release his hold on the conveniences of city life.
3. But more likely, Lot was just afraid to do what the LORD had commanded him to do.

B. **I suppose** there are a lot of people like Lot, at that moment, just afraid to fully commit to the LORD.

1. That's why there are so many admonitions in the Scripture to not be afraid (almost 50) & to be strong (1 Cor 16:13; Eph 6:10; 2 Tim 2:1; [Matt 10:28](#)).

[When Sodom lives in one's family, their fear of men will overcome their faith in God.]

IV. When Sodom lived in Lot's family the yearning for earthly possessions was stronger than the will to obey God (19:23-26)

- A. **Someone will ask**, "What could be wrong with just a little look back?"
1. You might as well ask, "What could be wrong with a little lie, ...fornication, ...bitterness, ...false doctrine, ...drunkenness, ...sin.
 2. What was wrong with a little look back is that "God told them not to look back."

3. I suppose it was not necessary to tell her what the consequences would be, because she probably would have done it anyway.

a. After all, didn't the Lord tell Eve the consequences of her actions ([Gen 2:17](#)), & didn't she look, touch & taste anyway?

b. Haven't we been like Eve & Lot's wife at one time or another?

- B. **This is a powerful lesson**, learned in a most graphic way, that the wages of sin is death ([Rom 6:23](#)).

1. Was the sin in "looking back"? Yes
2. But deeper than that, the sin was in the heart; she loved & was so enamored by the things she was supposed to leave behind that she could not leave them behind in her heart.

- a. The heart is what God wants from us; He wants you to “set your mind on things above, & not on things on the earth” (Col 3:2).

Luke 17:31-33 – In that day [when the Roman army appears], he who is on the housetop, & his goods are in the house, let him not come down to take them away. And likewise the one who is in the field, let him not turn back. 32 **Remember Lot’s wife.** 33 Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it [Lot’s wife], & whoever loses his life will preserve it [Lot].

[When Sodom lives in one’s family, their yearning for the material world will be stronger than their will to obey God.]

V. When Sodom lived in Lot’s family immorality was welcomed & even justified (19:30-38)

- A. You would think that since wicked Sodom was destroyed then righteousness would prevail.

- 1. But sadly, Sodom’s influence lived on in the hearts of Lot’s daughters, & the children from this incestuous relationship (Moab, Ben-Ammi) became the perennial enemies of God’s people later.

- B. The lesson for us is that “evil company corrupts good habits” (1 Cor 15:33; cf. Prov 6:27-28).

- 1. We cannot recline with Satan & rise up in spiritual purity & moral innocence (explain).
 - a. Young Christians especially need to consider this lesson from Lot’s daughters.
 - b. Satan is not satisfied with just defiling your mind, corrupting your thoughts, confusing your sense of right & wrong; he wants your body as well; He wants you to carry out your evil thoughts, & to justify them.
- 2. The point here is that we cannot surround ourselves with evil & be unaffected (2 Cor 6:14-7:1).

[When Sodom lives in one’s family, immorality will find acceptance & justification.]

CLOSING

A. **It was not a sin** for Lot & his family to live in Sodom, (it did not represent the best of human judgment) **the sin came** when Sodom began to live in them.

B. **A similar & greater destruction**, as happened in their time, is coming in the future from God against all sin in the hearts of men (**Matt 25; 2 Thess 1; 2 Pet 3**).

1. We need to take God's warnings seriously.
2. We must not be reluctant to flee from evil to find refuge in Jesus Christ.
3. We must allow our faith to overcome fear of & love for the world.
4. We must yearn for God promises rather than what we hold in our hands today.
5. We must not try to justify our sins, but confess them openly to God.

John 17:15 – I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should **keep them from the evil one**. That's something we can ask for in prayer (**Matt 6:13**), & we can do our part by letting our light shine in our good works (**Matt 5:14-16**).

GOD'S PLAN FOR OUR SALVATION:

Hear the gospel of Jesus Christ; read it in your Bible: Acts 2; 3; 13; 17; Rom 10:17

Believe Jesus to be Lord and Christ, the Son of God and Savior: Acts 2:36; John 3:16; 8:24; 20:30-31; Acts 4:12; Titus 1:4

Repent of your sins: Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30; 1 John 3:4

Confess your faith in Jesus Christ: Matt 10:32-33; Acts 8:37; Rom 10:9-10

Be baptized for the forgiveness of your sins: Acts 2:38; Rom 6:3-4; Gal 3:27; Acts 2:38; 1 Pet 3:21

Be obedient to the Lord, He will be your Judge: Titus 2:11-12; Heb 5:9; 2 John 9; Rev 2:10; John 12:48