

Saved from Destruction

Lot, the Rescuer

Genesis 19:15-26

We first hear of Sodom and Gomorrah in Genesis 13:12-13. Abram remains in the area that God has given to him, but Lot goes to this land of Sodom and Gomorrah. God tells Abram that because of this land's wickedness, God will destroy it. Abram asked God to consider saving it if there is found to be a small remnant that will follow God. In this passage only Lot and his family are found to be faithful. A key "typology of Christ" that is seen in this passage is the figure of Lot. Although he is not perfect, Lot represents the righteous remnant saved from destruction, mirroring Christ's role as the one who rescues humanity from sin and judgment by offering himself as a sacrifice, even when surrounded by wickedness. In Genesis 19, some angels of God come to Lot, and he shows them hospitable. Gen. 19:4-14 is very explicit concerning sexual sins. We realize that these sins are still happening today and that we are still in need of repenting from these sins. Romans chapter 1 clearly notes that we must run from sexual sin, that intimacy is meant for a husband and a wife only within the God ordained institution of holy matrimony.

I. Become Serious About Repentance (Gen. 19:15-20) What is repentance? It is the fleeing from the temptation of sin. Beware of sin's progression! Do not compromise biblical truth. Avoid sin's tempting influence. The safest way to avoid sin is to stay far from its tempting influence. We come very close to it and suddenly we're overtaken by it. Listen to the seriousness concerning repentance. Acts 3:19-20: ***"Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, 20 that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus,"*** 2 Cor. 7:9-10: ***"As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us. For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death."*** Repentance is not optional, God will hold us accountable.

II. Become Sincere About Being Rescued (Gen. 19:21-23) Who is the only one who can rescue us from sin and eternal separation from God? Jesus Christ! Just as Noah, Lot, Moses, and Joshua were forerunners of Christ, Christ alone is our Savior, our rescuer! Listen to Galatians 1:3-5: "Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, 5 to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen."

III. Become Submissive to God's Righteousness (Gen. 19:24-26) God judges sin: God is patient and loving, but He will judge sin. Even in Lot's family, his wife looked back! It is almost to think in your mind that somehow, someday, we are missing out on something by following God! If we are submissive to God's righteousness, we are basking in His joy, His peace, and in His inheritance for our good and His glory!

We see that God's righteous judgement is noted by Peter referring to Sodom and Gomorrah in 2 Peter 2:6–10: "if by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to extinction, making them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; 7 and if he rescued righteous Lot, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked 8 (for as that righteous man lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and heard); 9 then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment, 10 and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority."

Lessons for Today

1. Flee From Sexual Sin. We must make every effort to keep ourselves rooted and grounded in the Word of God. Advocating sexual immorality is a heresy. It is an offense against Jesus Christ the Lord. The practice of sexual activity outside marriage is a denial of the Master who bought us, because he died for us to free us from sexual passion. We should glorify him with our bodies by submitting to his pattern of sexual fulfillment only within marriage. Paul notes in 1 Corinthians 6:18-20: ***"Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. 19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body."***

2. Judgement is Coming. Divine judgment is coming upon those who deny Christ in this way. And it is heartless to encourage people to go about their business and live their lives as though nothing very significant is at stake. Heaven and hell hang on whether we follow Christ in righteousness or deny him in immorality.

3. Salvation is Possible Through Christ. We can be saved from judgment if we repent and trust the Master who bought us by his blood. When it says the Lord knows how to deliver the godly (2 Peter 2:9), it doesn't mean he only delivers the perfect. Lot was far from perfect. If you put your trust in Jesus Christ and press on to love what he loves, "then you will never fall, and there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 6:9-11 ***"Or do you not know that the unrighteous[a] will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, 10 nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God."*** We can be saved, washed, made righteous only through Jesus Christ!