

## Abraham—Genesis 19

### Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah

#### I. Additional Scriptures/Notes...

**19...** READ: Luke 17:28-32; 2 Peter 2:6-10; Jude 7; Rev 11:8.

**19:1...** LOT SAT IN THE GATE OF SODOM ... LOT SEEING THEM ROSE UP TO MEET THEM—Coffman and others think that Lot was one of the Judges of the city. I disagree based upon verse 9. The gate of the city in ancient times was not only the place where legal matters were taken up, but also a center of commerce. There could be many reasons for Lot to be at the gate. There is a good possibility that Lot realized what the men of Sodom were likely to do with any strangers who came into the city (i.e., the same thing they tried to do with these). He may have spent some of his time at the gate, day by day, hoping to prevent such from happening.

**19:5...** WHERE ARE THE MEN—“**Where are the men which came in to thee, etc.** - This account justifies the character given of this depraved people in the preceding chapter, [Gen 18:20](#), and in [Gen 13:13](#). As their crime was the deepest disgrace to human nature, so it is too bad to be described; in the sacred text it is sufficiently marked; and the iniquity which, from these most abominable wretches, has been called Sodomy, is punished in our country with death” [Adam Clarke].

THAT WE MAY KNOW THEM—“**bring them out unto us, that we may know them;** not who they were, and from whence they came, and what their business was; nor did they pretend anything of this kind to hide and cover their design from Lot, but they were open and impudent, and declared their sin without shame and blushing, which is their character, [Isa 3:9](#); their meaning was, that they might commit that unnatural sin with them, they were addicted to, and in common used, and which from them to this day bears the name of Sodomy. As lawful copulation with a man's wife is modestly expressed by knowing her, [Gen 4:1](#); so this unlawful and shocking copulation of man with man is expressed by this phrase; and that this was their meaning is plain from Lot's answer to them, [Gen 19:8](#)” [John Gill's *Exposition of the Whole Bible*].

**19:8...** BEHOLD I HAVE TWO DAUGHTERS—“ nothing can be said to excuse this good man, but the hurry of spirit, and confusion of mind that he was in, not knowing what to say or do to prevent the base designs of those men; that he might be pretty certain they would not accept of his offer, their lust burning more after men than women; that this showed his great regard to the laws of hospitality, that he had rather sacrifice his daughters to their brutal lusts, than give up the men that were in his house to them; and that he might hope that this would soften their minds, and put them off of any further attempt; but after all it must be condemned as a dangerous and imprudent action” [John Gill's *Exposition of the Whole Bible*]. ||| “But, even if his proposal had been accepted, the sin of fornication would remain. We are reminded, by these circumstances, that sin is not countered by sin” [Bill Jackson, “The Men of Sodom and the Angels at Lot's House,” in *The Book of Genesis*, edited by Garland Elkins and Thomas B. Warren, p. 229].

#### II. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: Patriarchy.

**III. Summary.**

This chapter ought to be read often as a reminder of the fact that there will be judgment upon evil and wickedness. Even our Lord used the event described in this chapter to make the point that the final Judgment Day will be similar to the judgment against Sodom in that it will be a normal day and things will be happening as usual (Lk 17:28-32). Thus we need see Genesis as a forewarning of judgment yet to come. When Lot brought the strangers to his home, men of the city came to his house for the purpose of having them sexually. We marvel and are amazed that Lot offers his daughters to the mob in the place of the visitors. He certainly was wrong in making such an offer. Surrounded by such evil and wickedness had evidently had an impact upon Lot. Lot was protected by the angels, who struck the men of the city blind. Warning is given to Lot and his family to leave the city. Lot has no success in convincing his son-in-law to leave with them. Lot seemed to them to be jesting with them. Lot and his family are told to escape the city to spare his life and that they are not to look back. Lot's wife does look back and is turned into a pillar of salt. The cities of the plain were destroyed with fire and brimstone from the Lord out of heaven. Lot and his daughters lived in a cave for a while. His daughters got Lot drunk and committed incest with him so that there would be seed after Lot. From these children came the Moabites and Ammonites.

**IV. Outline.**

1. Lot brings strangers to his home (Gen 19:1-3).
2. Men of the city come to have sexual relations with the visitors (19:4-5).
3. Lot appeals with the men that they not do this evil, offering his daughters (19:6-8).
4. The men of the city refused Lot and Lot is saved by the angels striking the men blind (19:9-11).
5. Lot is warned to leave the city because it will be destroyed (19:12-25).
6. Lot's wife becomes a pillar of salt (19:26).
7. Abraham viewed the destruction of the cities (19:27-28).
8. Lot's daughters trick him into conceiving with them (19:29-38).

**V. Questions.****True or False**

01. \_\_\_\_\_ Lot got drunk two nights in a row.
02. \_\_\_\_\_ Though Lot asked to dwell in Zoar, he did not stay there.
03. \_\_\_\_\_ The mercy of the Lord is mentioned in this chapter.
04. \_\_\_\_\_ Lot recognized that when the men of Sodom wanted to do was wicked.
05. \_\_\_\_\_ The men of Sodom left immediately after they were struck blind.

**Multiple Choice (Select the BEST Answer)**

06. \_\_\_\_\_ The city which was spared because Lot petitioned the angels that he might stay there was: (a) Beersheba; (b) Gaza; (c) Zoar.
07. \_\_\_\_\_ Lot was warned to flee Sodom with his family lest he be consumed: (a) in flaming fire; (b) in the iniquity of the city; (c) of the Lord.
08. \_\_\_\_\_ Moab was the son of: (a) Lot; (b) Lot's firstborn daughter; (c) Lot's younger daughter.
09. \_\_\_\_\_ The men of Sodom stated that they would do this with Lot: (a) kill him; (b) reward him; (c) deal worse with him than with the others.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Abraham saw smoke from Sodom: (a) early in the morning; (b) about midnight; (c) at the setting of the sun.

**Fill in the Blanks**

11. “But his wife \_\_\_\_\_ from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.”
12. Lot’s visitors struck blind both the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ and they \_\_\_\_\_ themselves to find the door of Lot’s house.
13. “...Escape for thy life; \_\_\_\_\_ not \_\_\_\_\_ thee...”
14. “And he \_\_\_\_\_ those cities, and all the plain, and all the \_\_\_\_\_ of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.”
15. “...But he seemed as one that \_\_\_\_\_ to his sons-in-law.”

*Each Question is worth 7 Points*

**My Score is:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Answers will be found on next week’s handout*

**ANSWERS to Lesson 02-125...** [01—False, Gen 17:25; 02—True, Gen 17:4; 03—True, Gen 17:17; 04—True, Gen 16:9; 05—True, Gen 16:4-5; 06—b, Gen 16:1; 07—c, Gen 16:12; 08—a, Gen 17:11; 09—c, Gen 17:20; 10—b, Gen 17:24-25; 11—covenant, Isaac, Gen 17:21; 12—exceeding, fruitful, nations, kings, Gen 17:6; 13—hardly, fled, Gen 16:6; 14—seest, me, Gen 16:13; 15—eight, days, Gen 17:12.]

## VI. Lessons & Applications.

1. **But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter...** (Gen 19:4-5). This statement speaks volumes about the terribly wicked condition of this city. The guests of Lot did not even have time to lie down before they came. In other words the lust of their hearts was urgent and had to be fulfilled, they thought, without delay. They COMPASSED THE HOUSE this speaks both about the number of people involved and of their determination to fulfill their lust. By circling the house they would not allow the strangers to escape. Sadly, the text says, BOTH OLD AND YOUNG. The older men had passed down to their sons this practice which God refers to as “abomination” (Lev 18:22).
2. **...This one fellow came in to sojourn, and he will needs be a judge: now will we deal worse with thee than with them...** (Gen 19:9). These words are spoken by the Sodomites about Lot. It seems to me that if Lot actually had been a Judge of Sodom, as some allege from verse 1, these men would not have made this statement. I think they are doing the same thing that people of our day do when righteous people stand against wicked and ungodly deeds. They were saying that Lot was “preaching to them” or “judging them” and they did not like it one bit and they were going to punish Lot for it. Judging is not always wrong if it is judging of the right kind. Our Lord teaches us to judge righteous judgment (Jn 7:24; Mt 7:15-20).
3. **...But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons-in-law** (Gen 19:14). First, speaking of these men as “sons-in-law” must have meant that they were betrothed to Lot’s daughters inasmuch as Lot had described his daughters as virgins in verse 8. Here, though is one of the responses that sometimes comes from preaching God’s Word. People reject it as some kind of foolishness.
4. **...Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, ...** (Gen 19:17). Here, as always, the instructions from the Lord are simple and easy to understand. All Lot’s wife had to do was just keep going forward without looking back and she would have escaped alive. Truly, we must remember Lot’s wife (Lk 17:32).

5. **Genesis 19 certainly gives us a clear and unmistakable view of what God thinks about homosexuality!** It demands His judgment against it.

VII. **Seek-A-Word Puzzle.**

A G O M O R R A H X N C R D E R F V B G  
 B T G B N H Y U J E M J A U I K L O P Z  
 R N H Y T G B V V F F R I E D C L O T O  
 I X S W Q A Z A X S W T N S E D C V F A  
 M V F R T G E B G T L Y E T H N M J U R  
 S M J U Y H T G B A R F D N V C D E W S  
 T X C F F I R E S V F R U A S U N T G B  
 O N S O D O M F N H Y U P T U J R N H R  
 N E T X C V O V F R T G O I B G I Y H N  
 E U M J U R I K L O P Y N B B G S V F R  
 O C D E A R F V B G T Y H A N H E N H Y  
 B G T L E O D C X S W Q A H Z A N Q N W  
 E D L C D E V R F V B G T N Y H N I M J  
 U I R F V D E E Q A C I T I E S A Z A Q  
 P X S W E D C V R B G T Y H N L M J U I  
 C D E E R F V B G T B G T Y P B G T Y I  
 V F F V F R T G B N H N H Y U Q G R E W  
 X I C D E R F V B G T R N H Y U J M K E  
 W L O O K E D B A C K C E C D E R F V B  
 N H Y U J M R F V D E W S W X Q A D R L

*[The highlighted words can be found above. They may be backwards, diagonal, upside down, etc. See if you can find them all. The more you use the words of the Bible, the greater blessed you will be! You might be surprised at how much this little exercise will help you retain important truths. THANK YOU for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. DRL]*

**Genesis 19:23-26...** <sup>23</sup>The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar.

<sup>24</sup>Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; <sup>25</sup>And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground. <sup>26</sup>But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.