

## Genesis 19

### Scriptures:

#### Notes:

There are some things in the Scriptures that are hard to understand. Not because the text is unclear, but because the topic is so foreign. Such is the case in this chapter with the account of the angels going to Sodom and Gomorrah to save Lot (and his family) from the destruction that is coming.

Judgment is coming to Sodom because the 'outcry' of its wickedness has reached heaven. There is a limit to how much wickedness God will tolerate before He acts in judgment.

"God sets a limit to human wickedness beyond which judgment is inevitable, unsuspected by the majority, and final in its character."  
(Phillips, 1980) page 159

Title ideas:  
Staying clean in a dirty  
world!

Scriptures:  
Genesis 19:9 - And they said, "Stand back!" Then they said, "This one came in to stay here, and he keeps acting as a judge; now we will deal worse with you than with them." So they pressed hard against the man Lot, and came near to break down the door.

Genesis 13:12 - Abram dwelt in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelt in the cities of the plain and pitched his tent even as far as Sodom.

Genesis 14:12 - They also took Lot, Abram's brother's son who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

<sup>1</sup> Now the two <sup>A</sup>angels came to Sodom in the

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evening, and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom.

When Lot saw <sup>A</sup>them, <sup>L</sup>he rose to meet <sup>A</sup>them, and <sup>L</sup>he

<sup>L</sup>bowed himself with <sup>L</sup>his face toward the ground.

Notes:  
The Lord appeared to Abraham in the last chapter, but He doesn't appear to Lot.

Lot is the only reason there is anything between the end of chapter 18 and the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

'sitting in the gate' = as an elder of the community – as a judge (Gen. 19:9). Lot had gradually been assimilated into the culture of Sodom (Gen. 13:12; 14:12; 19:1).

'...the two angels came to Sodom...' – probably by supernatural means. They couldn't have walked from where they had a late afternoon meal with Abraham to Sodom in the couple of hours that were left before dark.

<sup>2</sup> And <sup>L</sup>he said, “Here now, my <sup>L</sup>lords, please turn in

Notes:  
This was the customary form of hospitality to traveling strangers. Custom demanded that you offer hospitality and custom also demanded that all such hospitality be accepted. The men (angels) were not obligated to keep the customs of men. They had accepted Abraham’s hospitality but rejected Lot’s.

to your <sup>A</sup>servant’s house and spend the <sup>L</sup>night, and

wash your feet; then <sup>A</sup>you may rise early and go on

<sup>A</sup>your way.”

And <sup>A</sup>they said, “No, but we will spend the <sup>A</sup>night in

the open square.”

Scriptures:  
Genesis 18:8 - So he took butter and milk and the calf which he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree as they ate.

<sup>3</sup> But he insisted strongly; so they turned in to him

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Notes:  
This is the second these angels ate that day ([Genesis 18:8](#)).

Lot's insistence probably had to do with the nature of the men in the city. He knew they would seek to do 'wickedly' to them. What Lot didn't understand was that they didn't need his protection.

and entered his house. Then he made them a feast,

and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.

Scriptures:  
Leviticus 18:22; 24 - You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination.  
24 'Do not defile yourselves with any of these things; for by all these the nations are defiled, which I am casting out before you.

<sup>4</sup> Now before they lay down, the men of the city,

Notes:  
Homosexuality was not the only reason God was going to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah, but it had become one of the common perversions of the Canaanites ([Lev. 18:22; 24; 20:13; 23](#)).

Leviticus 20:13; 23 - If a man lies with a male as he lies with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination. They shall surely be put to death. Their blood shall be upon them.  
23 And you shall not walk in the statutes of the nation which I am casting out before you; for they commit all these things, and therefore I abhor them.

the men of Sodom, both old and young, all the

people from every quarter, surrounded the house.

Scriptures:

Judges 19:22 - As they were enjoying themselves, suddenly certain men of the city, perverted men, surrounded the house and beat on the door. They spoke to the master of the house, the old man, saying, "Bring out the man who came to your house, that we may know him carnally!"

Jude 6-7 - And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; 7 as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Romans 1:24-27 - Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, 25 who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. 26 For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. 27 Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

<sup>S</sup> 5 And they called to Lot <sup>L</sup> and said to him, "Where

<sup>A</sup> are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them <sup>L</sup> <sup>B</sup> <sup>A</sup>

out to us <sup>S</sup> that we may know them <sup>A</sup> carnally."

3045 -

Notes:

The two men (angels) would have been examples of perfect humanity and would stir up the wicked desires of the perverted.

This is not just homosexuality but homosexual rape.

So sick was this culture that they didn't even try to hide their wickedness but bold in proclaiming their right to do whatever they want to whomever they can. Not satisfied to keep their wickedness private.

Scriptures:

<sup>6</sup> So Lot went out to ~~them~~ through the doorway,

Notes:

shut the door behind him,

Scriptures:

2 Peter 2:6-8 - "...and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; 7 and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked 8 (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds)..."

<sup>7</sup> and said, "Please, my brethren,

do not do so wickedly!

7489 – "To commit an act that is morally wrong."

Notes:

'my brethren' – Lot is fully immersed in the culture of Sodom. Even though Lot was immersed in the culture, his soul was bothered by what he saw there (2 Pet. 2:6-8).

"Lot was a conflicted soul, at the same time both offended and allured by Sodom." (Hughes, 2004) page 272

Lot is proof that being righteous is not the same as being perfect. Lot believed God but struggled to live a holy life. Lot was righteous but his character was not as high as his uncle Abraham.

'...do not do so wickedly!' – this is a mild rebuke and judgment.

<sup>8</sup> See now, I have two daughters who have not

Notes:

'have not known a man' = virgins

'you may do to them as you wish' – this is truly hard to imagine a father saying this. In essence, he is offering his daughters to be raped by these wicked men to protect the angels.

'this is the reason' = the law of hospitality meant that the people in his house were to be protected by him.

"Conflicted, compromised Lot placed the sanctity of hospitality above the sanctity of his family." (Hughes, 2004) page 272

known a man; please, let me bring them out to

you, and you may do to them as you wish; only do

nothing to these men, since this is the reason they

have come under the shadow of my roof."

Scriptures:

1 Peter 4:3-5 - For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. 4 In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you. 5 They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.

<sup>9</sup> And <sup>S</sup>they said, “Stand back!” Then <sup>S</sup>they said,

“This <sup>L</sup>one came in to stay <sup>here</sup>, and <sup>L</sup>he keeps

acting as a judge; now <sup>S</sup>we will deal worse with

<sup>S</sup>you than with them.” So <sup>S</sup>they pressed hard against

the man <sup>L</sup>Lot, and came near to break down the

door.

Notes:

‘deal worse’ = abuse sexually

‘How dare you tell us ‘do not do so wickedly’ and judge our desire as morally wrong! What right do you have to judge us?’

People who have given themselves over to some kind of sin are often offended when you don’t join them or at least give hearty approval to their actions (1 Pet. 4:4).

“In their eyes, the absence of approval is unforgivably judgmental.” (Hughes, 2004) page 272

Lot was not a good person, but at least he felt disgusted by the things the Sodomites were doing around him. Heaven help you if you are surrounded by sinners and you don’t feel something disquieting in your spirit.



Scriptures:

10 But the men reached out their hands and pulled

Notes:

Lot into the house with them, and shut the door.

Scriptures:

11 And they struck the men who *were* at the

Notes:  
Even after being struck blind they tried to commit this abominable act of wickedness. Sometimes even judgment from God will not prevent some people from sinning.

This is judicial blindness and is common to all whom God is planning to judge.

doorway of the house with blindness, both small

5575 -

and great, so that they became weary *trying* to

find the door.

<sup>12</sup> Then the <sup>A</sup>men said to <sup>L</sup>Lot, “Have <sup>L</sup>you anyone

else <sup>S</sup>here? Son-in-law, <sup>L</sup>your sons, <sup>L</sup>your daughters,

and whomever <sup>L</sup>you have in the city<sup>S</sup>—take *them*

out of this <sup>S</sup>place!

Scriptures:

13 For <sup>A</sup>we will destroy this place, because the

7843 - ruin

Notes:

outcry against them <sup>S</sup> has grown great before the

face of the Lord <sup>Δ</sup>, and the Lord <sup>Δ</sup> has sent us to <sup>A</sup>

destroy it.” <sup>S</sup>

<sup>14</sup> So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law,

Notes:  
Lot's compromise in Sodom was deep. He had even betrothed his daughters to men in Sodom, who were 'exceedingly wicked'. The language suggests that Lot's sons-in-law were among the men who had come to his door to have sex with the angels and who had experienced the temporary blindness.

who had married his daughters, and said, "Get up,

They did not believe in divine judgment.

get out of this place; for the Lord will destroy this

city!" But to his sons-in-law he seemed

to be joking.

6711 – "To tell  
false information  
to for fun."

Scriptures:

15 When the morning dawned, the <sup>A</sup>angels urged

Notes:

Lot to hurry, saying, “Arise, take <sup>L</sup>your wife and

<sup>L</sup>your two daughters who are here, lest

you be consumed in the punishment of the <sup>S</sup>city.”

5595 – scrape,  
shave

5771 -

Scriptures:  
Genesis 19:29 - And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when He overthrew the cities in which Lot had dwelt.

16 And while he <sup>L</sup>lingered, the <sup>A</sup>men took hold of his <sup>L</sup>

4102 – hesitate,  
delay

Notes:  
“The angels use of force was an act of mercy.” (Hughes, 2004) page 273

This act of mercy was a result of Abraham’s prayer ([Gen. 19:29](#)).

hand, his wife’s hand, and the hands of his <sup>L</sup>two

daughters, the <sup>A</sup>Lord being merciful to him, and

2551 - pity

<sup>A</sup>they brought him out and set him outside the <sup>L</sup>city<sup>S</sup>.

Scriptures:

17 So it came to pass, when they<sup>A</sup> had brought them<sup>L</sup> Notes:

outside, that he<sup>A</sup> said, “Escape for your<sup>L</sup> life!<sup>E</sup> Do not

4422 -

look<sup>oo</sup> behind you<sup>L</sup> nor stay anywhere in the plain.

Escape to the mountains, lest you<sup>L</sup> be destroyed.”

Scriptures:

18 Then Lot said to them, “Please, no, my lords!

Notes:

Scriptures:

19 Indeed now, your servant has found favor in

Notes:

First, Lot acknowledges that God was merciful and saved his life, but then, doesn't believe that God can protect him in the mountains.

your sight, and you have increased your mercy

which you have shown me by saving my life; but

I cannot escape to the mountains, lest some evil

overtake me and I die.



Scriptures:

20 See now, this city *is* near *enough* to flee to, and

Notes:

it *is* a little one; please let *me* escape there (*is* it

not a little one?) and *my* soul shall live.”

Scriptures:

21 And he said to him, “See, I have favored you

Notes:

concerning this thing also, in that I will not

overthrow this city for which you have spoken.

Scriptures:

<sup>22</sup> Hurry, escape there. For I cannot do anything

Notes:  
'Zoar' = small – it was a mini-Sodom. God in His grace and mercy chose to spare Zoar because of one righteous man.

until you arrive there.”

Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

Scriptures:

<sup>23</sup> The sun had risen upon the earth when Lot

Notes:

entered Zoar.

Scriptures:

24 Then the Lord <sup>Δ</sup> rained brimstone and fire on

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Notes:

Some would like to explain this using some natural phenomenon like an earthquake and/or volcano. Maybe! God is sovereign over the entire universe; He can use natural things to execute judgment or He can create something out of nothing. Regardless of the how of judgment, the Who is the Lord!

Sodom <sup>S</sup> and Gomorrhah <sup>G</sup>, from the Lord <sup>Δ</sup> out of the

heavens.

Scriptures:

25 So He <sup>Δ</sup> overthrew those cities <sup>S+G</sup>, all the plain, all

2015 -

Notes:

'...and what grew on the ground.' – Not even the plants escaped God's judgment.

the inhabitants of the cities <sup>S+G</sup>, and what grew on the

ground.

Scriptures:  
Genesis 19:17 - So it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that he said, "Escape for your life! Do not look behind you nor stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, lest you be destroyed.

Luke 17:31-33 - In that day, he who is on the housetop, and 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, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.

Scriptures:

26 But <sup>L</sup>his <sup>W</sup>wife looked back behind <sup>L</sup>him, and

<sup>W</sup>she became a pillar of salt.

1961 – changed  
into

5333 – a statue

4417 -

Notes:  
Lot and his family were told not to look back at Sodom ([Gen. 19:17](#)).

Why salt?

An angel of grace had taken her hand but the grip of Sodom on her heart was tighter ([Luke 17:31-32](#)).

27 And <sup>A</sup>Abraham went early in the <sup>⌚</sup>morning to the

Notes:

place where <sup>A</sup>he had stood before the <sup>⌚</sup>Lord.

Scriptures:

28 Then <sup>A</sup>he looked toward <sup>S</sup>Sodom and <sup>G</sup>Gomorrah,

Notes:  
We are not told what Abraham is thinking here. Was he wondering if Lot was safe?

and toward all the land of the plain; and he <sup>A</sup>saw,

and behold, the smoke of the <sup>S+G</sup>land which went up

like the smoke of a furnace.

29 And it came to pass, when God destroyed the

cities of the plain, that God remembered

Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the

overthrow, when He overthrew the cities in which

Lot had dwelt.

30 Then Lot went up out of Zoar and dwelt in the

mountains, and his two daughters were with him;

for he was afraid to dwell in Zoar. And he and his

two daughters dwelt in a cave.

Scriptures:

31 Now the firstborn said to the younger, “Our

Notes:

‘come in to us’ – have sex with us.

father is old, and there is no man on the earth to

come in to us as is the custom of all the earth.

Scriptures:

32 Come, let us make our father drink wine, and

Notes:

Incest was forbidden by almost all cultures and often carried the penalty of death. Even in wicked Sodom this would be considered wicked.

They knew what they were doing was wrong. Had to get their father drunk.

we will lie with him, that we may preserve

7901 – have  
sexual intercourse  
with

2421 -

“Lot had mastered the craft of turning a blind eye and a deaf ear to the social and sexual abuses of Sodom.” (Hughes, 2004) page 282

Lot did not participate in the wickedness of Sodom, but he also didn’t stand against it, not even in his own home.

the lineage of our father.”

2233 – seed,  
children



Scriptures:

<sup>33</sup> So <sup>D</sup>they <sup>D</sup>made <sup>L</sup>their father drink wine that night.

Notes:  
Lot was not unconscious, but so drunk that he was not thinking about what he was doing.

And the firstborn <sup>D</sup>went in and lay with her <sup>D</sup>father <sup>L</sup>,

and he <sup>L</sup>did not know when <sup>D</sup>she lay down or when

<sup>D</sup>she arose.

<sup>34</sup> It happened on the next <sup>S</sup> day that the firstborn <sup>D1</sup>

said to the younger, <sup>D2</sup> “Indeed I lay with my father <sup>D1</sup> <sup>L</sup>

last night; let us <sup>S</sup> <sup>D</sup> make him <sup>L</sup> drink wine tonight

also, and you <sup>D2</sup> go in *and* lie with him, <sup>L</sup> that we <sup>D</sup> may

preserve the lineage of our <sup>D</sup> <sup>L</sup> father.”

Scriptures:

35 Then they made their father drink wine that

Notes:

night also. And the younger arose and lay with

him, and he did not know when she lay down or

when she arose.

Scriptures:

36 Thus both the daughters of Lot were with child

Notes:

This is the last mention of Lot's life in the Bible. Not a very good ending!

by their father.

Scriptures:

37 The firstborn bore a son and called his name

Notes:

Moab; he is the father of the Moabites to this day.

Scriptures:

38 And the younger, she also bore a son and called

Notes:

his name Ben-Ammi; he is the father of the people

of Ammon to this day.

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