

Genesis

Chapter 19:27-38

✠ **Gen 19:27-28** ²⁷ *And Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the LORD. ²⁸ Then he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain; and he saw, and behold, the smoke of the land which went up like the smoke of a furnace.*

Here it is the next morning, and I have to wonder if Abraham was in prayer all night for his nephew Lot and his family. Abraham had returned to the place where he was with the Lord just the day before. Remember what the conversation was between the Lord and Abraham?

Here is a quick overview of what that was.

† **Gen 18:20-21, 23 & 32-33** *And the LORD said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grave, I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry against it that has come to Me; and if not, I will know." And Abraham came near and said, "Would You also destroy the righteous with the wicked?" Then he said, "Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose ten should be found there?" And He said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of ten." So the LORD went His way as soon as He had finished speaking with Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place.*

Abraham knew in his heart that there were not 10 righteous people in Sodom and Gomorrah. But still, he may have been hoping that there were for Lot's sake.

Abraham also knew that God would destroy the city, but I wonder if Abraham knew how? Remember that God destroyed the earth with a flood, and God promised that He would not bring a flood to destroy the earth again. But I'm sure Abraham wasn't surprised to see the smoke from the cities that were burned and destroyed.

Abraham's prayer may have been that God would spare the cities, but as he remembered his conversation with the Lord he may have started to pray for the Lord's will to be done not his own.

This happens in our pray time, when we are seeking the Lord from our hearts and start praying for our will to be done. But then in the midst of our prayers, we remember Who God is, and that He is in control of all things. Then we start praying His will to be done not our own, and only then can we be satisfied with God's answers to our prayers. So don't get mad or upset when God doesn't do things your way, but remember who God is, and realize that God knows what He's doing, even if you don't understand it at the time.

✠ **Gen 19:29** 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.*

By reading this, it would seem that Lot did not start out in Sodom and Gomorrah, but was in the surrounding cities slowly making his way towards Sodom and Gomorrah. That's how sin starts, it seems so innocent and we try to get as close to it as we can without being a part of it. But soon we find ourselves in the midst of it, just as Lot had. So next time you wonder "How did I get into this mess?" or "How did I fall into this sin?" look back at your tracks and you will see how you played with sin, getting as close to it as you could until it overtook you.

God destroyed not only Sodom and Gomorrah but also the surrounding cities except for one, which was spared at Lot's request.

✠ **Gen 19:20-22** ²⁰ *"See now, this city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one; please let me escape there (is it not a little one?) and my soul shall live."* ²¹ *And he said to him, "See, I have favored you concerning this thing also, in that I will not overthrow this city for which you have spoken."* ²² *"Hurry, escape there. For I cannot do anything until you arrive there." Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.*

In God's judgment He remembered Abraham and stopped at the plains and didn't continue to destroy the rest of the world because of Abraham and His promise to him.

✠ **Gen 19:30** *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.*

Does this sound familiar?

✠ **Gen 19:15-17** ¹⁵ *When the morning dawned, the angels urged Lot to hurry, saying, "Arise, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be consumed in the punishment of the city."* ¹⁶ *And while he lingered, the men took hold of his hand, his wife's hand, and the hands of his two daughters, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city.* 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." (underlined for emphasis)*

God told Lot the first time to escape to the mountains. But remember that Lot didn't want to because he was afraid, so God spared the city of Zoar for Lot's sake. But in the end, Lot ended up going where God told him to go to in the first place, as we just read.

This happens to us as Christians sometimes. God says to do something and we argue and say, "No God, I think this is a better way." And we end up in the long run going the way

the Lord said to in the first place. We just end up taking the long way around instead of the short way, which is God's way.

✎ **Gen 19:31-35** ³¹ *Now the firstborn said to the younger, "Our father is old, and there is no man on the earth to come in to us as is the custom of all the earth. ³² "Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve the lineage of our father." ³³ So they made their father drink wine that night. And the firstborn went in and lay with her father, and he did not know when she lay down or when she arose. ³⁴ It happened on the next day that the firstborn said to the younger, "Indeed I lay with my father last night; let us make him drink wine tonight also, and you go in and lie with him, that we may preserve the lineage of our father." ³⁵ Then 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.*

"How could these girls do such a thing" we think when we read this. We need to remember that the culture was, and is, different there then it is here in the USA. For them, it was a curse for a woman not to have children. Even now as men, we want to carry on our father's name here in the USA. But we wouldn't go as far as these girls did to do it.

I have to wonder if they heard of God's promise to Abraham and Sarah. And since they didn't see God's promise coming true, with Abraham and Sarah being as old as they were, maybe they just didn't trust God to provide husbands for them. They also may have seen what Abraham and Sarah did by give Hagar to Abraham to have a child, not trusting in God's promise.

So if you don't think people watch you, remember what happened here with Lot's daughters. The things people see you do, they will do also, because we are to be representatives of Jesus Christ, and they will think that if it's OK for you to do as a Christian, then God must approve. Does God approve of what you are doing?

Also even though the bible says that Lot was so drunk that he passed out and didn't know what was going on, couldn't he have know when he woke up the next morning? Plus he allowed them to get him drunk the second night in a row.

But through all this the scriptures says this about Lot.

✠ **2 Peter 2:7** *and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked*

That's right. It says Lot was righteous. But Lot wasn't righteous because of his lifestyle, but rather because of God's grace. And even though he was a righteous man, we see the result of the life style that Lot brought his family into.

Because Lot choose not only to live by Sodom, but in the city, the result was his wife desired the city, and the people, and turned to go back as God was destroying the city. The result of this was her death by being turned into a pillar of salt. Second his sons in law did not believe him and made fun of him as he tried to warn them. The result once again was their death, being destroyed in the city.

Finally Lot's daughters committed a sin by lying with their father, Lot to have children. Remember the city of Sodom and Gomorrah were sexually perverse cities and it didn't phase the girls of what they were doing with their father, since they probably heard and even knew of many people who did the same thing in the city. Some of them may have even been friends of theirs. But even through all this sin with Lot's family, God is still glorified through it all.

Let's see how in the next verses.

✠ **Gen 19:36-38** ³⁶ *Thus both the daughters of Lot were with child 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 *And the younger, she also bore a son and called his name Ben-Ammi; he is the father of the people of Ammon to this day.*

"So what", you may be thinking. If you read the book of Ruth, you will see God's love for His people. And do you know who Ruth was a descendant of? That's right, Ruth was a descendant of Moab and also Jesus was a descendant of Ruth. We see this in the genealogy on the book of Matthew

✠ **Matt 1:5-6** *Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David the king.*

Also the people of Ammon (he Ammonites) were a stumbling block to the children of Israel.

✠ **Judges 10:7** *So the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel; and He sold them into the hands of the Philistines and into the hands of the people of Ammon.*

But through this all, God shows His sovereign love, grace, and mercy upon his people. That includes us also. Sometimes we wonder how we can glorify God with our lifestyle, since we are such sinners. God was glorified by Lot's daughters sin. But that doesn't allow us to sin or think we will be blessed in our sins.

✠ **Romans 6:1-2** *What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?*

We need to hate sin and run from it. But if we do sin, we must remember that God does not hate us, but has forgiven us through His Son Jesus Christ.

Also, when you blow it, that's not an excuse to stop serving in whatever ministry you are in. I know of times when I have mess up and think, "*how can I continue this study or do the devotional that day?*"

But we forget that we can not earn our way into heaven, or even earn our gifts. They are all a free gift to those who ask. God is not someone who will give you something and take it back because you sinned. We all sn everyday, many times each day. We can't base our salvation, service or love for the Lord and His love for us based on our actions. But rather we must base it on His undying love for us and His Son's love for us.

Jesus told this to the woman who was caught in adultery:

† **John 8:11** *She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "**Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.**"*

Today Jesus is saying the same thing to you. "**Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.**" (underlined for emphasis)