

# Genesis 19

## Deliverance & Destruction

**Introduction:** This chapter tells what may be one of the more familiar stories connected with Abraham's life. While many focus on the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah, let's take a closer look at and learn from the life of Lot and his family.

### Genesis 19:1-11

1. Where did the angels find Lot when they arrived at Sodom? Significance?
2. Why do you think that Lot "insisted so strongly" that the two angels go home with him?
3. How did the men of Sodom intend to "welcome" Lot's guests?
4. Agree or disagree? The sin of Sodom was homosexuality.
5. Who does Lot offer to the crowd in place of his two guests?

### Answers

1. Lot was "sitting in the gateway of the city" - The city gate was a place where business and politics were conducted. - Lot and his family were no longer living in the vicinity of Lot as they had originally intended. They had been incorporated into the city.
2. He knew what the citizens of Sodom were capable of and didn't want it to happen to these two visitors.
3. They asked Lot to send them out so they could have sex with them
4. Homosexuality is contrary to God's design for human sexuality as demonstrated in Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:4-6; Romans 1:26.27 - The lack of hospitality and kindness, and attempts of violence were equally as sinful - Sin and rejection of God was demonstrating itself in many different ways
5. Two virgin daughters - There is no justification for Lot's actions - Why he thought this was a better option is beyond comprehension. Fear leads people to irrational actions.

6. Why were the men of Sodom especially enraged by Lot's actions and offers?
7. How did the angels rescue lot from the crowd?
8. What warning is there for us in this account so far?
- Genesis 19:12-29**
9. What information makes Lot's offer of his two virgin daughters to the crowd even more shocking?
10. How did Lot's future sons-in-law respond to his warning? What does this show about them?
11. What does it say that Lot hesitated to leave Sodom and that he and his wife needed to be dragged away from the city by the angel?
12. What request does Lot make of the angel as they flee?
13. What happened to Lot's wife and why?
14. Remember Abraham's prayer in Genesis 18:27ff. Did the Lord answer Abraham's prayer?
6. He was a foreigner! Who did he think he was to come into their "home" and tell them what to do!
7. Pulled Lot inside. Struck the crowd with blindness
8. How easy it is to justify sinful decisions with, "It will never happen to me," or, "It's not that dangerous." Wonder if Lot justified his living in Sodom as a business decision, not realizing how it was going to affect the faith and safety of himself and his family.
9. They were engaged!
10. Thought he was joking. Apparently didn't see any reason for God to bring judgment on Sodom – what sins?
11. Does not seem to be a hesitation due to sadness for the sins and people of Sodom – They had grown fond of the city, its people and its sins, and longed to stay there - Were considering what they were losing instead of gratefulness for God's merciful rescue
12. Find refuge in a closer city
13. Turned into a pillar of salt - She looked back at the city she loved more than God's command not to look back
14. Not in the way that Abraham had asked - If the Lord had done what Abraham had asked, Lot's family would have been destroyed - Instead, the Lord did something even better than Abraham had asked

15. Does the Lord still send destruction as judgment for people's sins today? Why or why not?

#### **Genesis 19:30-38**

16. Why do you think that Lot was afraid to stay in Zoar?

17. How does the plan of Lot's daughters demonstrate that the sins of Sodom had impacted them?

18. Note the meaning of the names of Lot's grandsons and the people who came from each.

19. How do we see throughout this account the fulfilment of the Lord's words in Exodus 20:5,6, "You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments"?

**15.** Unless the Lord specifically tells us, we cannot necessarily connect death or destruction to a specific sin. Every death and amount of destruction is a result of sin which ends that person's time of grace. For the Christian, God uses those events to rescue people to heaven. For the non-Christian, it results in the eternal punishment all sin deserves. For all people, it is a reminder of the seriousness of sin and the need to be prepared in Christian faith for whenever our last day may come.

**16.** Only survivors of this destruction might raise some questions about Lot and animosity towards him

**17.** Their immediate solution to not having a husband or children is drunkenness and incest

**18.** Moab "from father" Ben-Ammi "son of my father's people" Seems almost boastful of their incestual relationship with their father. The Moabites and Ammonites were enemies of God's people Israel for centuries

**19.** Lot's children and grandchildren reaped the consequences of their father's sinful choices. Lot and his family were mercifully rescued by the Lord. There were people from Moab (like Ruth) who were believers in the Lord's promised forgiveness through Jesus and experienced his love and compassion.