

GENESIS –Lesson 36

Learn: I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel. Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you that that which we have preached unto you. Let him be accursed. Galatians 1:6-8

Read: Genesis 19: 1-26

1. Where was Lot sitting when the two angels arrived? v 1
2. How did Lot greet the two angels? vv 1,2
3. When the angels declined his invitation, how did Lot respond? v 3

Since Lot was undoubtedly aware of how strangers would be treated in the vile city where he lived, he certainly would not want the angels to spend the night in the street. Not to mention, that Lot was showing to the angels the common hospitable gesture of the East. Dr. Henry Morris

4. The angels finally agreed to come home with Lot, and he prepared them a feast. What is the only food of that feast that is listed? v 3

This is the first mention of “leaven” in the Bible, and is in accord with all of its later usages. In Scripture, leaven is generally symbolic of evil doctrine or practice corrupting God’s people. The next time it is mentioned is in connection with the Passover feast, when God’s people were told to observe the feast without leaven, and in fact to put away all leaven out of their houses (Exodus 12:15). It is noteworthy that, when it is first mentioned, its absence is symbolically associated with the spiritual fellowship between a remnant of believers and their God, in the midst of an utterly corrupt society. Leaven, of course, being involved with the fermentation process, is a perfect symbol of decay and corruption, and it is important that spiritual fellowship not be contaminated with it.

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5. What do the following passages say concerning leaven:
Matthew 16:6-12

I Corinthians 5:6-9

Galatians 5:6-9; 1:6

6. What happened before they laid down to sleep? vv 4,5

The scene depicted in these verses is almost unbelievable in its revelation of the depravity of the Sodomites. The intent of an occasional degenerate to commit homosexual rape is disgusting enough, even though sodomy is increasingly being accepted and promoted in our present day; but here we have a case in which all “the men of the city...both young and old, all the people from every quarter” surrounded Lot’s house with the intention to commit this crime against his guests. If they had carried out their desires, especially in view of the resistance which they would no doubt have encountered, the orgy would certainly have culminated in murder as well, at least if those whom they sought to abuse had been ordinary men.

The fact that the old men as well as the young men were driven by these lusts, and that, rather than practicing them in secret, they shouted their desires in the streets, adds still another dimension to the enormity of the thing. No wonder God told Abraham that “the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and their sin is very grievous (18:20).

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7. Today there are those who say the Bible does not teach against homosexuality or that God has changed his mind for modern times. What is Paul’s commentary concerning homosexuality in Romans 1:26, 27?

8. What is the cause of this descent into degeneracy, both ancient and modern?

Romans 1:21-25

No matter how impressive may be the scientific and philosophic trappings, underneath it is rebellion against the Creator, and it always leads sooner or later to gross moral depravity. Dr. Henry Morris

9. What did Lot in desperation do to try to protect his guests? vv 6-8

10. What does the fact that Lot still had two virgin daughters in such a wicked city indicate?

11. What affect did Lot's proposal have on the men of the city? v 9

Lot had for some time thought that he was at home among the people of the city, even "sitting in the gate." Now, however, he quickly learned that they had never really accepted him. He had no influence over them whatever under these present conditions, and they resented even the very fact that he had judged their intended action to be morally wrong. This is almost inevitably the ultimate outcome of a compromising relation between carnal Christians and the world.

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12. When it became apparent that there was no solution, what did the angels do? vv 10,11

13. What further indication of the depravity of these men is seen by what they did after being struck blind? v 11

14. Using verses 12 and 14 can you come up with a number of people in Lot's family?

15. It is interesting that Abraham had asked God to spare the city for ten righteous people. What happened when Lot went out to warn his family members that no longer lived in his home? v 14

16. What is very sobering about this example of what a father's compromise with the world system may bring about?

17. When morning came the angels hurried Lot to get his remaining family out of the city. What was their warning? v 15

What did Lot do at their warning?

18. What did the LORD out of His mercy do? v 16

19. What was the warning given Lot and his family in verse 17?

The angels made it plain that the destruction would come early in the morning, after the city was fully awake and aware of what was happening, but before any of the inhabitants would be leaving the city for work in the fields or other purposes, and before any strangers might come into the city. Dr. Henry Morris

20. We see again that Lot tries to compromise with God's express commands. What is his proposal? vv 18-20

It is pitiful the way Lot begs for the opportunity to continue to be at least somewhat comfortable in the world, stressing that Zoar was such a small city (the name itself means "small place") that it couldn't hurt too much to spare it. Also, it was not far distant, so the journey would not be nearly so arduous. Lot's carnality, in spite of his spirituality (which was so uncomfortable to him), kept showing itself at every turn. Dr. Henry Morris

21. What is so remarkable about God's answer to Lot's request? vv 21-23

The Dead Sea is the lowest spot on the earth's surface, 1,286 feet below sea level. The Jordan River empties into it, and it has no outlet. The intense heat evaporates great quantities of water, so that the salinity of the sea continues to increase. It is about 40 miles long by 10 miles wide, and is divided into two parts which are connected by a narrow strait. The southern segment, about 10 miles long, is only about 10 to 20 feet deep, whereas the northern segment is very deep, up to 1,400 feet in places.

Archaeological explorations within the past decade have shown that, at the time of Abraham, there were five large cities on the eastern side of this southern portion of the Dead Sea which, in many respects do seem to answer to the descriptions of the five cities of the plain. If these are indeed the cities of Lot's time, as now seems likely, then Sodom was the southernmost, with Gomorrah, Zoar, Admah, and Zeboim in order proceeding northward. Each city was located along one of the fresh-water streams coming down from the eastern hills into the Vale of Siddim and on into the sea. Each was situated on a

high outspur overlooking its “wadi,” so that it could control the river and its water below. The five cities were apparently very prosperous and supported a very large population (the tombs that have been uncovered indicate probably over a million individuals had been buried in them).

22. Once Lot and his family had departed Sodom, what did the Lord do? vv 24,25

23. What does Jude 7 tell us of this account?

24. What happened to Lot’s wife? v 26

Why? v 17

25. What warning is given by Jesus in Luke 17:28-33?