## GENESIS –Lesson 37

Learn: Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Matthew 16:24-27

Read: Genesis 19:24-38

- 1. How did the LORD destroy the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah? v 24
- 2. The Bible does record other times when God sent fire from heaven. Describe each of the following incidents.

II Kings 1:6-10

Numbers 11:1-3

Leviticus 10:1,2

It is interesting that the word for "brimstone" in the New testament is the Greek "theion," meaning literally "God's fire." The personal connection of God and the two angelic messengers with Sodom's destruction in itself suggests that the "rain of fire and brimstone from the Lord out of heaven" was supernatural, not just the Lord using natural conditions of the area to create the judgment of fire. As you recall there were very many slime pits (also called asphalt pits) in the area which are very combustible.

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3. In verse 25 and again in verse 29, what word is used to describe what God did to Sodom and Gomorrah?

4. The word "overthrow" is the Greek "katastrophe." Use Matthew 21:12 to help explain what it means.
5. What is the difference between "overthrow" (catastrophe) as seen at Sodom and Gomorrah, and what happened at the time of the Flood (cataclysm)? II Peter 2:5, 6
6. What did Abraham see that morning as he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah? vv 27, 28
7. What does the Bible tell us about Lot in II Peter 2:7, 8
8. When we look at Lot, we are not impressed with how he lived and choices he made, but God calls him a righteous man. How can Lot or any one be declared righteous? Hebrews 11:1-3, 6, 13
9. Why was Lot spared from being destroyed in the cities of the plain? v 29
10. Though a person is saved, believing what God has said for salvation, does that make them immune from receiving harm if they insist on being where God does not want them to be? v 29 See also Revelation 18:4.
11. Lot had pleaded to stay in one of the small cities named Zoar, rather than fleeing to the mountains as he had been instructed. The Lord spared that city of the plain and gave Lot and his family permission to stay there. But Lot didn't stay in Zoar. What did he do and why? v 30

- 12. Since Sodom and Gomorrah were south of Zoar, and Admah and Zeboim were north of Zoar, they were right in the middle of devastation. What else was destroyed along with the cities, so that the prosperity of the area was gone? v 25
- 13. What a change in the lives of Lot and his daughters it must have been. They had lived in luxury in Sodom, now they lived in a cave with none of their former possessions. It was a miserable existence. What was one thing that they did manage to bring along with them or find? v 32
- 14. What did Lot's daughters do with that wine? vv32-36

We may note that the daughters of Lot were not motivated simply by lust. Though they had lived in the wickedness of Sodom, they were still virgins. They had kept themselves pure for their future husbands, but now they felt there would be no husbands, thus no one to carry on the family name and no one to care for them in their old age. Since they were unaccustomed to walking by faith in God to meet their needs, they reasoned that the only thing to do was to act in incest with their father.

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- 15. Because they knew their father and that he would not participate in their plan willingly, what did the girls do? v 32
- 16. What does this situation tell us about the danger of drinking intoxicating beverages?
- 17. Read the following passages and share whatever is instructive to you concerning the danger of becoming drunk. Proverbs 23:29-35; Proverbs 20:1; 31:4,5

- 18. Did Lot's daughters accomplish their goal?
- Explain. v 36
- 19. What two nations came from Lot's daughters and Lot? vv 37, 38
- 20. By God's command how were the Israelites to treat the Moabites and the Ammonites when they came to the land of Canaan? Deuteronomy 2:9, 19The Moabites and the Ammonites were frequently at war with Israel in the later years.They lived mostly in the mountainous regions east of the dead Sea. Although they were generally idolaters, not all of them were evil.
- 21. Ruth was a Moabite woman. When her mother-in-law Naomi planned to return to Israel, what was Ruth's response? Ruth 1:15-17
- 22. Ruth moved to Bethlehem with Naomi and there she married Boaz. Who is her famous great grandson? Ruth 1:22
- 23. Who is Ruth's most important descendant? Matthew 1:1-16

Because they were enemies to Israel, in later years God judged the Moabites and the Ammonites severely. These people, along with the Edomites and others, have today long since been essentially amalgamated with the Arabs, descendants of Ishmael. Whether they will ever again be identified as distinct nations or (as seems more likely) will simply share in the future destiny of the Arabic peoples, the Lord knows.

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24. What do the following passages tell us about the future of these two peoples? Jeremiah 48:42-47 Especially note verse 47.