

## **Genesis 19:12-38 – The Destruction of Sodom**

Last week we looked at the beginning of the story of the destruction of Sodom. We also looked at what the Bible says about the sin that had spread through the city, that of homosexuality.

### **Lot and his family slouch away (v12-22)**

To “slouch” means to go somewhere slowly, without being urgent. The angels now told Lot that the Lord had sent them to destroy the city. They told them that the time was near and that they should warn anyone who might believe and flee with them. Lot had sons-in-law and went to them. They did not take Lot seriously – they thought he was joking! A compromising or worldly Christian is not taken seriously. The angels then had to pull Lot and his family out because they were leaving too slowly. Though they were saved, they lost everything and were only saved through the fire. Would it not be better to live with our whole hearts for Christ? Lot was unwilling to live in the mountains; even though the other cities were wicked, he did not want to lose his comfort. His love of the things of the world made his faith weak. Beware of compromise!

### **Sodom and Gomorrah destroyed (v23-29)**

God totally destroyed Sodom. Fire and brimstone came down from the skies. All who lived there were burnt up in his anger. This was God's warning for everyone afterwards who would live in an ungodly way - “Sodom and Gomorrah and the near-by cities, which also took part in sexual immorality and went after unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire” (Jude 7). Lot's wife looked back. It seems that she was sad to leave that city. She loved the good living there, despite all the ungodliness. Jesus said, “Remember Lot's wife. Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it” (Luke 17:32-33). Abraham went out to look. He saw that there were not ten righteous people in Sodom. Surely he looked and he learned from it. We should too!

### **The children of Lot (v30-38)**

Lot settled in the town of Zoar, after he asked God to allow him to stay there. But later he came to fear living there also – because they also were wicked; so he went to the mountains. It would have been better to have obeyed God the first time. Remember at this time that Abraham had been waiting 25 years for a child, and God had now come to keep his promise. But Lot's daughters did not have any faith of this kind either. Lot's compromise had affected them too. They made a depraved plan to have children through their father, whom they made drunk with wine. We do not read again of Lot after this, but we do read of his children (Moab - “of the father”, and Ben-Ammi - “son of my people”), who were often a cause of trouble for Israel. Compromise brings trouble; much better to follow the Lord Jesus with all your heart.