

# Sin in the family

**Genesis 19:26-38**

**Sunday January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011 Morning Service**

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Genesis 19 ends with the sad story of Lot and his family who did not live godly & wise lives. Speaks of awful things because we need to understand the dangers surrounding us that we might live differently.

## 1. The Privileges Of Godly Family

- 1) Associated With The Godly 12:27 Lot was Abraham's nephew. He travelled with his uncle. He associated with the commands given to Abraham. There is in Christian family, blessing by association. See 1 Cor 7: 14.
- 2) Shared In Blessings: as God prospered Abraham materially, Lot also prospered. He also shared Abraham's riches spiritually: See 2 Pet 3:7-8
- 3) Enjoyed Protection: see Genesis 14.
- 4) Rescued Because Of Prayer: see v27-29 'God remembered Abraham & brought Lot out'. The opportunity to escape was given to all Lot's family. To have intercession made for you by a godly person in your family is a great privilege. But you can have all these privileges & squander them.

## 2. Leading Into Danger

Lot as husband & father was head of his family. 2 Peter tells us Lot was a righteous man: yet made disastrous choices

- 1) His priorities: see 13:10-13 Lot chose material plenty but paid no regard to the spiritual consequences. Our priorities as fathers will set scene for our children.
  - 2) His engagement: Lot got more & more involved in Sodom. Our lives & choices take us in directions & carry our families with us. Lot was distressed by the behaviour in Sodom, but he chose to stay.
  - 3) His compromises: Lot welcomes the angels and confronts the crowd. But when we are immersed in a godless environment, its ways of thinking can infiltrate our minds.
- i] in values: v7 Lot offers his daughters to the crowd to assault. Sexual sin was so rampant in Sodom (see Jude 7) that that which should have been utterly horrifying in Lot's eyes, somehow seemed tolerable.

ii] in hesitation: Lot v14,v16 hesitated. He begged to stay at Zoar v17-20. Lot was not really trusting God to look after him.

iii] in fear: Lot is full of fear not faith. He was allowed to go to Zoar but see v30 'he was afraid to stay'. Fear took him to Zoar & fear took him away. He showed no evident trust in God's word to guide his wife & children.

iv] in folly: twice his daughters are able to get Lot completely drunk. This was probably part of the Sodom life style. Rom 12:2 warns 'Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewal of your minds'.

### 3. Loving This World

Jesus in Luke 17:20 tells us to 'Remember Lot's wife. Whoever tries to keep his life will lose it'. We will live eternally with the consequences of choices we now make.

1) She enjoyed plenty: Lot was attracted to Sodom because of its wealth (13:10). Lot's wife was used to luxuries.

2) She nearly escaped: got special warning & help to get out v15-17. We too hear God's Word warning us.

BUT

She gave no thanks: 'She being discontented with the favour God had granted her, glided into unholy desires' (Calvin). Lack of thankfulness to God is the root of all sorts of twisted thinking. She disobeyed. Was told 'don't look back' v17.

She longed for Sodom: this indicated her heart. Her security was not in trusting God but clinging to what this world offered.

She was destroyed with Sodom: on the brink of being saved Lot's wife turned back & became a pillar of salt.

### 4. Living Like Sodom

The values of Sodom had deeply infiltrated the hearts and minds of Lot's daughters.

1) No thankfulness for deliverance:

2) No faith for the future: v.31.

3) No constraint in doing evil: Plan incest by means of getting their father stone drunk. Their descendants became enemies of Israel.

So what do we learn from this tragic account?

1) Mercy is extended to the unworthy: for those who believe God's word, deliverance was provided.

2) Warning is given to us: Lot lost his family literally & morally. His own choices immersed them in a world which swallowed them up.

3) Grace continues. It is extraordinary fact that a descendant of Lot called Ruth, a Moabitess, became the great-grandmother of King David from whom came the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

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