

Genesis 18-19:26 - Lesson 29

Sodom and Gomorrah

1. 18:16-33 - Abraham stands with the LORD

- a. God can do what he wills secretly, but chooses to tell Abraham (and us) about this
- b. "I know him..." - Jesus knew Abraham (John 8:57); and his integrity to do right
- c. "because..." - God gives the reason for his coming judgment, it is not capricious
- d. "sin is very grievous" - compare to Gen 15:16. Does it matter which sin? - Rom 6:23
- e. God is not prejudice, unrighteous, impatient, unjust, or unwise - Pro 18:13
- f. Abraham appeals for justice (not mercy) to righteous ones - 2Pe 2:6-9, 3:9; Ez 33:11
- g. "Judge of all the Earth do right" - When we don't understand, we know He does right
- h. God is more gracious in that he will spare sinners, for the sake of so few - Jer 5:1

2. 19:1-3 - Abraham and Lot

- a. There is a difference in the reception in Gen 18 and the reception in Gen 19
- b. Wiersbe: Lot's heart was in Sodom long before he lived in it - Gen 13:12
- c. Lot has become a Sodomite (politically), and his daughters were marrying them
- d. Lot was delivered, but he is found in a compromised position in Sodom - 1 Tim 6:9

3. 19:4-11 - The Sin of Sodom

- a. The sins in Sodom and their reputation have become proverbial - Luke 17:28-30
- b. Sodomy is associated with homosexuality because of Gen 19:5
- c. Homosexuality is there, but also Jude 7, Eze 16:48, Jer 23:14 Isa 1:10, 17, 3:9;
- d. They were not debating same sex unions in Sodom, their *culture* was sexualized
- e. It wasn't about gender, but about lust, power, idolatry, love (sensuality)
- f. Paul describes this unnatural sin in Rom 1:24-27 and 1 Cor 6:9
- g. The law forbade all sex outside of marriage - Lev 18:22, Deu 23:17
- h. Biblical marriage creates sexual restraint, promotes love, and respect to women/children.

4. 19:12-26 - Lot lingers, questions, hesitates

- a. This is the traditional "fire and brimstone" preaching, and is there any other way?
- b. 20 years Lot had not converted anyone and was losing his family
- c. Lot has no power to influence even his sons-in-law; and he himself "lingered" 19:16
- d. The angels had to drag Lot from the city; then there Lot quibbled with them.
- e. Remember Lot's wife - Luke 17:32 - she wanted to save her life in the world.

5. The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah

- a. Gen 19: 24 - The fire and brimstone come from heaven not from hell.
- b. Christ died for the ungodly sinners like those in Sodom and Gomorrah, like us
- c. God's judgment is real, and Sodom and Gomorrah is an example a warning of wrath to come.

Abraham vs. Lot

1. Abraham was in a tent outside of the city as a pilgrim
 - a. Lot was in a house in a city in a position of leadership
2. The angels visited Abraham in the afternoon (daylight)
 - a. The angels visited Lot in the evening when it was dark
3. The angels came to tell Abraham and Sarah good news about a promised son
 - a. The angels came to tell Lot of destruction
4. Abraham had influenced his house to follow him in circumcision
 - a. Lot had lost influence with his family and respect from his neighbours
5. Abraham stood with the LORD
 - a. Lot stood with the Sodomites
6. Abraham ended up watching the destruction of the wicked from his home
 - a. Lot lost his wife and everything he had fleeing his home
7. Abraham remained a sojourner
 - a. Lot tried everything he could to not appear as one