

Remember Lot's Wife

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Luke 17:28-37 Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed. In that day, he which shall be upon the housetop, and his stuff in the house, let him not come down to take it away: and he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back. Remember Lot's wife. Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it. I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left. Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. And they answered and said unto him, Where, Lord? And he said unto them, Wheresoever the body is, thither will the eagles be gathered together.

- I. "Remember Lot's wife..."
 - A. She only made one very brief appearance in the Word of God.
 - B. The only time she is mentioned is at the end of her life.
 - C. We know nothing about her at all, except what we know about how she died.
 - D. She is a nameless person who Jesus held up as one to remember as you are anticipating meeting God.
 - E. But evidently there are some very important lessons Jesus wanted us to learn from Lot's wife.

- II. She was almost saved, but lost at the very last.
 - A. No doubt she had heard about, and maybe even had met Abraham and Sarah.
 - B. She was aquatinted with God and truth and righteousness.
 - C. She held the hand of angel of God.
 - D. She made it out of Sodom alive.
 - E. She was doing what others were doing that were being delivered, also.
 - F. She was within sight of the refuge.
 - G. She still had her husband and two young daughters with which to start a new life.
 - H. In spite of all this, still she looked back.

- III. She thought she was safe when she turned to look back.
 - A. The thought in her mind was that she was out of reach of the destruction.
 - B. How could she be affected by what was happening back there where she just came from, just by looking at it one more time?
 - C. Instead of looking ahead, she looked back, and her mind and heart were affected in ways that brought her immediate destruction.

Luke 9:62 And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

- D. How many are going to go the way of Lot's wife?
 1. Almost delivered, within sight of home, and then start looking back and taking up thoughts and affections of the wickedness they have been brought out of.

- E. How many are going to get to the very threshold of heaven and be lost at the very last like Lot's wife?
 - F. Death bed testimonies through the ages tell us the frightening truth about this matter.
- IV. Her looking back was what caused her to perish.
- A. If she had not turned she would not have perished.
 - B. It was what her heart felt when she turned that made her continued living unacceptable to God.
 - C. To grieve and long for the life you once had in the midst of wickedness and evil and hold onto it as something precious reveals a heart that is not truly converted and not after God.
 - D. To sympathize with and have empathy toward the wicked people of Sodom is to put yourself at enmity with God.
 - E. It is to condemn God and justify the wicked.
 - F. The pilgrim of God looks forward and only remembers the former life with rejoicing that he was brought out of it.
 - G. The past sinful life is abominable to him and he has no secret longing or sentimental feelings about it.
- V. She was made an example by Jesus for all of humanity to look at as they ponder the end of all things.
- A. A pillar of salt, that probably stood for many, many years there within sight of where Sodom had been.
 - 1. Even though that physical pillar of salt may be gone now, Jesus made sure to establish it forever by mentioning these three words as He taught about the final end when He comes to judge this world.
 - B. Jesus said for us to remember her – to think about her; to look at her and what happened to her, and why.
 - C. God uses the destruction of the wicked as an example to us to keep us from going the same way, and also ending up as an example of what sin and selfishness comes to in the end.
- VI. Her looking back affected the lives of many others very badly, also.
- A. What might have happened with Lot if his wife had stayed with him and their daughters?
 - B. It is very likely that there would not have been a Moab or an Ammon, who have caused much trouble for the people of God until this day.
 - C. How much harder was Lot's life after that because she could not bring herself to look forward instead of back?
- VII. Keep your eyes, your thoughts, your ears, and your heart out of the past and in the present and the future.
- A. Remember Lot's wife so you will remember what might happen to you.
 - B. Remember Lot's wife so you will be mindful of what might happen to others if you start looking back.
 - C. Remember Lot's wife so you will have a healthy fear of a holy God who has had mercy on you and led you this far.