

Genesis 19:11-26

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

This chapter is very controversial. We have 3 strangers that visit Abraham in his tent. After they eat a meal cooked by Abraham, they get up to leave. As was the custom of the time, the host would walk with the visitors a way after they left. This is what Abraham did.

- 11 And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great, so that they wearied themselves to find the door.** These men of the city talked to Lot and even in his depraved state, had moved in with the world, and the world had influenced him to such a degree that he offered his virgin daughters to the men to be abused in anyway they saw fit. These angels produced a miracle by blinding all the bad men trying to get into Lot's house. This protected all in the house.
- 12 ¶ And the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? Son-in-law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whomsoever thou hast in the city, bring them out of the place:** The angels warned Lot: get all your family out of here right now. Don't waste any time.
- 13 for we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxed great before Jehovah; and Jehovah hath sent us to destroy it.** God sent these 2 angels on a mission: go forth and destroy the cities, men, women, & children alike. They were all so perverse, He ordered them all destroyed and wiped out.
- 14 And Lot went out, and spoke unto his sons-in-law, who married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for Jehovah will destroy the city. But he seemed unto his sons-in-law as one that mocked.** There's a controversy here: there are 2 daughters that leave with Lot that are living with Lot at this time. This verse says Lot went to his sons-in-law houses to warn them. In those days, if a couple was engaged, they were considered married. We don't know for sure if there are 2 more daughters married or if these men were just engaged to his daughters that were living with Lot at that time. Don't worry about this point, it's not worth getting worked up about. Lot's sons-in-laws made fun of him, saying this city has been here forever and it's not going anywhere. Go away, fool!
- 15 ¶ And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters that are here, lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city.** Now this says there are 2 daughters here in the house with him, and they are to leave the city now, immediately.
- 16 But he lingered; and the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters, Jehovah being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city.** Lot still delayed, still lollygagged around, even though they have been warned over and over again. The angels had to forcibly remove Lot from the premises.
- 17 And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the Plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed.** They tell Lot get out of the whole plains area where the 5 cities were, get out and go to the mountain, the safest place to be.
- 18 And Lot said unto them, Oh, not so, my lord:** Lot is still arguing with the angels!
- 19 behold now, thy servant hath found favor in thy sight, and thou hast magnified thy loving kindness, which thou hast showed unto me in saving my life; and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest evil overtake me, and I die:** Hey guys, I appreciate you wanting to save me from the city, but I may die up there anyways. Instead of trusting God and going where he was directed by God, he argues! What gall. When God tells you to go, you go and God will take care of everything when you get there.
- 20 behold now, this city is near to flee unto, and it is a little one. Oh let me escape thither (is it not a little one?), and my soul shall live.** Hey guys, there's a little city nearby. Let me go there and I feel I will be safe there.

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- 21 And he said unto him, See, I have accepted thee concerning this thing also, that I will not overthrow the city of which thou hast spoken.**
- 22 Haste thee, escape thither; for I cannot do anything till thou be come thither. Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.** The angel said, Lot, You've got to get on the move and we'll spare the small city of Zoar since you so dead set on not going to the mountains right now.
- 23 The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot came unto Zoar.** The sun had just come up: early morning.
- 24 ¶ Then Jehovah rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from Jehovah out of heaven;** This is how Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed by God: brimstone and fire rained from the sky. That's all we need to know. The point is, God does judge evil in His way and time. So we are to listen to Him and do the best we can lest we be judged too.
- 25 and he overthrew those cities, and all the Plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.** This was a very fertile farming area. Everything grew wonderfully there. The remnants of these cities are still there if you want to go see them today. God destroyed everything there and made it a desolate wasteland.
- 26 ¶ But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.** There is a ridge there called the Mountain of Sorrow. It is made of salt and it runs 5 miles long. There are salt pillars all over the area. She ignored the warning of the angels. When God or angels warn you, listen! The lesson is: God will judge evil. There reaches a point when man crosses the line in the sand and He intervenes. But He usually gets His Christians out of the area first, then He judges or destroys the area. We are to be very careful about how we deal with the world. This means our behavior, our wealth, and our material goods. We can loose all of it in a second. God can and will take everything away from you.
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1 Corinthians 3:10-15

(this is Paul writing a warning to early Christians)

- 10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another builds thereon. But let every man take heed how he builds thereupon.**
- 11 ¶ For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.** Base your life on Jesus Christ.
- 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;** these 6 things are not very valuable compared to Jesus Christ.
- 13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.** Every Christian one day after we leave this earth will appear before the judgement seat of Jesus Christ. He will take all you works and pile them on an altar and burn them. All the gems that come out will be your reward in heaven.
- 14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.** there will be rewards in heaven. It depends on how you want to live this life.
- 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.** Men whose works all burn up because they concentrated their efforts on worldly attainments will be the street sweepers of heaven. They have been saved, they got their foundation, but they won't get any rewards in heaven. Everything you do stays with you forever. It will be known what kind of Christian you were by your display of rewards in heaven. Be aware of your priorities in life. Keep your eye on God and His will, not your own.
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