

Genesis Chapter 19

Ge 19:1-3 And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing *them* rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground; **2** And he said, Behold now, my lords, turn in, I pray you, into your servant's house, and tarry all night, and wash your feet, and ye shall rise up early, **and go on your ways**. And they said, **Nay; but we will abide in the street all night**. **3** And he pressed upon them greatly; and they turned in unto him, and entered into his house; and he made them a feast, and did bake unleavened bread, and they did eat.

While Abraham “stood yet before the Lord” (Ge.18:22) the angels made their way to Sodom and would encounter a similar, yet different greeting. Like Abraham, Lot immediately recognized who these men were and invited them to stay. Not because he desired fellowship, but because he was hoping they wouldn’t discover his sinful surroundings. Lot is a picture of a believer with one foot in the world (a spiritual fornicator). He agrees with what the bible says but doesn’t want to miss out on what the world has to offer. He lives between two worlds, he has two loves, two affections, and two loyalties. He doesn’t completely get along with “the brethren” and he doesn’t completely get along with the world. Thus, he is never satisfied with either crowd (see [Matt.6:24](#), [Jas.1:8](#)). He never gets full approval from the Lord or the Devil. Lot feigned himself to be an influencer. He would win the Sodomites over by loving them, not condemning them. He would be a bridge builder, a uniter not a divider. Not hardcore like Uncle Abraham ([Gen.14:23](#)). But those he called “brethren” (vs.7) didn’t consider him family. Ultimately, they considered Lot a “sojourner”, (vs.9).

The angel’s approach drastically differed from Lot’s. They were unkind, hellfire and brimstone preachers who came to expose the sin of Sodom, and “see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it” (Ge.18:21). And if so, they would destroy it. For this reason, they refused Lot’s invitation and said, ““Nay, but we will abide in the street all night” (vs.2). Knowing this would expose his double life, Lot “pressed them greatly”

Ge 19:4-9 But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter:

It didn’t take long for the Sodomites to swarm the house hoping to encounter these “sons of God” (Ge.6). Their sin included people from every quarter, both old and young. This illustrates the recruitment strategy of Sodomites. They especially love to recruit young people. This is done through entertainment, politics, schools, gay marriage, etc. Amid this debauchery, Lot continues his non-judgmental, Lakewood Community Church approach of conflict resolution. He comes from the house and says, “I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly” (vs.7) naively believing that this mob of depraved Sodomites would respect the rights of these holy angels. After all, aren’t we all working towards MLK’s dream for society where “all of God’s children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual: Free at last! Free at last!”

Ge 19:10-13 But the men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door. **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. **12** And the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, bring *them* out of this place: **13** For we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of the LORD; and the LORD hath sent us to destroy it.

Once again, God and his angels have a slightly different approach than Lot. They are less tactful and say offensive things like, “Repent or perish, turn or burn” (Lk.13:3), “Flee from the wrath to come” (Mt.3:7), “Come out from among them and be ye separate” (Cor.6:17). Furthermore, they violate Lot’s safe space by laying hold on him and pulling him back into the house (vs.10) The original manuscripts quote them as saying, “Get in here before you make things worse. If it weren’t for the prayers of your Uncle Abraham, we’d let you burn with the rest of them.” Then, in their lack of appreciation for diversity, they cripple the men outside with blindness. Finally, while still holding on to Lot. they shake him and say, “Hast thou here any besides? ... bring *them* out... For we will destroy this place” (vs.12-13).

Ge 19:14 And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law.

Unless you’re like Lot (or King Hezekiah, [2Ki.20:19](#)), this verse should convict you. Lot was reaping in his children what he had sown. Lot took things inch by inch, but his kids took things a mile. Lot left the Baptist church for the Community church around the corner (for better activities) and children eventually went to the world for better activities. Lot sipped wine socially (you know, for business purposes), so his kids indulged at the college beer bash. Lot believed in loving thy neighbor as thyself, so his children loved the world – *and burned with it*. But ultimately, Lot moved more than a few inches over the years. He had come to a place that even he could never have imagined when his precious daughters were only babies. Verse nine says he offered his little girls to the filthy mob in place of the angels (*sin will take you farther than you want to go*). But before getting too upset with Lot, it may be a good time for self-reflection. Are we allowing this world to have their way with our children rather than suffer the reproach of bible convictions.