

Genesis 19

Lot is often used to describe believers in the end times. Compromised and too connected to this world. Sodom has devolved. The residents have animal-like behavior. It is the first mention in the bible of homosexuality. It is always associated with the end of a culture. These men are driven by their appetites for pleasure.

Our conscience is built in to warn us that we are going the wrong way. Anyone participating in this lewd behavior has had to aggressively block God out of their mind. Biblical standards are an extreme irritant to them. Instead of reassessing their direction in life, they change the conversation to mischaracterize God or authorities. That is close to the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit. That is like breaking your compass on purpose so you can knowingly go the wrong way. God is putting an end to this manmade disaster. This is not intended to be an isolated historical narrative. These tendencies are coming back again.

For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. (Romans 15:4)

Read Genesis 19:1-11: The two angels who were with Jesus and Abraham in chapter 18 arrived in Sodom. They are assessing the coming judgement. Total destruction is about to ensue. Lot was now a city elder, who spent time in community oversight at the city gates. How could a believer be acting like a city councilman in San Francisco?

and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; ⁷ and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked ⁸ (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds)— ⁹ then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, (2 Peter 2)

Lot jumped at the chance to connect with these two mysterious strangers who arrived at Sodom. Obviously, they looked like men. Lot was very interested in providing oriental hospitality. Entertaining strangers is a very sacred thing in the middle east. You literally have to protect whoever is under your roof with your own life. He probably had the first crack at making a business deal with travelers.

Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels. (Hebrews 13:2)

It is interesting that the angels and Jesus had lunch with Abraham (chapter 18), but they really did not want to dine with Lot. The angels would rather stay out in the streets, than to enter Lot's house. Abraham was a friend of God; and he tried to seek God's presence. That means that Abraham was a man of prayer and praise. Lot is a believer who has a history of compromise. He is a Christian minimalist. Angels are faithful workers, who do not completely see what God sees in us.

To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into. (1 Peter 1)

Lot chose the best grazing land for himself when Abraham and he split up their sheep production operations. Lot moved his family near Sodom; a place known for evil inhabitants. Then Lot moved into position as a city leader. He could not help himself. We can convince ourselves that business is business all day long. Eventually you will have no friends or family. We are known for our spiritual legacies. Lot had none. In fact, his descendants became enemies of Israel.

Lot kept doubling down on his bad decisions. Uncle Abraham had to rescue his nephew more than once. Lot was already rescued from being kidnapped (Genesis 14). This rescue mission was probably an embarrassment to the angels. It was known place of evil men. Nevertheless, Lot put his family in harm's way to get at the best grazing land around. Now Lot was somewhat in charge of this filthy place.

When the Kingdom of Light shows up among evil men everything changes. The music stops. These angels have a job to do. People are being abused and are being subjected to the designs of depraved men. God hears the lowest and weakest voices. Who knows what the slaves endured in that place. This situation has gone on long enough. Men become like animals when God is not in their thinking.

Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth." (Revelation 16:1)

This is what happens when godless men bypass their God given intuition, and their brain does not work right. All these people thought about was how to sin again.

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, ² speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, ³ forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. (1 Timothy 4)

But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. (2 Timothy 3:13)

You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination. (Leviticus 18:22)

The men of the town discovered that strangers had entered town. It became the talk of the town. Young men, and men of all ages from all parts of the city were transfixed on having homosexual relations with these strangers. Like zombies, they came out of their dwellings into the street and all converged-on Lot's house. They had no shame whatsoever. They made it known that they wanted to have sex with these men.

Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. ⁶ And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. ⁷ So the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." ⁸ But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. (Genesis 6)

One thing that makes homosexuality especially wicked is the pride and boisterous way that the participants carry on. Adulterers do not have parades and floats displaying their sex acts. These people see themselves as intentionally breaking away from God's ways of living altogether. Unlike other sins, they promote it aggressively.



Lot committed himself to these angelic visitors. He offered to give away his two virgin daughters to appease the growing crowd. That is just hard to imagine. These crazed homosexuals had no need for a woman. Their desires were so peaked that they were trying to break the door down. The angels blinded these men; and they still kept trying to get in the house!

Read Genesis 19:12-29: When Abraham interceded for Lot and his family to be spared, he stopped at 10 men. That is the reason that Jews require at least 10 men to form a synagogue. Lot must have had at least 4 daughters. He had two sons in law, and he had two who were virgins.

Like Noah, God gave this sole believer a chance to bring along his family to escape the coming judgement. It is a sad commentary that his son in laws and married daughters laughed at Lot's plea to escape the coming destruction.

For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband; otherwise your children would be unclean, but now they are holy. (1 Corinthians 7:14)

So Noah, with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, went into the ark because of the waters of the flood. (Genesis 7:7)

The angels told Lot's family not to look back as they escaped. They could not destroy the area until Lot was clear.

Iranians describe fear and sadness over Trump evacuation warning

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Azadeh Moshiri and Taraneh Fathalian
BBC Pakistan correspondent and BBC Persian



Traffic congestion has made leaving Tehran difficult as large numbers of people attempt to flee

Many Iranians have reacted with fear and dismay at Donald Trump's instruction to "immediately evacuate Tehran".

The capital's almost 10 million residents have now been left to decide whether to shelter in their homes - bracing themselves for what could come next - or attempt to join the heavy traffic leaving the country's capital.

President Trump made his comments just moments before cutting short his trip to the G7 in Canada, leaving many wondering if this could mean a further escalation in the conflict between Israel and Iran was imminent.

Many of those deciding to leave Tehran are posting images of their homes online, a poignant trend in Persian-language social media for those leaving their city behind.

Lot's wife's heart was still in her life in Sodom. As she turned around, she turned into a pillar of salt. Lot also wanted to hang to as much of the old life as he could. He begged to stay just on the outskirts of the blast. He was afraid to go where Abraham lived. He was probably ashamed or envious. He went to Zoar; which is defined as *insignificant and small*. That is the life that you are stuck with as you minimize your moves with God. You are ruined for the pleasures of this world, because of the Holy Spirit living in you. You are also estranged from the joy of the LORD since you are minimizing your time with him.

God literally rained down fire and brimstone. It is scattered all around the Dead Sea, which covers the areas of Sodom and Gomorrah.



Sulfur can be flammable and catch fire easily, depending on the form. Sulfur powder will ignite easier than as a solid. The ignition temperature is between 160 and 190 degrees celsius (320 to 374 Fahrenheit).

But there is a 1.5-meter (5-foot) interval in the Middle Bronze Age II stratum that caught the interest of some researchers for its “highly unusual” materials. In addition to the debris one would expect from destruction via warfare and earthquakes, they found pottery shards with outer surfaces melted into glass, “bubbled” mudbrick, and partially melted building material, all indications of an anomalously high-temperature event, much hotter than anything the technology of the time could produce.

“We saw evidence for temperatures greater than 2,000 degrees Celsius (3,600 degrees Fahrenheit),”

God literally sanitized the contagion. Fire kills everything; and salt keeps it from becoming re-contaminated. The Dead Sea is the lowest surface on the earth, and it is the saltiest water (26% saline) on earth. That is symbolic too. The ocean is only 3% salt.

Interestingly, the scriptures describe the Dead Sea becoming fresh and alive again. At 429 meters below sea level, the Dead Sea is the lowest land spot on earth. And as its name suggests due to its salt density (nearly 10 times denser than the ocean), nothing is able to live in the water. This includes fish and other aquatic life. It doesn’t even have plant life along its shore because of the layers of salt.

It has been prophesied that this dead place will come back to life. That just started happening!

Then he said to me: “This water flows toward the eastern region, goes down into the valley, and enters the sea. When it reaches the sea, its waters are healed. ⁹ And it shall be that every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, will live.

There will be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes. ¹⁰ It shall be that fishermen will stand by it from En Gedi to En Eglaim; they will be places for spreading their nets. Their fish will be of the same kinds as the fish of the Great Sea, exceedingly many. ¹¹ But its swamps and marshes will not be healed; they will be given over to salt. (Ezekiel 47)

The Dead Sea is “anything but dead,” he said, calling it the “eighth wonder of the world.”



Fish swim in sinkholes at the Dead Sea. (Credit: Noam Bedein/Dead Sea Revival Project)

Bedein has witnessed fish in Dead Sea sinkholes, microorganisms, growing vegetation and millions of visitors each year who come seeking life through the body of water’s high oxygen levels and special minerals.

Indeed, the existence of fish in the Dead Sea, a reality that seems to contradict the laws of nature, has been explained by science and Biblical prophecy alike.

On the shores of the Dead Sea – more than 400 meters below sea level – are freshwater sinkholes, created as a result of dropping water levels. These large sinkholes were discovered in 2011, carpeted with microorganisms and on the sea’s shores – fish and algae.

“One hundred and sixty researchers and almost every university has something to say about saving the Dead Sea,” said Jackie Ben Zaken, Dead Sea guide and expert on the Dead Sea ecosystem. Sinkholes, he said, are caused by “fresh water running under the ground, meeting the sediment layers and melting them.”

“As a result of these sinkholes, we see habitats with less than 1.5% salinity – water you could drink – surrounded by salt water as well as minerals like bromine, magnesium, and potassium,” he told *Breaking Israel News*.

Read Ezekiel 22:30-38: The two surviving daughters and their dad (Lot) may have thought that they were the only living souls on earth. They committed incest when their dad was not conscious. They wanted to continue the family lineage. One daughter began the nation of Ammon (as in Aman, Jordan). The other started the nation of Moab is also included in modern Jordan. The legacy of these relatives of Abraham would become antagonistic to the children of Israel.