



Lot and His Family Flee From Sodom and Gomorrah

Sodom and Gomorrah

Lot was Abraham's nephew and had come to this land with Abraham. But, their herds had gotten too big to stay together, so Lot and his family moved to Sodom and Gomorrah. Sodom and Gomorrah were wicked cities close to each other. One night Sodom was visited by two men from God. They were angels! Lot could tell these men were different. Sleeping in the town square was dangerous, so Lot invited them to his home. They were so unlike his neighbors in Sodom, and he knew that the late hour would not bring good things.

Lot had lived in the city so long that he had forgotten what it was like to live with people who knew and loved God. When Lot was with Abraham, it seemed easier to make good choices, but living in Sodom, he found it easier to make bad choices. As he walked with these strangers, he felt the weight of his bad choices. His sin was heavy. Usually He tried to make good choices, and he was quick to ask the Lord's forgiveness when he failed. But, Lot knew his temptation to sin wasn't just because he lived in Sodom. Lot had sin inside of him and he knew he needed God's help.

Everything that night happened so quickly. The men of the city yelling and banging at his door were part of the sin of these cities that came to Lot's doorstep. He couldn't ignore it anymore. The next thing he knew the angels were pulling Lot and his family from their home. God saved Lot and his family by bringing them quickly out of the sinful city. The men Lot had welcomed were sent from God to deliver them from God's judgment on the cities. Outside the city, the angels explained that God would destroy the city because of sin, but that God was sparing Lot's family. God will bring judgment to keep sin from growing too much. And now the evil cities of Sodom and Gomorrah would experience judgment to keep their sin from hurting more people. Lot was grateful that God had delivered them.

But Lot's wife didn't feel the same. She loved the city, and when the angels told them to flee, she didn't want to go. When they took her hand, she pulled back and argued with them, but the angels didn't listen. Lot knew she would rather stay in Sodom than obey God.

God wants us to follow Him with our whole hearts. He wants us to obey Him, not because He wants to keep us from fun, but because He wants to protect us from the consequences of sin, but Lot's wife didn't understand. She disobeyed and looked back at the city she loved more than God. Lot's wife didn't escape God's judgment because He knew her heart, so when she looked back she became a pillar of salt. God saved Lot and his daughters because of His love. Today, the sacrifice of Jesus Christ is better than what the angels did for Lot and his daughters. Jesus paid the price for our sin for all time. Like the angels in this picture, Jesus' love pulls us toward loving and obeying God and away from judgment for our sin.