



1/27/26

*Today we get to learn about one of the descendants of Ham. Yikes! The curse placed on his son, Canaan, truly was lived out. What I love about the gospel is that God can redeem us from our past. 1 Peter 1:18-19 says of believers, "You were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot." Amen!*

*Blessings,  
Jonna*

*Genesis 19:1-29*

*In Genesis 18, the LORD Yahweh told Abraham, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to Me. And if not, I will know." Abraham knew that his nephew, Lot, was living there, so he begged the Lord... "Even if there are only 50, no 45, no 30, or even 20, or what about 10 righteous men in Sodom (where my nephew lives), would You please spare the city?" God agreed to his request. But as I will see in Genesis 19, there were NOT even 10 righteous men. And they were SO NOT RIGHTEOUS that they were downright evil.*

*Two angels arrived at Sodom in the evening where Lot was sitting at the gate. It was common for the leaders of a city to sit in the gate and discuss the issues of the day.*

*Lot went to these "men" and humbly bowed down and asked them to come and stay at his house. They said, "No, we'll spend the night in the town square." But Lot continued to press them to stay with him. So they finally said yes and went with Lot to his house and he made them a pretty nice spread. Apparently, he and his wife had the gift of hospitality. 🤔*

*So... Lot was righteous. 2 Peter 2:7-8 says of him, the Lord "rescued righteous Lot, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked (for as that righteous man lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and*

heard)." But were there 9 other righteous men? Not even one.

That night, every single man in that town, from young to old, went to Lot's house and called for him to send out the two men so that they could take turns "knowing" them. They wanted to rape them repeatedly. That's just sick!

I'm a little sad about how Lot responded. He said, "Please do not act so wickedly as to do this to these men that I have sheltered under my roof. TAKE MY DAUGHTERS INSTEAD!" UGH!!! Apparently it was considered less shameful to give up his daughters than two visitors under his roof. (Thankfully, the Lord still protected them.)

Though Lot's daughters were betrothed to 2 of the men at the door, they were still virgins, and Lot hoped this "lesser" evil would satisfy the crowd outside. It did not. They were so offended by Lot that they said they would not only rape the two visitors, but they would do even worse to Lot! Sick! They basically said, "Who does Lot think he is that he would act as judge over us!!!"

That's what people do when they don't want to obey God. Instead of looking at their own hearts, they cast blame. It started in the Garden of Eden and it continues today... and it is a temptation for me as well. O Lord, please help me to be honest about my own sin. Help me not to compromise in ANYTHING that would pull me away from You.

The men were so incensed that they started to break down the door. That's when the two visitors showed who they really were... angels from God. They grabbed Lot and shut the door. Then they struck every single man with blindness... while they STILL GROPE AT THE DOOR TO ASSAULT LOT AND THESE ANGELS!!!

Then the angel men asked Lot who else was with him, so that they could save his family from the destruction they were about to bring. Lot had his two daughters and his wife with him, and he went to beg his sons-in-law-to-be to come with them. But they treated him like he was just joking. Guys... look at his body language! Hear his voice. He's not joking. I think they knew he wasn't joking, but they didn't care.

So as morning dawned, the angels urged Lot to take his family and go so that they didn't die with Sodom and Gomorrah. Lot was lollygagging. So... because of the compassion and mercy of God, the angels grabbed Lot and his family and took them out of the city and said, "Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away."

Lot did not want to go to the hills. He said if they went to the hills, they would not escape disaster. God is so gracious... If God could protect Lot from these evil people, surely He could protect him and his family from disaster in the hills. But God allowed Lot to go to a nearby city. It says He "granted to Lot this favor." Lot was told, (Go to the city. Nothing will happen here until you arrive there.) So Lot and the women went to a city that they called Zoar, which means

*"little" or "insignificant".*

*Estimates say Zoar was anywhere from 5-20 miles from Sodom. All I know from scripture is that they arrived sometime soon after the sun had risen. But when they did, God rained sulfur and fire from heaven on Sodom and Gomorrah just as He said He would. He overthrew the cities and everything around them, even what grew on the ground. Archeological evidence has been found that shows sulfur balls where Sodom and Gomorrah were located. Here's a YouTube video link... <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=jQl4KaRtef8>*

*Sadly, the angels had told Lot and his family not to look back. But when they got to Zoar, Lot's wife looked back. I'm sure it wasn't just curiosity. God knows our hearts. She was looking, wishing she could have her old life back. God turned her into a pillar of salt. How serious is God about wanting our holiness? Very serious. Jesus is the only reason I have not been turned into a pillar of salt. O Lord, let me never look back and miss what I had without You. Truly, I was MISERABLE without You. Let me remember that everything You take me to is on the paths of Your steadfast love and faithfulness (Psalm 25:10).*

*I'm sure Abraham did not get much sleep that night. He went early in the morning to the place he had stood before the Lord the day before, and he saw Sodom and Gomorrah going up in flames. Then he knew where his nephew had been living... in a place where not even 9 other me were righteous. But in God's mercy and grace, He spared Lot in answer to Abraham's prayer.*

*What do I see in this passage? God has all knowledge and all authority. Hebrews 4:13 says, "All are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account." Let me never think God's patience is a sign of weakness or indifference to evil. Just like God waited to bring judgment down on Sodom and Gomorrah until He saved Lot and his family, He is waiting to bring down His full judgment on the devil and all those who refuse to turn to the Lord. 2 Peter 3:9 says, "The Lord is not slow to fulfill His promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."*

*O Lord, please help me to grow more and more to respect Your authority and to bow to You as Lord. You are so patient, so merciful, so gracious. You work with me as I am, but You don't leave me as I am. Please help me to be in the world, but not of the world.*

*When I was kid, I heard people say, "That person is so heavenly minded that he is no earthly good." I thought that meant I should be careful not to get too set on You or I would be no earthly good. But that's a lie from the pit of hell. The truth is, when I am earthly minded, I am no heavenly good... and that's what really matters! This world is not my home. Help me to live like it!!! Help me, O Lord, to live according to 1 Peter 1:13, "Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ." Let all my hope be set on You. Amen.*