

## **“God’s Magnified Heseid in the Life of Lot”**

### **Genesis 19:15-29**

“You have magnified Your heseid toward me in saving my life....”(Genesis 19:19)

Today is the second message in a four-week miniseries on the Old Testament Hebrew word – heseid. The uniqueness of today’s passage is it contains the first use of heseid in the Old Testament, and it is spoken by Abram’s nephew, Lot. There is a helpful truth of Bible interpretation called *the law of first mention*, the principle being that the first time a subject is mentioned in the Bible, God gives a very clear idea of its meaning. This principle is especially helpful in understanding heseid.(Note: All references are from Genesis unless otherwise noted.)

### **Expressions of God’s heseid to Lot through Abraham**

1. His paternal love after Lot’s father’s death (12:4-5).
2. His giving to Lot the priority choice of land in resolving a quarrel between their herdsmen (13:1-13).
3. His protective heart in rescuing Lot after he was captured during a war of the kings (14:1-16).
4. His passing to Lot the truth about God’s righteousness (15:1-6; II Peter 2:6-10).
5. His prayers for Lot when he learned that Sodom was under God’s judgment and soon to be destroyed (18:16-33).

### **Expressions of God’s heseid to Lot through the Angels**

1. They protected Lot by rescuing him from the perverted men of Sodom (19:10-11).
2. They informed Lot of God’s imminent judgment on Sodom (19:13).
3. They urged Lot to take immediate action to avoid God’s impending judgment (19:15).
4. They forcefully escorted Lot, his wife, and two daughters out of the city because God’s compassion was on him (19:16).
5. They implored Lot and his family to flee to the mountains and not look back (19:17).

### **Expressions of God’s heseid to Lot’s presumptuous request**

1. God saved Lot’s life because of His abounding heseid (19:19).
2. God graciously granted Lot’s presumptuous request even though it meant sparing the small town of Zoar that had been included in His original plan for judgment (19:21-22).

### **The Epilogue**

1. God's righteous judgment was poured out on the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah (19:23-25).
2. Lot's wife disobediently looked back and became a pillar of salt (19:26; Luke 17:28-33).
3. God heard and honored Abram's prayers for Lot (19:27-29).
4. Lot's sad, shameful legacy is recorded for all to see (19:30-38).
5. God in His sovereignty chose this dark passage as the place to introduce to us His undeserved, extravagant, abounding hesed! (19:19-22)