

14th Sunday after Pentecost, 13th Sunday after Trinity – 2022

Saturday, 9/10 at 4:00 | Sunday, 9/11 at 9:00



Text: Genesis 19:1-29 NAS 1995

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ:
Today, *as we learn more about Sodom and other cities in that same area, let us:*

- Understand the great wrath God showed 4,000 years ago.
- See Sodom as an example.
- Realize our Sodom-like world.
- Note how Sodom points to the return of Jesus!

1. **Sodom Was Known:**

- a. Wonderful: **Genesis 13:10 ...it was well watered everywhere... like the garden of the LORD...**
- b. Great: Dr. Collins, *the chief archeologist who discovered the*

location of Sodom in 2005, gave this description:

- i. Size: The mount upon which Sodom was built is “**the height of a nine-story building.... The size of the city was immense too, more than ten times the size of Jerusalem.**”¹
- ii. Location: It was “**spectacular... for a city, situated right in the middle of a major trade route, with inexhaustible sources of water**” (Metaxas, 252).
- iii. Fortifications: “**...the entire city had been surrounded by**

¹ Eric Metaxas, Is Atheism Dead? (Washington, D.C.: Salem

books, 2021), 250, 252.

a rampart [wall] consisting of 150-200 million mud bricks sloping outward at a 35-degree angle... so that no one could climb it. Then atop this monumental rampart stood a 12-foot thick wall three stories high. [And] One could see armies approaching for many miles in every direction” (Metaxas, 250, 252).

c. **Wicked:** Gen. 13:13 ...the men of Sodom were wicked exceedingly and sinners against the LORD. // 18:20 ...the LORD said, “The outcry of Sodom and Gomorrah is indeed great, and their sin is exceedingly grave.”

2. **The Two Angels Arrive in Sodom:**
¹ Now the two angels [who had visited Abraham (18:1-16)] came to Sodom in the evening... When Lot saw *them*, he rose to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground [showing great respect to the strangers]. ² And [Lot] [aware of the immorality of the Sodomites] said, “Now behold, my lords, please turn aside into your servant’s house, and spend the night, and wash your feet; then you may rise early and go on your way.” They said however, “No, but we shall spend the night in the

square.” ³ Yet he urged them strongly, so they turned aside to him and entered his house; and he prepared a feast for them... // Lot still believed in the coming Messiah, *but he should never have chosen Sodom as his home.*

3. **All the Men were Evil:** ⁴ Before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, surrounded the house, both young and old, all the people from every quarter; ⁵ and they called to Lot..., “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may have [sexual] relations with them.” ⁶ But Lot went out to them at the doorway, and shut the door behind him, ⁷ and said, “Please, my brothers, do not act wickedly....” ⁹ But they said, “Stand aside.” ...So they pressed hard against Lot and came near to break the door. ¹⁰ But the men [angels] reached out their hands and brought Lot into the house with them, and shut the door. ¹¹ They [The angels] struck the men who were at the doorway of the house with blindness, both small and great, so that they wearied *themselves trying to find the doorway.* // The LORD, in His mercy, protected Lot and his family.

4. **Gathering the Believers:**¹² Then the two men [angels] said to Lot, “Whom else have you here? ...bring them out of the place;¹³ for we are about to destroy this place, because their outcry has become so great before the LORD that the LORD has sent us to destroy it.” ...¹⁵ When morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Up, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away in the punishment of the city.”¹⁶ But he hesitated. So the men seized [their hands] ... // Lot, in his weak faith, hesitated, so the angels seized them!
5. **The Brimstone and Fire:**¹⁷ When they had brought them outside, one said, “Escape for your life! ...and do not stay anywhere in the valley... [So, they left Sodom – traveling all day and all night.] /²³ The sun had risen over the earth when Lot came to Zoar [a safe distance away].²⁴ Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven,²⁵ and He overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground....²⁷ Now Abraham arose early in the morning...²⁸ and he

looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah [40 miles away], and toward all the land of the valley, and he saw, and behold, the smoke of the land ascended like the smoke of a furnace.

6. **The Destruction:**

- a. **Heat:** “...excavations of the... city found evidence for high temperature burning of the city. Diamond-like carbon, melted construction materials, melted pottery, melted mudbricks, high-pressure shocked quartz, high-temperature melted minerals, melted nuggets of iridium, and many other metals in melt glass were found. All these show evidence of reaching temperatures greater than 1300 °C [2300 °F], with brief exposure to temperatures as high as 2500 °C [4500 °F], the melting point of Iridium....”²
- b. **Destruction:** “‘Embedded in those layers... are broken and tumbled mud bricks, smashed and charred pottery vessels and other day-to-day objects, and human bones—all violently churned into a tell-tale ash matrix.’ Whatever happened left behind a wake of

² <https://aish.com/archaeology-and-the-destruction-of-sodom/>

destruction unlike anything anyone had ever seen.... One excavator gave it a descriptive name: 'the Cuisinart effect.' Indeed, the matrix composition had the look of having been thrown into a blender" (Metaxas, 253).

7. **A Powerful Example:** **2 Peter 2:6** "...[God] condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing *them* to ashes, having made them an example to those who would live ungodly *lives* thereafter..." // **Jude 1:7** ...Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they... indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, are exhibited as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire. // Over the centuries, many thought that Sodom was a myth, which, in the minds of many, eliminated it as an example. So, what has happened? Between those born *before 1946* and those born *after 1997*, those who self-identify as LGBT has increased by 2,600% (0.8 to 20.8)! This sermon is not intended to judge, *but to call all the unrepentant to repent now – before it is too late!* To

repent is to **admit** God's word is true, **compare** our lives with God's word, **be sorry** for all the differences, **trust** in Jesus for full forgiveness, and **go forward** to sin no more.

8. **A Final Judgment Reminder:** With these words, *Jesus spoke about the SUDDENNESS of His return:* **NAU Luke 17:28-30** "...in the days of Lot: they were eating, they were drinking, they were buying, they were selling, they were planting, they were building; but on the day that Lot went out from Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. It will be just the same on the day that the Son of Man is revealed."

Take Aways:

- **Truth** – The Bible is God's word of truth (**John 17:17**).
- **Relevance** – *Truth sets free* (John 8:31-32); *unrepentance condemns* (**Luke 13:3**).
- **Inspiration** – Now is the day of salvation (**2 Cor. 6:2**)!

Let Us Pray: Lord, please move every unrepentant person to ☞repent, ☞rejoice in Jesus, and ☞live a new life!