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WARNING

Genesis 19

Introduction

Mount Saint Helens

It is folly to hear the warning and do nothing.
The story of Sodom and Gomorrah is a warning to every generation of the judgment to come.

I. The Awfulness of Sin. Verses 1-9

Why did God include this passage in Scripture?
I believe it is to show us the depth of man’s sin and God’s justice in his judgment.
Starting in 1955 there was an attempt to redefine the sin of Sodom as a lack of hospitality, but that is not what is described here.

Sodom and Gomorrah were guilty of other sins too.
“Now this was the sin of your sister Sodom: She and her daughters were arrogant, overfed and unconcerned; they did not help the poor and needy.” Ezekiel 16:49
Equally shocking is the behavior of Lot who offered his daughters to the men. They are offended by his judgment of their behavior. “Who are you?”

God expects moral purity of us all. Premarital sex, adultery, homosexual sex, pornography and greed are all out of bounds.

II. The Mercy of God. Verses 10-22

The men that Lot wanted to protect now rescue him. They have come to destroy the city because of its sin. The angels urged Lot to leave and when he hesitated, they grabbed his hand and the hands of his wife and two daughters and led them out of the city. Lot hesitates again when he asks to turn aside to Zoar.

Even for the believer, it can be hard to let go of our sin. Our choices have consequences.

III. The Judgment of God. Verses 23-29
The fire of God fell. 
Lot’s wife looked back. 
Abraham stood in somber silence.

God makes a distinction between the righteous and the wicked. 
• The righteous are not perfect or sinless. The righteous are those who have placed their faith in God and his covenant. 
• The wicked are those who have rejected God and his offer of salvation.

Lot’s choices would have tragic consequences. 
His daughters give birth to Moab and Ammon who will become bitter enemies of Israel. 
• The Moabites will be known for their sexual immorality and worship of Baal. Numbers 25 
• The Ammonites will be known for child sacrifice and their worship of Molech. Leviticus 20:1-5 and I Kings 11:1-8

IV. The Sin of Sodom Continues. Verses 30-38

The sin of Sodom continues.

Conclusion
This passage isn’t just about homosexual sin. It is about all sin and our desperate need for a Savior. We are all sinners and it is only by his grace that we may be saved. The choices we make have consequences for us and for our families for generations to come. Let us choose to live by faith, trusting in his Son for our salvation, and in his Word to guide us.
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