



## Lesson 12

# THE DESTRUCTION OF SODOM

### Story Elements

- **TEXT:** Gen. 18:1-19:38
- **Setting:** circa 1900 B.C. in Canaan
- **Main Characters:** The LORD, two unnamed angels, Abraham, Sarah, and Lot
- **Plot:** Abraham receives three heavenly visitors who have come to destroy Sodom.
- **Key words:** “\_\_\_\_\_” (18:23, 24, 28, 31,32; 19: 13, 14, 29)
- **Climax:** *Genesis 19:12 And the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, bring them out of this place: 13 For we will destroy this place...*

### Entertaining Angels

- 1) (18:1-8) One day, as Abraham sat in his tent’s door, he noticed three strangers approaching. True to Eastern hospitality, he heartily greeted them and pleaded with them to stay for a \_\_\_\_\_. (cf. Heb. 13:2)
- 2) (18:9-15) As the visitors dined, one spoke to Abraham regarding his wife Sarah, revealing himself to be a theophany (a visible manifestation of \_\_\_\_\_).
  - a) He announced that Sarah would have a son by way of a divine miracle (“I will certainly return unto thee...”), and he prophesied that this would happen within a year (KJV: “according to the time of \_\_\_\_\_”).
  - b) Sarah laughed when she heard these words. God who asked, “Is anything too hard for the LORD?” What other births are associated with a similar phrase (“with God nothing shall be impossible”)? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) (18:16-22) After the meal, God announced the second purpose of his visit: to destroy \_\_\_\_\_ for its extreme wickedness. God revealed his intention to Abraham as token of his gracious favor on a man who obeyed the word of God.
- 4) (18:23-33) Abraham, out of love for his family, interceded on behalf of Lot and asked that God would spare Sodom if (in the end) at least \_\_\_\_ righteous people reside in it. God agreed, but Sodom is too far gone to be the home to only 10 righteous ones.

### Evacuating Lot

- 5) (19:1-3) The two other visitors went to Sodom. Lot, Abraham’s nephew, welcomed the men and insisted they stay in his house instead of sleeping in the \_\_\_\_\_.

- 6) (19:4-11) That evening, the Sodomites thronged Lot's house and demanded that he bring out his guests so that they could satisfy their lusts with the newcomers.
- When Lot refused, the men of the city began to assault him instead. But the angels rescued Lot and smote the men with \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The Sodomites had become so saturated with wickedness that their blindness did not dissuade them from continuing to \_\_\_\_\_ for the targets of the sinful lusts.
- 7) (19:12-16) The angels told Lot that he must quickly gather his \_\_\_\_\_ and leave the city because God had sent them to destroy it.
- Lot tried to convince his married daughters and their husbands to leave with him, but they dismissed his pleadings as silly \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Because Lot lingered, the angels forcibly removed him from the city, told him to flee to the mountain, and warned him and his family to not \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8) (19:17-22) Lot, fearing life in the mountains, asked to be relocated to a small \_\_\_\_\_ (Zoar). The angels relented.

## Eradicating Sodom

- 9) (19:23-26) The fire fell. Sodom and its surrounding cities were destroyed. Tragically, Lot's wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 10) (19:27-29) Rising early, Abraham looked towards the horizon to see the smoke of Sodom rising in the morning light. The Bible tells us that Lot was rescued because of Abraham's \_\_\_\_\_.

## Application

- 11) This story is another picture in contrasts: Abraham versus Lot:
- Abraham was given a prophecy of a promised child; Lot was warned to save his own family from \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Abraham was left behind in blessedness; Lot was dragged away from impending \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Abraham interceded for others; Lot interceded for \_\_\_\_\_ (*cf.* 19:17-22).
  - Abraham's children, in faithfulness, would bring forth the Messiah (*cf.* 18:19); Lot's children, through sin, would bring forth \_\_\_\_\_ of God's people (*cf.* 19:30-38).
- 12) Jesus warned us to "remember Lot's wife" (Lu. 17:31-32) What did he mean by that? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Answer Key

Key word(s): "destroy" | 1. meal | 2. God; a) life; b) This was said by Gabriel to Mary regarding Elisabeth's pregnancy and her own. See Luke 1:37 | 3. Sodom | 4. 10 | 5. Street | 6. a) blindness; b) search | 7. Family; a) jesting; b) look back | 8. city | 9. salt | 10. intercession | 11. a) doom; b) destruction; c) himself; d) enemies | 12. He was warning us to take seriously God's promises of judgment and to not hesitate to "flee from the wrath to come."