

Sodom and Gomorrah

Genesis 19

The two angels¹ came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them and bowed himself with his face to the earth. He invited them to spend the night at his house. They turned aside to him and entered his house. He made them a feast and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.

But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both young and old, surrounded the house. They called to Lot, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, that we may know them.”

Lot went out to the men at the entrance, shut the door after him, and said, “I beg you, my brothers, do not act so wickedly.”

They said, “This fellow² came to sojourn, and he has become the judge!³” Then they pressed hard against⁴ Lot, and drew near to break the door down. But the men⁵ reached out their hands and brought Lot into the house with them and shut the door. They struck with blindness the men who were at the entrance of the house.

Then the men said to Lot, “Have you anyone else here? Bring them out of the place. The LORD has sent us to destroy it.” So Lot went out and told this to his sons-in-law, but he seemed to his sons-in-law to be jesting.⁶

As morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Up! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be swept away in the punishment of the city.” As they brought them out, one said, “Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley.”

Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the LORD out of heaven. He overthrew⁷ those cities and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. But Lot’s wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

Explanatory Notes

¹The same ones that visited Abraham. ²Foreigner or outsider. ³Pass judgement on them. ⁴Tried to force. ⁵The angels. ⁶Joking. ⁷Destroyed.



The Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire.

For Reflection

1. Even in the act of destroying the wicked cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, God was at work saving His people. Explain.
2. How does God protect you from evil?
3. The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah reminds us of the final destruction awaiting all the wicked. Why can all who trust in Jesus as their Savior look forward to their eternal future with confidence?

Words to Remember

The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into His heavenly kingdom. To Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen. *2 Timothy 4:18*