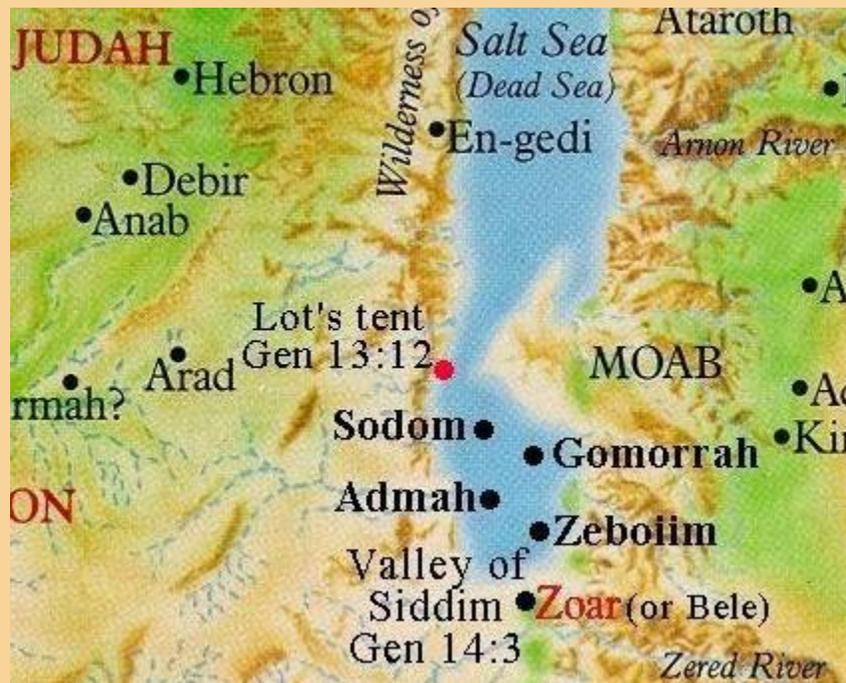


## LOT'S TORTURED SOUL



So also as it was in the days of Lot [people] ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; but **on the [very] day that Lot went out of Sodom**, it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed [them] all. That is the way it will be on the day of that the Son of Man is revealed (Luke 17: 28-30).

When the Lord told Abraham to move away from his family, Abraham took his nephew Lot with him. Lot, as his uncle, had flocks, herds and tents; therefore, there was not enough room for their herds and flocks. For that reason, there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's cattle and the herdsmen of Lot's cattle. Abraham suggested Lot to separate from him. Lot decided to move to the Jordan Valley, a place well-watered; it was like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt (Gen. 13:7-11). The beauty of the place however, did not represent the evilness of the people who lived in that place, as the Bible described them to be wicked and exceedingly great sinners. Sodom and Gomorra were located, that is according to the Torah, on the plains of the Jordan River, in the southern part of Canaan.



Lot's choice of land concentrated only on its outer beauty. We don't know how long it took before he felt uncomfortable with Sodom's life style. But in time he realized the consequences of his choice, as Peter describes it this way: Lot was greatly worn out and distressed by the wanton ways of the ungodly and lawless, for they tortured Lot's righteous soul every day with what he saw and heard of [their] unlawful and wicked deeds (II Peter 2:7-8). What was the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah then that caused the Lord God to rain His judgement over the city? Sodom and Gomorrah were plagued with the sin of homosexuality and with all those sins rooted in it. The Prophet Isaiah describes it as shameless sin, Jeremiah as adultery and lies; Ezekiel compares Jerusalem to Sodom and Gomorrah for their sin of arrogance, unconcerned and haughty. The sin of homosexuality comprises of many roots; this is only a demonstration of concealed evil in the human heart. The term sodomy came to be used to represent all evil practiced by those people. God condemns the practice of homosexuality in the pages found in Leviticus 18: 22: **You shall not lie with a man as with a woman; it is an abomination.** It is obvious to see that the main reason for the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah was the sin of homosexuality and its roots.

Peter, many years later, in his second letter brought to light the suffering of Lot in those days before the destruction of the city. He said that Lot got worn out and

distressed and tortured by those people's life style. We see this in part when they came to Lot's house with their out of control homosexuality obsession purposing to harm the angels that had come to Lot's house. The Bible says that both young and old, all the men from every quarter surrounded the house. That must have been a horrifying picture of sinful and angry men, an army empowered by the forces of evil. It seemed impossible to overcome them. Their hearts were full of Satan to perform his evil intent. But God's power overtook them. After some struggles, as they fought Lot, they came close to breaking the door. However, the angels reached out and pulled Lot into the house to them and shut the door after him, they struck the men who were at the door of the house with blindness, from the youths to the old men, so that they wearied themselves to find the door (Gen. 19:9-11). These people lived in the area of Canaan where giants existed before the flood and after it. They were called the Nephilim. Canaan, the grandson of Noah, was the father of the Canaanites.

In the days of Noah, which were 451 years before Lot, there were giants on the earth in those days- and also afterward when the sons of God lived with the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown. The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination and intention of all human thinking was only evil continually. And the Lord regretted that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved at heart. So the Lord said, I will destroy, blot out and wipe away mankind, whom I have created from the face of the ground – not only man, [but] the beasts and the creeping things and the birds of the air- for it grieves Me and makes Me regretful that I have made them (Gen. 6: 4-7).

God did not preserve those sinful people in Noah's day and destroyed them by the great flood and those cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by raining on them brimstone and fire from heavens; overthrowing and destroying and ending those cities, and all the valley and all the inhabitants of the cities and what grew on the ground (Gen. 19:24-25). He will once again bring judgment to the inhabitants of the earth, this time the world will suffer the burning of fire, for the entire world has fallen to sex perversion against God; even the so-called Christians are holding to these sins of Sodom and Gomorrah. The churches have allowed this sin to penetrate in for the sake of tolerance. These people are unrighteous dressed in self- righteousness as in wolf dressed in sheep clothing. Paul asked this question: Do you not know that the unrighteous and the wrongdoers will not inherit or

have any share in the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived neither the impure and immoral nor idolaters, nor adulterous, nor those who participate in homosexuality (I Cor. 6:9). And Jude said, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns gave themselves up to sex perversion. The practice of homosexuality is immorality and perversion of God's plan. It was then defined and it is today's homosexuality. God has not changed His holy ways and plans to conform to the perversity of men. Today's Sodom and Gomorrah are spread throughout the entire world in a worse perversity than that of Sodom and Gomorrah. Today, through abortion, children are denied the privilege to live.

Children whose parents are homosexuals live in a confused world. This is a weapon Satan uses to destroy the family- the anchor of order in a society and human security. It is a weapon abolishing God's reason for creating man and woman – procreating. It is a perversion of God's plan which comes directly from hell. Homosexuality is a means used to destroy humanity. Satan hates the human race, he deflected man, who was created in the image of God to conform to his image and to serve him. Today's homosexuality is forced on us to accept and keep our mouth shut about it. It is a force that has embraced many church's members, even churches have been organized to satisfy their beliefs. For those of us who follow the word of God, we are deeply suffering emotionally and spiritually, for we understand their fate and doom. We suffer for what will become of the children. We suffer for their spiritual blindness and confusion. We suffer for the sake of God's plan; it has been mocked and ridiculed; Satan then has prevailed in each life of a homosexual.

But the Lord knows how to rescue the righteous ones, as He rescued Noah, Lot and their families. Soon He will come to take us to Himself to deliver us from all that comprises homosexuality and its roots. Peter leaves us a warning which will do for these end time days: Let me warn you therefore, beloved, that knowing these things beforehand **you should be on your guard, lest you be carried away by the error of lawless and wicked fall from your own firm condition** (II Peter 3: 17). Lawlessness is everywhere; many are slipping and sliding into it, without perceiving. But our Lord YAHSHUA told us to watch, for we do not know in what kind of a day He will come. His intention is to present the church to Himself in glorious splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such things (Ephesians 5: 27). Will you be ready?