

Sodom and Gomorra (Gen. 19)

Sodom and Gomorra were situated on the Jordan River plain in the southern region land of Canaan, which corresponds to the area north of the modern Dead Sea. It was a land well watered, suitable for grazing livestock. Sodom and Gomorra have been used as metaphors for vice and homosexuality viewed as deviation (Wikipedia).

It was the land Lot, Abraham's nephew, had chosen for his flocks when a dispute arose between his and Abraham's herdsmen, because they had many possessions and could not stay together (Gen. 13:5-9). Lot looked out and saw that the entire Jordan Valley as far as Zoar was well-watered everywhere like the Lord's garden and the land of Egypt (vs.10). However judgment had been decreed for Sodom and Gomorra, for "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is immense and their sin is extremely serious, said the Lord to Abraham. (Gen. 18:20).

Sodom and Gomorra are pictures of a sinful life. According to Wikipedia, "in the English word sodomy, it is used in sodomy laws to describe a sexual "crime against nature" consisting of anal and or oral sex either homosexual or heterosexual." Sodom and Gomorra's life style seems to have arrived in today's world corrupting the whole world, destroying YAHWEH'S plan for marriage and family. It is a form of carnal pleasure without regards to others not of the same belief. The choice Lot had made to move over there seemed good and profitable. However the results of his decision almost cost his life, as it is with the believers whose faith lacks conviction. The world will always look greener than the Word of YAHWEH, because they have no commitment to self-denial, to carry his cross, in order to follow YAHSHUA. Lot constitutes then a type of a carnal believer.

In chapter 19 of Genesis we read that two angels were sent to destroy the cities, saving only Lot and his family. YAHWEH'S mercy reached out to him and gave him another chance to live elsewhere. Talking about warnings concerning false teachers, Peter said, And if He (God) reduced the cities of Sodom and Gomorra to ashes and condemned them to ruin, making them an example to those who were going to be ungodly; and if He rescued righteous Lot, distressed by the unrestrained behavior of the immoral, then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment, especially those who follow the polluting desires of the flesh and despise authority (2 Peter 2:4-14). Many countries today could be called "Sodom and Gomorra" for their behavior against YAHWEH'S authority, to satisfy their fleshly desires through the practice of homosexuality. The children of today are miss-guided, miss-lead and find themselves confused with the idea of two moms and two dads. YAHSHUA left a stern warning against such people. He had this to say, Whoever causes the down-fall of one of these little ones who believe in Me- it would be better for him if a heavy millstone were hung around his neck and he were drowned in the depths of the sea (Matt. 18:6)! One must become like a little child to enter the Kingdom of heaven. To pervert the mind of a child is sinning against YAHWEH and this is a sin with serious consequences.

In these last days we believers are living in a world of Sodom and Gomorra; and like Lot, we do suffer and are distressed by the immorality of homosexuality around us and by the influence that they have on our children and grand-children. This is a work purely designed by Satan to destroy the most beautiful plan of YAHWEH for mankind, the family. Satan has blinded the eyes of the mind to perceive and understand with the heart the danger of such sin of homosexuality. The time will come when YAHWEH will deliver them over to degrading passions, as Paul declares, For even their **females** exchanged **natural** intercourse for what is **unnatural**; the **males** in the same way also **left** natural sexual intercourse with **females** and were inflamed in their lust for one another. **Males** committed shameless **acts** with **males** and received in their own persons the appropriate penalty for their perversion... although they know full well God's just sentence- that those who practice such things deserve to die- they not only do them, but even applaud others who practice them (Rom. 1:19-32).

There is always a time to reflect and repent before judgment comes; YAHWEH is not willing that men perish, but that they would be saved. In the experience of Lot, YAHWEH spared him from the destruction that came, as He did for Noah, who alone with his family were saved from the calamity of the universal flood. The roots of the spirit of Sodom and Gomorra runs deeply through the whole world, forming a platform for it to practice immorality and corruption, which will bring upon them and the world the wrath of YAHWEH, for this kind of life style matures the wrath of YAHWEH. In the book of Genesis we read His plan for the family: So God created man in His own image; He created him in the image of God; He created them **male** and **female**. **He blessed them and said to them, be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it** (Gen.1:27-28a). This life style is very much the precursor of YAHWEH'S wrath, as the end time develops. For if God didn't spare Sodom and Gomorra who didn't have the light as we have today, much less will He spare those who practice immorality and miss-lead many to follow them. Revelation warns us that the cowards, unbelievers, vile, murderers, **sexuality immoral**, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars- their share will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur which is the second death (Rev.21:8). There is no room in heaven for such people who practices sex the unnatural way, which is a form of rebellion against YAHWEH'S plan.

God is a consuming fire, says the writer of Hebrews. He said, Marriage must be respected by all, and the marriage bed kept undefiled, because God will judge immoral people and adulterers (Hebrews 13:4). It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God (Heb. 10:31)! He has established nature's laws for us to obey and follow fulfilling His plan. We have no right to change YAHWEH'S creation into an unnatural and immoral fleshly lust, to pervert His laws, mocking that which He has sanctified. Sodom and Gomorra are symbols of debauchery. Their vine is from the vine of Sodom and from the fields of Gomorrah; their grapes are poisonous; their clusters are bitter, their wine is serpents' venom, the deadly poison of cobras (Deut. 32:32); the look on their faces testifies against them, and like Sodom, they flaunt their sin; they do not conceal it; woe to them! For they have brought evil on themselves (Is. 3:9).

When a person is rooted in the Sodom and Gomorrah's spirit, he is found to have brought condemnation on himself, because today's means of hearing the truth of God are everywhere through many ways. Men are without excuse before YAHWEH. YAHSHUA said, I assure you: it

will be more tolerable on the Day of Judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town (Matt.10:15). That's greater judgment for those who hear the truth of God and reject it. Sodom and Gomorrah didn't have the opportunities to obtain spiritual knowledge as we have today. Therefore the world today is in greater condemnation, for YAHSHUA said that more is required of those who had more knowledge.

Seek, search and learn; and based on the spiritual knowledge and conviction you acquire make the decision that will free you from judgment and condemnation. Leave Sodom and Gomorrah and follow the law of GOD. The seemingly good and exciting things you perceive on the side of these cities are temporal and carry the weight of eternal condemnation!