

## THE REAL SIN OF SODOM

27/1/19

*Yes, it is true that the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were morally depraved, including homosexuality; but that was only a symptom of a much greater problem. The people of these cities were Godless and lacking in all forms of human kindness and support... caring only for their own opinions (much like today's developing trends). We are fortunate to have a detailed account of how God works, which is useful for our own ministry.*

**The biggest sin of Sodom was their self indulgence at the expense of God and everyone else. EZE 16:49** Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, **pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness** was in her and in her daughters, **neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. 50** And they were **haughty (proud)**, and **committed abomination** before me: therefore I took them away as I saw *good*. *God destroyed them all, but is it fair that the poor pay for the sins of the rich? Let's see how this is addressed.*

**Self Indulgence also leads to other social and moral failures... eventually corrupting everyone. GEN 18:23** And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked? **24** Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city (*Sodom*): wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that *are* therein? **25** That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right? **26** And the LORD said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes. **27** And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which *am but* dust and ashes: **28** Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for *lack of five*? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy *it*. **29** And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do *it* for forty's sake. **30** And he said *unto him*, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do *it*, if I find thirty there. **31** And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy *it* for twenty's sake. **32** And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy *it* for ten's sake. *The 4 affected cities had an estimated population of 50-60 thousand. The poor were both oppressed and corrupt as well (the problem was not their oppression, nor their poverty; rather they were also spiritually corrupt)... only Lot, his wife and his two daughters left the city. Sadly, Lot's wife looked back and died.*

**The bible also prophesies a similar fate for all western nations. JAM: 5:1** Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon *you*. **2** Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. **3** Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. **4** Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by **fraud**, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth. **5** **Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts**, as in a day of slaughter (*like the winners of a war*). **6** Ye have condemned *and* killed the just; *and* he doth not resist you. *God reminds the faithful to be patient and be ready for the return of the Lord. We are asked to be God's example on the earth; as Lot was.*

**The church also has to avoid self indulgence, like the rest of humanity. MAT 25:41** Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: **42** For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: **43** I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. **44** Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? **45** Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did *it* not to one of the least of these, ye did *it* not to me. **46** And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal. *This is a very powerful reminder to learn from the mistakes of those who failed; by supporting the needs of our creator. We are mainly here to serve.*

**Time is quickly running out. LUK 17:26** And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. **27** They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. **28** Likewise also as it was in the days of **Lot**; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; **29** But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed *them* all. **30** Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

*God has given us revealing clues about the end of the age and a clear sense of duty. Serving each other and seeking the unsaved, limits self-indulgence.*