



SODOM AND GOMORRAH

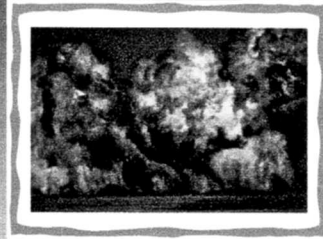
Volume 15 Issue 1

A BIBLICAL STUDY of Genesis 18-19

"...set for an example suffering the vengeance of eternal fire."

The Biblical account of Sodom and Gomorrah leaves a strong message, not only in eternal judgment but in God's mercy in delivering the elect from the ungodly.

1. Read the introduction to this account in Genesis 18:16-22.
 - There are two reasons the Lord wanted to destroy these cities (vs. 20-21). What is the "cry" of Sodom and Gomorrah? (18:21; 19:13)
 - Identify two of the three "men" who continued toward Sodom (18:1-2, 22 and 19:1).
2. Read Abraham's plea for the righteous in Genesis 18:23-33.
 - As Abraham interceded for the righteous, who intercedes for the elect? Ro. 8:26-27
3. Compare Genesis 18:2, 19:1 and 19:4-5. Why did Abraham and Lot recognize "the men" and why didn't the men of Sodom recognize them? John 10:24-29
4. Read the interaction between Lot and the men of Sodom in Genesis 19:4-11.
 - Why did the men of Sodom continue to be so insistent? (19:9) Why do the wicked despise judgment? II Peter 2:10
 - To what does "shut to the door" (19:10) compare? Gen. 7:16; Lk. 13:24-28; Rev. 3:7-8
 - To what does "smote with...blindness" (19:11) compare? Eph. 4:17-19; Jn. 12:37-40; II Cor. 4:3-4
5. Read about the events prior to the destruction in Genesis 19:12-22.
 - What was the response by the sons-in-law to the warning of destruction? (19:14) Compare to Luke 17:26-28.
 - How did Lot, his wife and his daughters respond to the warning? (19:15-16) How was the Lord "merciful" to these four? (See definition of "set")
 - What were the last instructions prior to the day of destruction? (19:17) Compare to Matt. 24:16-18; Ps. 121:1ff
 - Notice the phrase in Gen. 19:22, "I cannot do anything until thou be come thither." Compare to the Parable of the Lost Sheep (Luke 15:3-7). How does this contradict the philosophy of the modern church?
6. Read the account of the destruction in Genesis 19:23-29.
 - Compare 19:26 to Luke 17:29-32. Why were the names of Lot's wife and daughters never mentioned? Were any of the 4 considered righteous? Gen. 19:29; II Pet. 2:7-9
 - Read the definition of "brimstone." What is the significance of "fire and brimstone"? Jude 7; Rev. 21:8; 19:20; 20:10; Ps. 11:4-7
7. What about Lot? If Lot was considered righteous, what was it like for a righteous man to live in Sodom and Gomorrah? II Peter 2:7-8
 - Read the definitions of "vexed." Is your soul vexed with the deeds of the wicked, or have you become numb to those deeds? Has God plucked you out of the hands of the wicked? Is this a story of God's righteous judgment or His wonderful mercy?



STRONG'S HEBREW/GREEK DEFINITIONS



- 1 BRIMSTONE (H1614) "Gophriyth" - cypress-resin; by anal. Sulphur (equally flammable)
- 2 CRY (H2201) "Zeaquah" - a shriek or outcry; used 9 times
- 3 JUST (G1342) "Dikaios" - equitable (in character and act); by impl. innocent, holy; just meet, righteous.
- 4 SET (H324) "Yanach" - deposit; (pick up and) set down
- 5 VEXED (G2669) "Kataponeeo" - to wear with toil; oppress (II Pet. 2:7) (G928) "Basanizo" - to torture (II Peter 2:8)

II Peter 2:6-14

Doesn't this typify the world in which we live today? How many have seen throughout history "Sodom and Gomorrah" in their own generations?

Is this a story of judgment or one of mercy?

TEXT OF THE WEEK

"The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished."
- II Peter 2:9