

Sodom & Gomorrah

- In the midst of the seven nations of Canaan.
- *Canaan begot Sidon his firstborn, and Heth; 16 the Jebusite, the Amorite, and the Girgashite; 17 the Hivite, the Arkite, and the Sinite; 18 the Arvadite, the Zemarite, and the Hamathite. Afterward **the families of the Canaanites were dispersed.** 19 And **the border of the Canaanites** was from Sidon as you go toward Gerar, as far as Gaza; **then as you go toward Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim, as far as Lasha.** 20 These were the sons of Ham, according to their families, according to their languages, in their lands and in their nations. Gen 10:15-20*

Would have been part of Israel



One of the Most Beautiful Places

- *And Lot lifted his eyes and saw all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere (before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah) like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt as you go toward Zoar. Gen 13:10-11*
- Would have been a wonderful addition to Israel but...
- *But the men of Sodom were exceedingly wicked and sinful against the Lord. Gen. 13:10*

An Area of Instability

- *All these joined together in the Valley of Siddim (that is, the Salt Sea). Gen. 14:3-4*
- Since the valley of Siddim ultimately became the Salt sea, Sodom and Gomorrah were there
- *Now the Valley of Siddim was full of asphalt pits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled; some fell there, and the remainder fled to the mountains. Gen. 14:10*
- These asphalt pits made it dangerous, not only due to the danger of falling into the pits, but also the flammable nature of asphalt. All of this led to the nature and type of its destruction.

The Stage is Set

- Lot is in their midst: their sin is exceedingly great
- God decides to make an example out of them
- *and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; 2 Peter 2:6-7*
- Before God acts, He assesses everything.
- *And the Lord said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grave, 21 I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry against it that has come to Me; and if not, I will know." Gen 18:20-21*

Like the Ancient World: Violence

- *Now before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both old and young, all the people from every quarter, surrounded the house. 5 And they called to Lot and said to him, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may know them carnally.”*

... 10 But the men reached out their hands and pulled Lot into the house with them, and shut the door. 11 And they struck the men who were at the doorway of the house with blindness, both small and great, so that they became weary trying to find the door. Gen. 19:4-5, 10-11

Yet There Was More...

- *Look, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. 50 And they were haughty and committed abomination before Me; therefore I took them away as I saw fit.*
Ezek. 16:48-50

- Pride
- Fullness of food
- Abundance of idleness
- Did not strengthen the hand of the poor and needy
- Haughty
- Committed abomination before Me.

The Decision Is Made

- Not just death, captivity, or punishment, but an example of the vengeance “*of eternal fire*”
- *as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. Jude 7*

“Vengeance of Eternal Fire”

- *Then the Lord rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the Lord out of the heavens. 25 So He overthrew those cities, all the plain, all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. Gen. 19:24-25*
- *And Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the Lord. 28 Then he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain; and he saw, and behold, the smoke of the land which went up like the smoke of a furnace. Gen. 19:27-29*
- The parable of Sodom and Gomorrah

The Purpose of this Judgment

- *turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; 2 Pet. 2:6-7*
- *'The whole land is brimstone, salt, and burning; it is not sown, nor does it bear, nor does any grass grow there, like the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim, which the Lord overthrew in His anger and His wrath.'
Deut. 29:23-24*

- *9 Unless the Lord of hosts **D**Had left to us a very small remnant, We would have become like Sodom, We would have been made like Gomorrah. Isa. 1:9-11*
- *And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, The beauty of the Chaldeans' pride, Will be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. Isa. 13:19*
- *Also I have seen a horrible thing in the prophets of Jerusalem: They commit adultery and walk in lies; They also strengthen the hands of evildoers, So that no one turns back from his wickedness. All of them are like Sodom to Me, And her inhabitants like Gomorrah. Jer. 23:14*

- *Edom also shall be an astonishment; ... As in the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah And their neighbors," says the Lord, "No one shall remain there, Nor shall a son of man dwell in it. Jer. 49:17-18*
- *The punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my people Is greater than the punishment of the sin of Sodom, Which was overthrown in a moment, With no hand to help her! Lam. 4:6*
- *"I overthrew some of you, As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, And you were like a firebrand plucked from the burning; Yet you have not returned to Me," "Therefore thus will I do to you, O Israel; Because I will do this to you, Prepare to meet your God, O Israel!" Amos 4:11-12*

More Descriptions of Sodom

- *oppressed by **the filthy conduct** of the wicked 2 Pet. 2:7-8*
- *seeing and hearing **their lawless deeds***
- Descriptions of those who follow their example:
- *those who **walk according to the flesh** in the **lust of uncleanness** and **despise authority**. They are **presumptuous, self-willed**. They are **not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries**, 2 Peter 2:10-11*

More Descriptions of Sodom

- filthy conduct
- lawless deeds
- walk according to the flesh
- in the lust of uncleanness
- despise authority
- presumptuous
- self-willed
- not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries

When Any Nation Imitates them ...

- Pride
- Fullness of food
- Abundance of idleness
- Did not strengthen the hand of the poor and needy
- Haughty
- Committed abomination before Me.
- As we look out, not just at America, but all of Western Civilization do we see the direction things are moving toward.

Our Only Comfort

- *and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked 8 (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds) — 9 then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, 2Pet. 2:7-10*

The Ever Repeating Cycle

- *And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: 27 They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. 28 Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; 29 but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. 30 Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed. ...32 Remember Lot's wife. 33 Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it. Lk 17:26-34*

Not Written to Discourage

- Actually written to encourage and admonish us.
- Nations will rise and fall... They will be good and become evil.
- As the evil grows, God's people need to take note.
- Since evil companionship corrupts...
- We need to be aware of what the evil companionship is and thus warned ...
- Flee from it.

Forewarned = Forearmed

- *knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, 4 and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation." 5 For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, 6 by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. 7 But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. 2Pet. 3:3-7*