

Famous Bible Stories

The Sin of Sodom

Gen 18.16-23^[1]

www.thischristianjourney.com

[Sodom is mentioned six times in the Old Testament and four times in the New Testament. Whenever it is mentioned it is always mentioned with a sense of foreboding and fear, because it was an exceedingly wicked city. God destroyed Sodom with fire and brimstone for its wickedness. The Bible says of Sodom,]

*[2 Peter 2:6⁶ And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making **them an ensample** unto those that after should live ungodly;]*

[The smoking ruins of Sodom, the destruction of Sodom, the judgment of Sodom is God's classic example of how He feels about the sin of Sodom. The Bible states loud and clear that what happened to Sodom should be an example to us.]

[God does not change.]

[Malachi 3:6⁶ For I am the LORD, I change not; . . .]

[What God did before He will do again. Indeed He will do again, for the Bible says,]

*[Luke 17:28-30²⁸ 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.**]*

[One day God is going to judge this world again and that judgment will be similar to that which was rendered upon Sodom. The people of our world, especially the wicked people of our world need to be warned by the example of Sodom.]

There are three things we need to understand about Sodom,

- A. The Perversion of Sodom (vs 20; Ezekiel 16.49-50; Prov 20.17; Isa 3.8-9, 12) [- And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous; - What was the sin of Sodom that caused God to Judge them?]**

[Ezekiel 16:49-50⁴⁹ 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, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good.]

The Sins of Sodom were,

1. **Pride (Ezekiel 16.49; Prov 6.16-17; James 4.6)** [– There is a sin that God hates more than sexual perversion and that is pride.]

[Proverbs 6:16-17¹⁶ These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: ¹⁷ A proud look, . . .]

[James 4:6⁶ . . . God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.]

[We need to understand that God does not just fail to help us when we are proud. But God resists us, he works against us.]

[Pride is the greatest restraint that keeps many lost from getting saved. The proud refuses to come forward during the invitation and openly proclaim and receive the Lord Jesus Christ.]

[Had there been no pride there would have been no devil.]

[Sodom is a testimony for how God hates the sin of pride.]

2. **Gluttony (Ezek 16.49)** [- . . . *fulness of bread* . . . – This is God’s way of saying they were materialistic. They were thinking about the things of the flesh rather than the things of the spirit. They were living to gratify the flesh. They were pampering the flesh and forgetting the spirit.]
3. **Idleness (Ezekiel 16.49)** [- . . . *and abundance of idleness* . . . – They had become lazy, work had become a thing of the past. They had become cursed with blessings. Their prosperity had become their curse. The Bible says that six days thou shalt work. Even after retirement there is work to do.]

[People need to understand that God intends for you to work. Until you turn up your toes and die you are to serve the Lord. There is something for every one to do. The worst thing that can happen to a nation is for people to think they aren’t supposed to work anymore. God wants you to be productive.]

[Work deals with responsibility; a desire not to work is a desire to be free from responsibility. When people want to be free from responsibility and work then they will loose every other kind of freedom.]

[Idleness speaks of irresponsibility.]

4. **Selfishness (Ezekiel 16.49)** [- . . . *neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy* – There are people all around us who desperately need our help. There are people who do not have a decent place to live or a decent meal to eat. We as God’s people ought to be looking for people that we can help.]

5. **Arrogant Immorality (Ezekiel 16.50; Lev 20.13)** [*– And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me . . . – What was their abomination? Their abomination was sexual perversion.]*

[Leviticus 20:13 ¹³ If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.]

[Not only did they commit abominations, **they were haughty and came out of their closets to do it.** They were proud and could not blush. The Old Testament law commanded the death penalty for such sin, but we don't live under that law today. Our law's do not command the death penalty for such sins. But abominable sins as sexual perversion bring spiritual death instead.]

[Romans 1:24-26 ²⁴ Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: ²⁵ Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. ²⁶ For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: . . .]

[Some people say, "If we don't get right God is going to judge us." Friend, sexual perversion is the judgment of God. When God gives a nation up, then sexual perversion becomes a part of who they are.]

[Romans 1:26-28 ²⁶ For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: ²⁷ And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. ²⁸ And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;]

[Romans 1:32 ³² Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.]

[God have mercy on America. This was the sin of Sodom and it is the sin of America.]

6. Notice that their **Pride** led to **Pollution** which then led **Perversion**.

Why does a sinner sin? Because he wants a kick or a thrill, but sin never lives up to its expectations.]

[Proverbs 20:17 ¹⁷ Bread of deceit is sweet to a man; but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel.]

[In the end the quest of sin leads first to Pride then to Pollution then to Perversion.
Nothing will ruin a nation faster than the sins of Sodom.]

[Isaiah lamented that Jerusalem was ruined. What had ruined Jerusalem?]

*[Isaiah 3:8-9⁸ For Jerusalem is ruined, and Judah is fallen: because their tongue and their doings are against the LORD, to provoke the eyes of his glory. ⁹ The shew of their countenance doth witness against them; **and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not.** Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves.]*

[They not only had become sinful like Sodom, but they had become proud of it.]

[Isaiah 3:12¹² As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.]

[You can mark it down, when you have a society filled with disobedient children, domineering women, and depraved men that society is on its last legs.]

[That's what God says ruined Jerusalem.]

B. The Prayer of the Saint (vs 17; Ezekiel 22.30) [– *And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; - The Bible says,]*

[Amos 3:7⁷ Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.]

[Abraham was a prophet of God. Abraham knew what was going to happen. Those who are the friends of God know what is going to happen. Abraham was not a VIP he was the MIP (Most Important Person) because he prayed and stepped in between God and His judgment for wicked Sodom. Abraham started to intercede for Sodom and his carnal nephew Lot.]

[Wicked people, and a wicked Nation needs intercession. America needs intercession. Christians need to learn a lesson from Abraham.]

*[Genesis 18:22-23²² And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: **but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.** ²³ And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?]*

[Notice that Abraham, in prayer, placed himself between these men of judgment and Sodom. One man, prayed and pleaded for Sodom and the people of that city. No one in Sodom was praying. Lot wasn't praying, but Abraham was. Lot was too carnal to see God's coming judgment; Lot was too carnal to pray. But Abraham, the spiritual man prayed.]

Notice the Marks of Abraham's prayer,

1. **Abraham's Prayer Was Courageous Prayer (vs 22-23)** [- . . . *but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.* ²³ *And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?* – This means he interposed himself between the Lord and judgment. It means that Abraham at first stood to argue with the Lord. Abraham's prayers were like the prayers of George Mueller. This is sanctified, pleading prayer. This is holding God to His Word.]
2. **Abraham's Prayer Was Contrite Prayer (vs 27)** [- *And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which am but dust and ashes:* - Don't make the mistake of thinking that this type of prayer is arrogant prayer. Abraham was trembling before God. Abraham reminded God of His Word, promises, and character but always with brokenness.]
3. **Abraham's Prayer Was Compassionate Prayer** [- Abraham is praying for others and not for himself. When is the last time you stood sacrificially in the gap for the lost and wicked all around you.]
4. **Abraham's Prayer Was Confident Prayer (vs 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?*** – Abraham had an undeniable confidence in that God would always do right.]
5. **Abraham's Prayer Was Conquering Prayer (Gen 19.29; 1 Tim 2.1-3)** [- *And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt.* – From this verse we discover that not because of Lot, but because of Abraham Lot was delivered. Abraham was a man who knew how to intercede.]

[The sin that amazes God is that you don't pray. With all of the great and mighty prayer promises, God marvels that we do not pray.]

[1 Timothy 2:1-3 ¹ *I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;* ² *For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.* ³ *For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;]*

[We must hear and understand that the future of America does not lie in Washington; it lies with the people of God who will pray like Abraham prayed.]

[One time God would have spared His ancient people Israel, but He did not spare them. Why? Because there was no intercessor]

[Ezekiel 22:30 ³⁰ *And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: **but I found none.**]*

[The greatest need in America today is intercession. Effectual, fervent, intercessory prayer.]

C. The Prophecy of the Second Coming (Luke 17.26-30; Gen 19.22; 1 Thess 1.10; 5.9)

[Luke 17:26-30 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.]

[Genesis 19:22 ²² Haste thee, escape thither; for I cannot do any thing till thou be come thither . . .]

[Before God poured out His wrath in the flood, God put Noah in the Ark. Before God poured out His wrath on Sodom, God delivered Lot. Before God pours out His wrath on this world His people will be taken out at the rapture. The Tribulation is called the Great Day of God's Wrath (Rev 6.17).]

*[1 Thessalonians 1:10 ¹⁰ And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, **which delivered us from the wrath to come.**]*

*[1 Thessalonians 5:9 ⁹ **For God hath not appointed us to wrath,** but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,]*

[There are some who teach that the Church is going to go through the tribulation. But notice the Scriptures. In the days of Noah and Lot they were not in tribulation, they were doing what they did every day and fire fell from heaven. But before it could God's people had to be taken out.]

[When Jesus comes again it will be as in the days of Noah and as in the days of Lot. In both of these examples we see something we must note.]

There will be three classes of persons living on the earth when Jesus comes,

1. **Spiritual Christians - The Noah Type People.** [Noah was a picture of a spiritual filled Christian. The Bible says Noah was a perfect man that loved God and obeyed God. Because of this Noah went into provision, protection, and the presence of God. When Noah came out he was rewarded and inherited the whole earth and took his family with him.]
2. **Carnal Christians – The Lot Type People.** [Lot didn't want to go and the angel had to drag him out. His family was left behind and perished in the flames. He is saved but sinned. He lost everything because of his carnality.]

3. **Worldly Lost** [– Those who will be judged and lost in the judgment.]

[Who are you? Where will you be when God's judgment comes?]

CrossRoads Baptist, Evening, October 25, 2009

1[1] Resourced From Adrian Rogers