**Week of Sept 1, 2019**

**Genesis 19:1, 15-26,29**

1 And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground

15 And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city. 16 And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth and set him without the city. 17 And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed. 18 And Lot said unto them, Oh, not so, my Lord: 19 Behold now, thy servant hath found grace in thy sight, and thou hast magnified thy mercy, which thou hast shewed unto me in saving my life; and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me, and I die: 20 Behold now, this city is near to flee unto, and it is a little one: Oh, let me escape thither, (is it not a little one?) and my soul shall live. 21 And he said unto him, See, I have accepted thee concerning this thing also, that I will not overthrow this city, for the which thou hast spoken. 22 Haste thee, escape thither; for I cannot do anything till thou become thither. Therefore, the name of the city was called Zoar. 23 The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar. 24 Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; 25 And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground. 26

29 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.

**Understanding the Scriptures**

Genesis, is known as the book of beginnings, is credited to Moses as the author, along with Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. It is believed that Genesis was written between 1440 and 1400 BC. Lot is the nephew of Abraham. Lot lived in the city of Sodom. The area where Sodom and Gomorrah are located in southeast of the Dead Sea and is an arid desert region with extensive sulfur and other mineral deposits. The Common English Bible indicates that sulfur is better translated as asphalt and asphalt deposits are found on the southern shore of the Dead Sea. Sodom was a city known for being morally depraved.

Lot is described in verse 3 to be a man of hospitality; and he showed that hospitality by serving the visiting angel messengers unleavened bread. Lot, however, was living among morally corrupt people. Genesis18:20the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah as “grievous”. Abraham asked God to show mercy and grace on Sodom and Gomorrah because hi nephew Lot and Lot’s family lived in Sodom. The angels urged Lot, his wife, and two daughters to leave Sodom. God showed His mercy toward Lot because of the prayers of Abraham.

God remembered Abraham, who was a righteous man, and saved Lot. Lot went to the town of Zoar. The angels cautioned Lot and his wife not to look back at Sodom. Despite this command, Lot’s wife glanced back, and she behold the burning of the city. At that moment, Lot’s wife was changed to a pillar of salt. God wants our complete obedience.

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