

## Genesis 18 - 19

*It had been only 400 years since the flood, almost within the memory of men then living. Yet men had forgotten the lesson of judgment from that event. (Luke 17:26-33; 2 Peter 2:5,6)*

Genesis 18:20-21

The sin of Sodom and the other cities of the valley was legendary. Was God ignorant of the city's wicked practices? He was giving them one last chance to repent. How can remembering God's patience when we think He is being unfair improve our attitude? Read 2 Peter 3:9

Genesis 18:23-33

Did Abraham change God's mind? What did this exchange say about God's desire for us to speak with Him? God's forbearance with that conversation allowed Abraham to leave convinced that God was both kind and fair. Our prayers can often help change our view on matters. Describe a time when this was true for you.

Genesis 19:1-3

Just as Abraham had been eager to show hospitality to these visitors, so was Lot. In Abraham's day a person's reputation was largely connected to his hospitality – the sharing of home and food. Even strangers were to be treated as highly honored guests. (Hebrews 13:2)

19:4-8

Although it was the custom of the day to protect guests at any cost, this terrible suggestion reveals how Lot had become hardened to the evil acts in an evil city.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:33

Genesis 12-14: Lot had compromised his family by living in Sodom, becoming assimilated into their culture and by accepting spouses from Sodom.

Genesis 19:15-22

How does Lot's compliance compare/contrast with that of Abraham in previous chapters?

Genesis 19:23-26

God's judgment was complete. Valley is now the dry area east and southeast of the Dead Sea. Recall Genesis 13:10; Read Jude 1:7; Luke 17:26-33; 2 Peter 2:4-9

Genesis 19:27-29

What does this verse say about the effect of a righteous person's life on others and the importance of communion with God on the behalf of others? Read Luke 18:1-8

19:30-38

Stooping to incest, Lot's daughters showed how we are most likely to sin when we are desperate for what we feel we must have. Notice how quickly after judgment the children return to sin, just as after the Flood.

19:37,38

Moab and Ben-Ammi were the products of incest. They became the fathers of two of Israel's greatest enemies, the Moabites and the Ammonites. These nations settled east of the Jordan and Israel never conquered them. (Deuteronomy 2:9, 2:19)