

Genesis 19

Pastor Jim Thomas

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SERMON NOTES

Genesis 19

The ugliness of sin, the beauty of grace

“Now the men of Sodom were wicked exceedingly and sinners against the LORD.”

- *Genesis 13:13*

“And the LORD said, ‘The outcry of Sodom and Gomorrah is indeed great, and their sin is exceedingly grave.’”

- *Genesis 18:20*

What were the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah?

“Among the prophets of Jerusalem I have seen a horrible thing:

The committing of adultery and walking in falsehood;

And they strengthen the hands of evildoers,

So that no one has turned back from his wickedness.

All of them have become to Me like Sodom,

And her inhabitants like Gomorrah.”

- *Jeremiah 23:14*

“Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had arrogance, abundant food and careless ease, but she did not help the poor and needy.”

- *Ezekiel 16:49*

“And you, Capernaum, will not be exalted to heaven, will you? You will descend to Hades; for if the miracles had occurred in Sodom which occurred in you, it would have remained to this day.”

- *Matthew 11:23*

“Just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, are exhibited as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.”

- *Jude 7*

The sins of Sodom & Gomorrah:

- Arrogance, Autonomy, Adultery
- Indulged in unbridled sexual immorality
- Willing to do violence for self-gratification
- Walked in falsehood: rampant lying
- A culture that encouraged and celebrated all forms of evil, rebellion, violence, reckless indulgence, etc., while at the same time showing indifference to the poor, the vulnerable and needy

The Bible passages that speak to acts of homosexuality:

- Genesis 19
- Leviticus 18:22
- Leviticus 20:13
- Judges 19
- Romans 1:26-27
- 1 Corinthians 6:9
- 1 Timothy 1:10

Resources

- *Is God Anti-Gay? and Why Does God Care Who I Sleep With?* by Sam Allberry
- *The Secret Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert* and *Openness Unhindered: Further Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert on Sexual Identity and Union with Christ* by Rosaria Butterfield
- *Confronting Christianity* and *The Sacred Creed* by Rebecca McLaughlin

Genesis 19

The ugliness of sin, the beauty of grace

1. Humanity's capacity for depravity
2. The consequences of spiritual compromise
3. God's patience with sin is for a while, but it is not forever.

"Desire and love are, of course, compatible when desire is ruled by love; but most people today would, unfortunately, not even know the difference between them. Hence, in our world, love constantly falls prey to lust. That is a major part of the deep sickness of contemporary life."

- Dallas Willard, *Renovation of the Heart*

"Remember Lot's wife."

- Jesus (Luke 17:32)

**Tolerance of virtually anything leads to the destruction of virtually everything.
If virtually *anything* goes, then there goes virtue and justice.**

“The world may say that sexual experience is indispensable to being human; the Bible flatly disagrees.”

- John Stott

“In God’s case, God’s wrath flows from his love for his creation. He is angry at injustice, greed, self-centeredness, and evil because they are destructive. And God will not tolerate anything or anyone responsible for destroying the creation and the people that he loves.”

- Tim Keller, *The Reason for God*

When the judgment of God seems harsh to us, it is usually because we have lost sight of three things:

1. The heights of God’s holiness
2. The depths of our depravity
3. The free offer of grace and redemption

Beautiful news: Jesus Christ is our hope in life and death!

“Every age has had its darkness and its dangers. The task of the Christian is not to whine about the moment in which he or she lives but to understand its problems and respond appropriately to them.”

- Carl R. Trueman, *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self*

“Christianity’s unsurpassed offers: a meaning that suffering cannot remove, satisfaction not based on circumstances, a freedom that does not hurt but rather enhances love, an identity that does not crush you or exclude others, a moral compass that does not turn you into an oppressor, and a hope that can face anything, even death.”

- Tim Keller, *Making Sense of God*