PERSPECTIVE: Understanding God and Man

SIN, SODOM, AND THE SAVIOR

Genesis 18:16-33 Jeff Schreve

What lessons do we learn from God's dealings with Sodom?

1. God can only tolerate exceeding wickedness to a point.

"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. Thus they were haughty and committed abominations before Me. Therefore I removed them when I saw it." Ezekiel 16:49-50

A. Sodom was overflowing with pride.

B. Sodom was overflowing with impurity.

C. Sodom was overflowing with perversion.

Before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, surrounded the house, both young and old, all the people from every quarter; 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 have relations with them." Genesis 19:4-5

> "You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination." Leviticus 18:22

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 1:7

... and if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing them to ashes, having made them an example to those who would live ungodly lives thereafter. 2 Peter 2:6

2. Believers have an opportunity to stand in the gap.

"And I searched for a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one." Ezekiel 22:30

A. We can boldly and reverently appeal to God's character.

"Far be it from You to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous and the wicked are treated alike. Far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth deal justly?" Genesis 18:25

B. We can <u>make a difference with our prayers</u>.

Thus it came about, when God destroyed the cities of the valley, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when He overthrew the cities in which Lot lived. Gensis 19:29

3. The second coming of Jesus is linked to Sodom.

"And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: they were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, they were being given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. It was the same as happened in the days of Lot: they were eating, they were drinking, they were buying, they were selling, they were planting, they were building; but on the day that Lot went out from Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. It will be just the same on the day that the Son of Man is revealed." Luke 17:26-30

- A. The <u>faithful Noahs</u> will be saved from God's wrath.
- B. The <u>carnal Lots</u> will be saved from God's wrath.
- C. The <u>wicked</u> will be justly consumed in God's wrath.

Will you get right with God and stand in the gap?