**Walk Through the Bible**

**Lesson Number Sixteen**

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**God and Two Angels Visit With Abraham – Lot and His Family Delivered from Sodom and Gomorrah Before They are Destroyed**

Recap – Abram and Sarai, for many years, were promised a son and that, through this son, they would become the Father and Mother of many generations of people and many nations would come from them.

At this time, they had been living in tents in Canaan for twenty-four years and God promised them a son again. **Abraham was ninety-nine and Sarah was eighty-nine.**

Thirteen years before this, Hagar, Sarah’s maiden had Ishmael after Abraham had sexual relations with her. **Sarah had given up on God’s promise** and Abraham did too and went along with Sarah’s plan to **MAKE IT HAPPEN** instead of waiting on God.

**How many times do we give up on God when we do not see Him move according to OUR timeline?**

**My Life verse is**

**Hebrews 10:35-39 (KJV)**   
35  Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.   
36  For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

Paul was telling the Hebrews not to give up! Not to throw away their CONFIDENCE in the Word of God. That CONFIDENCE, carried with it a GREAT REWARD!

**But Paul said, ONCE THEY DID WHAT IT WAS GOD WANTED THEM TO DO, they needed PATIENCE, until they RECEIVED THE PROMISE!**

The rest of the chapter really speaks to us too

37  For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. ***(The thing we have prayed for. Jesus said to believe we receive WHEN we pray Mark 11:24. We can only pray this for ourselves though. It is the “Prayer of Faith”.)***38  Now THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.   
39  But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

**What does it mean when the Bible says, “THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.”**

In **Genesis chapter 18**, God, along with two angels, appears to Abraham and tells him that by this time next year, they will have the Son of Promise.

Abraham has a meal prepared for the men. **This was no easy task.** There were no fast food places or even much of a way for the people to preserve food back then.

**Abraham washes their feet.**

**Genesis 18:4**

4Rest in the shade of this tree while water is brought to wash your feet.

**The Church has “ORDINANCES”**. The two main ones are **WATER BAPTISM and HOLY COMMUNION** or the **LORD’S SUPPER**.

**What about foot washing? Is it an ordinance of the church?**

I used to think that it was not until I was in seminary and Doc Horton showed us the scriptures on it.

**John 13:1-17 (NLT)**

**Jesus Washes His Disciples’ Feet**

13 Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that his hour had come to leave this world and return to his Father. He had loved his disciples during his ministry on earth, and now he loved them to the very end. 2It was time for supper, and the devil had already prompted Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. 3Jesus knew that the Father had given him authority over everything and that he had come from God and would return to God. 4So he got up from the table, took off his robe, wrapped a towel around his waist, 5and poured water into a basin. Then he began to wash the disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel he had around him.

6When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?”

7Jesus replied, “You don’t understand now what I am doing, but someday you will.”

8“No,” Peter protested, “you will never ever wash my feet!”

Jesus replied, “Unless I wash you, you won’t belong to me.”

9Simon Peter exclaimed, “Then wash my hands and head as well, Lord, not just my feet!”

10Jesus replied, “A person who has bathed all over does not need to wash, except for the feet,[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John%2013:1-17" \l "fen-NLT-26606c" \o "See footnote c)] to be entirely clean. And you disciples are clean, but not all of you.” 11For Jesus knew who would betray him. That is what he meant when he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

12After washing their feet, he put on his robe again and sat down and asked, “Do you understand what I was doing? 13You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and you are right, because that’s what I am. 14**And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other’s feet. 15I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you.** 16I tell you the truth, slaves are not greater than their master. Nor is the messenger more important than the one who sends the message. 17Now that you know these things, God will bless you for doing them.

The following link is to an excellent article on the importance of foot washing. While the author does not necessarily believe that foot washing is an ordinance of the Church, he believes it is a very personal ordinance that should be followed by believers in Christ.

<http://www.aberdeenprimitivebaptistchurch.org/Tracts&Articles/WashingSaintsFeet.htm>

**Back to Genesis 18**

**Genesis 18: 16-33**

16Then the men got up from their meal and looked out toward Sodom. As they left, Abraham went with them to send them on their way.

17“Should I hide my plan from Abraham?” the Lord asked. 18“For Abraham will certainly become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth will be blessed through him. **19I have singled him out so that he will direct his sons and their families to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just.** Then I will do for Abraham all that I have promised.”

20So the Lord told Abraham, “I have heard a great outcry from Sodom and Gomorrah, because their sin is so flagrant. 21I am going down to see if their actions are as wicked as I have heard. If not, I want to know.”

*The expression here is interesting. Since God knows all*

*things, why does He here imply that He was investigating to find out if this is true? One possibility is that God has the power to know all things because He has the power to do all things. But that does not mean He automatically knows all things, any more than He does everything He has the power to do. Rather, He must deliberately exercise His power to know. If He chooses not to exercise the power, then He will not know, just as He does not do the things He chooses not to do, even though He has the power to do them. Perhaps this verse simply expresses the fact that God was here exercising this power. When it comes to future events, we know that God sometimes does exercise His power to foreknow them, but perhaps sometimes He does not. However, we should understand that He always does know everything that*

*we do, as we do it.*

[http://www.religionofjesuschrist.com/commentary/law/genesis.pdf Pages 168 and 169](http://www.religionofjesuschrist.com/commentary/law/genesis.pdf%20Pages%20168%20and%20169). David Pratte.

22The other men turned and headed toward Sodom, but the Lord remained with Abraham.

*This teaches that like men and angels, God is limited to one place as far as the body is concerned. The doctrine of the omnipresence of God can be proven, but not His omnibody. In His body He goes from place to place like other persons (*[*Gen. 18:21*](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+18%3A21)*;* [*11:5-9*](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+11%3A5-9)*;* [*17:22*](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+17%3A22)*;* [*18:33*](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+18%3A33)*;* [*35:13*](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+35%3A13)*; etc.). Abraham still stood before the bodily presence of God, but not before the bodily presence of the two angels who had gone to Sodom (*[*Gen. 19:1*](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+19%3A1)*).*Dake's Annotated Reference Bible: Containing the Old and New Testaments of the Authorized or King James Version Text.

What do you think about this? I believe we can learn much about the nature of God through this account.

***We know God is Omnipresent*** (Everywhere all the time, HOW? **By His Spirit**. I believe this shows us that God the Father and Jesus the Son can only be in one place at a time. It also shows that God has, or can take on, a physical body any time he wants. That body is a spiritual body but physical nonetheless as we see Him appear to Abraham and even eat with Him. We know that angels have, or can take on physical bodies and can only be in one place at a time and they cannot embody people. In other words, you cannot be possessed by an angel **(Satan cannot possess anyone and he is not everywhere at the same time)** but you can be possessed by demons which are disembodied spirits from the PreAdamite flood we talked about at the beginning of this study).

***God is Omnipotent*** (All Powerful yet He does not use the full of extent of His power ALL the time).

***God is Omniscient*** (All Knowing but sometimes He does not choose to foreknow things as we see in this story).

**Abraham Deals with God**

23Abraham approached him and said, “Will you sweep away both the righteous and the wicked? 24Suppose you find fifty righteous people living there in the city—will you still sweep it away and not spare it for their sakes? 25Surely you wouldn’t do such a thing, destroying the righteous along with the wicked. Why, you would be treating the righteous and the wicked exactly the same! Surely you wouldn’t do that! Should not the Judge of all the earth do what is right?”

26And the Lord replied, “If I find fifty righteous people in Sodom, I will spare the entire city for their sake.”

27Then Abraham spoke again. “Since I have begun, let me speak further to my Lord, even though I am but dust and ashes. 28Suppose there are only forty-five righteous people rather than fifty? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?”

And the Lord said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five righteous people there.”

29Then Abraham pressed his request further. “Suppose there are only forty?”

And the Lord replied, “I will not destroy it for the sake of the forty.”

30“Please don’t be angry, my Lord,” Abraham pleaded. “Let me speak—suppose only thirty righteous people are found?”

And the Lord replied, “I will not destroy it if I find thirty.”

31Then Abraham said, “Since I have dared to speak to the Lord, let me continue—suppose there are only twenty?”

And the Lord replied, “Then I will not destroy it for the sake of the twenty.”

32Finally, Abraham said, “Lord, please don’t be angry with me if I speak one more time. Suppose only ten are found there?”

**And the Lord replied, “Then I will not destroy it for the sake of the ten.”**

33When the Lord had finished his conversation with Abraham, he went on his way, and Abraham returned to his tent.

**This is also a very important lesson for us as followers of Christ.** ***We CAN reason with God***, **as long as, our reasoning is in line with God’s will and God’s character.**

We can pray the “Prayer of Faith” as Jesus instructs us in Mark 11:24 and believe we receive what we pray for **as long as we are praying in line with God’s Will.**

Kenneth Hagin, after preaching one night, had people come down to form a prayer line so he could pray for them. As he went down the line praying for those who had come forth, he asked a certain man what he needed prayer for. The man said that he wanted the wife of another man in the service that night. We are told plainly in the ten commandments not to covet another man’s wife so obviously, God would not answer that man’s prayer.

**What do you think would have happened if Abraham could have gotten God down to 4 righteous people? We know Lot, his wife and their two daughters were there.**

**Genesis 19:1-29 (NLT)**

**Sodom and Gomorrah Destroyed**

19 That evening the two angels came to the entrance of the city of Sodom. Lot was sitting there, and when he saw them, he stood up to meet them. Then he welcomed them and bowed with his face to the ground. 2“My lords,” he said, “come to my home to wash your feet, and be my guests for the night. You may then get up early in the morning and be on your way again.”

“Oh no,” they replied. “We’ll just spend the night out here in the city square.”

3But Lot insisted, so at last they went home with him. Lot prepared a feast for them, complete with fresh bread made without yeast, and they ate. 4But before they retired for the night, all the men of Sodom, young and old, came from all over the city and surrounded the house. 5They shouted to Lot, “Where are the men who came to spend the night with you? Bring them out to us so we can have sex with them!”

6So Lot stepped outside to talk to them, shutting the door behind him. 7“Please, my brothers,” he begged, “don’t do such a wicked thing. 8Look, I have two virgin daughters. Let me bring them out to you, and you can do with them as you wish. But please, leave these men alone, for they are my guests and are under my protection.”

9“Stand back!” they shouted. “This fellow came to town as an outsider, and now he’s acting like our judge! We’ll treat you far worse than those other men!” And they lunged toward Lot to break down the door.

10But the two angels reached out, pulled Lot into the house, and bolted the door. 11Then they blinded all the men, young and old, who were at the door of the house, so they gave up trying to get inside.

12Meanwhile, the angels questioned Lot. “Do you have any other relatives here in the city?” they asked. “Get them out of this place—your sons-in-law, sons, daughters, or anyone else. 13For we are about to destroy this city completely. The outcry against this place is so great it has reached the Lord, and he has sent us to destroy it.”

14So Lot rushed out to tell his daughters’ fiancés, “Quick, get out of the city! The Lord is about to destroy it.” But the young men thought he was only joking.

15At dawn the next morning the angels became insistent. “Hurry,” they said to Lot. “Take your wife and your two daughters who are here. Get out right now, or you will be swept away in the destruction of the city!”

16When Lot still hesitated, the angels seized his hand and the hands of his wife and two daughters and rushed them to safety outside the city, for the Lord was merciful. 17When they were safely out of the city, one of the angels ordered, “Run for your lives! And don’t look back or stop anywhere in the valley! Escape to the mountains, or you will be swept away!”

18“Oh no, my lord!” Lot begged. 19“You have been so gracious to me and saved my life, and you have shown such great kindness. But I cannot go to the mountains. Disaster would catch up to me there, and I would soon die. 20See, there is a small village nearby. Please let me go there instead; don’t you see how small it is? Then my life will be saved.”

21“All right,” the angel said, “I will grant your request. I will not destroy the little village. 22But hurry! Escape to it, for I can do nothing until you arrive there.” (This explains why that village was known as Zoar, which means “little place.”)

23Lot reached the village just as the sun was rising over the horizon. 24Then the Lord rained down fire and burning sulfur from the sky on Sodom and Gomorrah. 25He utterly destroyed them, along with the other cities and villages of the plain, wiping out all the people and every bit of vegetation. 26But Lot’s wife looked back as she was following behind him, and she turned into a pillar of salt.

27Abraham got up early that morning and hurried out to the place where he had stood in the Lord’s presence. 28He looked out across the plain toward Sodom and Gomorrah and watched as columns of smoke rose from the cities like smoke from a furnace.

29But God had listened to Abraham’s request and kept Lot safe, removing him from the disaster that engulfed the cities on the plain.

**What was the great sin of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah?**

It was the sin of sodomy, or homosexuality!

If you talk to many homosexuals, they will tell you it was not the sodomy that was the sin, it was that the people of those cities did not follow the laws of hospitality.

Back then there weren’t a lot of inns, or hotels and there sure weren’t any fast food restaurants.

You see how people were hospitable when you see how Abraham treated God and the angels. Also, Lot offered to let the angels stay with him instead of staying out in the streets.

You see how the men of the city wanted Lot to send the angels out, who they thought were only men, so they could “KNOW” them. The Hebrew word for “KNOW” is yada. It means to know intimately, in a sexual way. Adam and Eve were told to KNOW each other and the result was a sexual union.

**Everyone tries to justify their sin.**

In Romans chapter One, we are told that God gives these kind of people over to a “REPROBATE” mind, or a “mind void of judgment!”

**Romans 1:21-32 (KJV)**   
21  Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.   
22  Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,   
23  And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.   
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: 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;   
29  Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,   
30  Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,   
31  Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:   
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.

Many of these people are extremely intelligent. Many of them are into the arts. Yet, among homosexual men, the majority of them practice anonymous, unprotected sex, even when they know of the dangers of sexually transmitted diseases!

**1 Corinthians 6:9-11 NLT**

9Don’t you realize that those who do wrong will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Don’t fool yourselves. Those who indulge in sexual sin, or who worship idols, or commit adultery, or are male prostitutes, or **practice homosexuality**, 10or are thieves, or greedy people, or drunkards, or are abusive, or cheat people—none of these will inherit the Kingdom of God. 11Some of you were once like that. But you were cleansed; you were made holy; you were made right with God by calling on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Let me share with you a **truth about homosexuality**. If you take the **SEX** out of a homosexual relationship, it is no long homosexuality. It is just a friendship.

David and Jonathan were extremely close friends. They were NOT homosexuals as the gay community would want you to believe.

The sodomites pervert the very Word of God! They have even hijacked the rainbow which is a symbol to us that God will never destroy the earth with a flood again! The homosexuals use the rainbow as their logo, if you will.

Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed for the wickedness of the sodomites in the city. It was once said, “If God does not destroy the United States for the vast amount of sodomy in this country, He will have to apologize to the citizens of Sodom and Gomorrah!”

**Why do you see churches which are accepting of homosexuality?**

They DO NOT know the Word of God or they are flippantly disobeying the Word of God!

**Homosexuality is an abomination to God and it is NOT NORMAL! That, in itself, tells you that it is not right.**

We, as true followers of Christ, need to **speak the truth IN LOVE!** We do not need to back down out of fear of offending someone. We do not judge these people, the Word of God judges them. We need to show them that there is a better way when they follow the Word of God.

1 Corinthians 6 told us that it is possible for people to come out of that lifestyle.

Homosexuality was once considered a mental illness in this country, even into the 1980’s.

**The Born Gay Hoax Exposed**

<http://www.liveleak.com/view?i=927_1345510160>

The "born “gay hoax was invented in 1985 by Marshall Kirk and Dr. Hunter Madsen. Marshall Kirk graduated magna cum laude from HarvardUniversity in 1980 majoring in psychology and went on to become a writer and researcher in neuropsychiatry. Dr. Hunter Madsen earned a PhD in politics from Harvard University in 1985, then went on to become an expert on public persuasion tactics, social marketing, and has designed commercial marketing on Madison Avenue. He has also served as a consultant to pro-sodomy media campaigns across America.  
  
In 1985, Marshall Kirk and Hunter Madsen co-authored an article entitled "The Gay Agenda" in a pro-sodomy magazine called Christopher Street. In short, the article emphasized the strategic importance of shifting the central issue in the debate over “homosexuality” away from sodomy and toward a sexual pseudo-identity called “gay.” The goal of The Gay Agenda was to force opponents of sodomy into a position where they would be seen as attacking the civil rights of so-called “gay” citizens, rather than opposing a specific antisocial behavior. "The Gay Agenda" also briefly outlined the strategy that would eventually be used to convince the public that individuals are "born gay.”

**What is Homosexuality? Can my child be born gay?**

<http://www.liveleak.com/view?i=c52_1332882030>

Homosexuality has always been and will always be an abomination to God. Don’t let the world’s point of view drag you away from God’s Word of Truth!