

March 19, 2023
La Jolla Christian Fellowship
GENESIS. Behind The Curtain: Abraham – Part 2
Episode 8: The Downfall of Lot – Part 2
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Genesis: 19:15-26

15 With the coming of dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Hurry! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away when the city is punished.” ¹⁶When he hesitated, the men grasped his hand and the hands of his wife and of his two daughters and led them safely out of the city, for the LORD was merciful to them. ¹⁷As soon as they had brought them out, one of them said, “Flee for your lives! Don’t look back, and don’t stop anywhere in the plain! Flee to the mountains or you will be swept away!” ¹⁸But Lot said to them, “No, my lords, please! ¹⁹Your servant has found favor in your eyes, and you have shown great kindness to me in sparing my life. But I can’t flee to the mountains; this disaster will overtake me, and I’ll die. ²⁰Look, here is a town near enough to run to, and it is small. Let me flee to it—it is very small, isn’t it? Then my life will be spared.” ²¹He said to him, “Very well, I will grant this request too; I will not overthrow the town you speak of. ²²But flee there quickly, because I cannot do anything until you reach it.” (That is why the town was called Zoar.) ²³By the time Lot reached Zoar, the sun had risen over the land. ²⁴Then the LORD rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the LORD out of the heavens. ²⁵Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, destroying all those living in the cities—and also the vegetation in the land. ²⁶But Lot’s wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

1. Run, don’t walk from things not of God.
2. Don’t look back upon things God has freed you from.

“No evil dooms us hopelessly except the evil we love, and desire to continue in, and make no effort to escape from.”
- George Elliott

1. Run, don’t walk from things not of God. Vs. 15 With the coming of dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Hurry! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away when the city is punished.”

a. **Hurry:** The angels had an understanding of the times and timing of God that Lot did not possess.

i. **Flee:** As soon as they had brought them out, one of them said, “Flee for your lives! Don’t look back, and don’t stop anywhere in the plain! Flee to the mountains or you will be swept away!”

b. **Hesitation: Vs 16** When he **hesitated**, the men grasped his hand and the hands of his wife and of his two daughters and led them safely out of the city, **for the LORD was merciful to them.**

2. Don’t look back. Vs. 25 Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, destroying all those living in the cities — and also the vegetation in the land. ²⁶But Lot’s wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

a. **Lot negotiates:** Look, here is a town near enough to run to, and it is small. Let me flee to it—it is very small, isn’t it? Then my life will be spared.” ²¹He said to him, “Very well, I will grant this request too; I will not overthrow the town you speak of.

i. **Lot flees again:** Lot and his two daughters left Zoar and settled in the mountains, **for he was afraid** to stay in Zoar.

Questions for Small Groups:

1. The angels warned Lot to flee. Has God ever warned you to flee from something?
2. Why do you think Lot hesitated? Can you empathize with him?
3. Why do you think Lot’s wife looked back and was God being so punitive in turning her into a pillar of salt?
4. Lot negotiates with the angels to not do what they told him to do and the angels relent. Do you ever negotiate with God to do less than he has called you to?
5. Lot fled to Zoar. **Zoar** means sanctuary or refuge, but it was not the refuge Lot was supposed to shelter in. Do you have any Zoars in your life; places where you take refuge and comfort, instead of going to God?