GENESIS: THE FOUNDATION FOR EVERYTHING

CONSEQUENCES OF SPIRITUAL COMPROMISE

GENESIS 19:1-11

GENESIS: THE FOUNDATION FOR EVERYTHING

“…and if He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men (for by what he saw and heard that righteous man, while living among them, felt his righteous soul tormented day after day by their lawless deeds)…” (2 Pet. 2:7-8)

Lot’s life in Sodom teaches us the dangers of compromising with the culture, and this chapter also teaches us the wisdom, goodness, and grace of God in His judgment of wickedness in our societies.

There are several **consequences** or **dangers** of cultural compromise which individual Christians, church families, and even nations should heed in this chapter.

I. **Spiritual Compromise Corrupts Our Relationship With God's Servants** (Gen. 19:1-3)

Keep in mind Israel's dealings with God's prophets, apostles, and even with Jesus Himself.

I. **Spiritual Compromise Corrupts Our Relationship With God's Servants** (Gen. 19:1-3)

<u>Heavenly-minded Abraham</u>

<u>Double-minded Lot</u>

Did Lot want to protect them?

II. **Spiritual Compromise Corrupts Our Perspective on Sin** (Gen. 19:4-11)

"…The outcry of Sodom and Gomorrah is indeed great, and their sin is exceedingly grave." (Gen. 18:20)

Verse 4 stresses the **pervasive** nature of all sin, but especially of **sexual** sin. Sexual sin, particularly homosexuality, is pervasive in that it is **all-consuming** and **infectious**. It is pervasive in that it is **prevalent**, **widespread**, and **extensive**.

II. **Spiritual Compromise Corrupts Our Perspective on Sin** (Gen. 19:4-11)

Sodom's **Debauchery**: A Clear Case of Gross Human **Depravity**

Debauchery = excessive indulgence in lust; habitual lewdness/sensuality.
Synonyms: immorality, licentiousness, and lasciviousness

Depravity = the **total** corruption/pollution of our lives by sin. No part of who we are is left unaffected by the ruin of sin. **Every human being is depraved**. But not every human being acts out their depravity at equal levels. In other words, it is possible for a person to sink into deeper stages of the expression of his/her corruption by sin.

II. **Spiritual Compromise Corrupts Our Perspective on Sin** (Gen. 19:4-11)

Why is this sin highlighted when so many sins prevailed in Sodom?

Because homosexuality is what you find at the bottom of the depravity barrel. And this sin and the similar sins of sexual **perversion** are particularly **devastating** to societies.

This sin is **perverted**.

II. **Spiritual Compromise Corrupts Our Perspective on Sin** (Gen. 19:4-11)

How do we understand this kind of cowardice and sin on Lot's behalf?

Sexual sin is **pervasive**, **perverted**, and now we see that it is **pernicious**.

Pernicious = **causing insidious harm or ruin; ruinous; injurious; hurtful**.

The sin itself is pernicious — homosexuality is ruinous by nature like cancer is ruinous by nature. It is a life-consuming sin that hurts everyone it touches so that it **causes** insidious harm, even to those who do not practice it.

II. **Spiritual Compromise Corrupts Our Perspective on Sin** (Gen. 19:4-11)

What do the Sodomites mean by, they will do **worse** to Lot than they had in mind for the two men (v. 9)?

Here is the point: **they knew** what was worse and they fully intended to do it to Lot and his family. They were inflamed with lust, completely consumed with acting on their carnal appetites. Add to this that they had become enraged. **What enraged them**?

*"Do not **be** wicked."*

*Pervasive, perverted, pernicious, and **persistent.***

II. **Spiritual Compromise Corrupts Our Perspective on Sin** (Gen. 19:4-11)

This is a shocking **warning** for all God-fearing people to heed:

Making homosexuality, and all sexual perversion, a part of **accepted everyday societal life** will bring God's judgment and corrode a culture from within.

- Leviticus 18:19-30; 20:13, 22-23
- Romans 1:26-27
- 1 Corinthians 6:9
- 1 Timothy 1:10

II. **Spiritual Compromise Corrupts Our Perspective on Sin** (Gen. 19:4-11)

Homosexuality is a sin against the heart, wisdom, and order of God in making us male and female.

Homosexuality is a **desperate bid to rebel against God** and His design for order, authority, and accountability in man.

Homosexuality is sin.

II. **Spiritual Compromise Corrupts Our Perspective on Sin** (Gen. 19:4-11)

The apostle Paul proclaimed: *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes…"* including homosexuals, lesbians, and others mired in sexual sin (Rom. 1:16).

The apostle John declared: *Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him"* — including those rescued from sexual sin (1 John 5:1).

And Jesus Himself boldly pronounced that: *"…he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death and into life"* — including every sinner seeking God's forgiveness through faith in Jesus Christ (John 5:24).

Lot was a believer who made **himself miserable**. He **robbed himself** and his family of the joy of godly living **by having one foot in Sodom and the other in God's camp**.

This created for him a daily battle with **competing loyalties**, **competing impulses**, and **little compromises**. Peter said Lot's righteous soul was tortured by what he saw and lived with.

This is what you get when you try to mix **light with dark** and **right with wrong**. Yet Lot remained in Sodom, he **took a wife from the city**, he **pledged two of his daughters to two vile men of the city**, and he transacted business and matters of legal enterprise with these wicked men. This was a daily, torturous conflict within himself **which he created** by his **accommodation with the culture**.

“Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. ***And do not be conformed to this world****, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is* ***good*** *and* ***acceptable*** *and* ***perfect****.”*

Romans 12:1-2

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