



GENESIS: THE FOUNDATION FOR EVERYTHING

A person is silhouetted against a night sky filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy. The person is standing on a small rock or mound of earth. The text is overlaid on this background.

CONSEQUENCES OF SPIRITUAL COMPROMISE (PART 2)

GENESIS 19:12-26

GENESIS: THE FOUNDATION FOR EVERYTHING

Original sin is the “moral corruption we inherit from Adam’s disobedience.”
(gotquestions.org)

Original sin explains the origin of our sin nature.

Genesis 6:5-7

“And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day, 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 6-7)

Sodom and Gomorrah indulged *in the same way as these* [fallen angels], that is, in gross sexual immorality as the men of Sodom went after strange flesh.

God's clear mandates against sexual sin, including Sodom's sin of homosexual perversion:

- Leviticus 18:19-30; 20: 7-8, 13, 22-23

Does the New Testament say that homosexuality in all its forms is wrong in God's sight?

- Romans 1:26-27
- 1 Corinthians 6:9; 1 Timothy 1:10

When godless perversion is pridefully pursued, pandered, and paraded before God, it reveals the rottenness of original sin within. And society can expect God's judgment in the form of giving them over to that delusion as those who will undergo the punishment of eternal fire.

The sexual sin of Sodom has taken its hold on the hearts of thousands of people; it is pervasive, perverted, pernicious, and persistent. There is no longer any hope for self-correction.

But what about the only believer in the city? What does all of this tell us about Lot?

We see the disastrous effects of spiritual compromise.

The Westminster Confession speaks of how God keeps a believer persevering in true faith, but also how a believer can spiritually compromise himself along the way:

“They whom God has accepted in His Beloved, effectually called and sanctified by His Spirit, can neither totally nor finally fall away from the state of grace; but shall certainly persevere therein to the end, and be internally saved.” (Ch.17, Sec. 1)

“This definition does not deny the possibility of miserable failings in one’s Christian experience...” *(John MacArthur)*

“Nevertheless [believers] may, through the temptations of Satan and of the world, the prevalency of corruption remaining in them, and the neglect of the means of their preservation, fall into grievous sins; and for a time continue therein; whereby they incur God’s displeasure, and grieve His Holy Spirit: come to be deprived of some measure of their graces and comforts; have their hearts hardened, and their consciences wounded; hurt and scandalize others, and bring temporal judgments upon themselves.” (Ch. 17, Sec. 3)

Six consequences of spiritual compromise from Lot's life:

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

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

"He who walks in integrity walks securely, but he who perverts his ways will be found out." (Prov. 10:9)

"Can a man take fire in his bosom and his clothes not be burned? Or can a man walk on hot coals and his feet not be scorched?" (Prov. 6:27-28)

III. Spiritual Compromise Corrupts Our Credibility (Gen. 19:12-14)

The Message of Life (v. 12-13)

Twice verse 13 uses the English word “*destroy*” to describe what is about to happen to Sodom, Gomorrah, and the cities of that valley.

“*Destroy*” is the same word God used in Genesis 6:13 and 17 to tell Noah, “*The end of all flesh has come before Me; for the earth is filled with violence [hamas] because of them; and behold, I am about to destroy them with the earth.... Behold, I, even I am bringing the flood of water upon the earth, to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life, from under heaven; everything that is on the earth shall perish.*”

III. **Spiritual Compromise Corrupts Our Credibility** (Gen. 19:12-14)

The Life of a Messenger (v. 14)

“Their disregard for Lot’s warning as a joke speaks... to the narrative’s general picture of Lot as a confused, inept person who falls to his own short-sighted ambition...” *(Kenneth Matthews)*

IV. Spiritual Compromise Corrupts Our Trust in God (Gen. 19:15-22)

“But he hesitated”

Lot’s responses to the urgency of the angels reveal his heart’s astoundingly stubborn spiritual insensitivity.

“But Lot said to them, ‘Oh no, my lords!’”

Lot is objecting.

By God’s grace, He allows Lot to pursue this last vestige of his heart’s desire for what is familiar to him, and the Lord allows Lot to come to the end of himself. How?

V. **Spiritual Compromise Corrupts Our Servant Leadership** (Gen 19:23-26)

God's wisdom is best.

Now the wisdom of the Lord in verse 17 will become crystal clear to Lot:
“Escape for your life! Do not look behind you, and do not stay anywhere in the valley; escape to the mountains, or you will be swept away.”

V. **Spiritual Compromise Corrupts Our Servant Leadership** (Gen 19:23-26)

Lot loses his wife.

The point of this section is that Lot's wife died, and much of the responsibility for her death rests with Lot. **Why do I say that?**

Lot didn't have to have all the answers; he didn't have to fully understand the situation he was in; he just needed to obey the messengers of God leading him and his family to safety.

If you are unrepentant and uncompromising about sin, you are keeping yourself and your family in a **spiritually compromised position for future moral and spiritual failure.**

Spiritual compromise corrupts our credibility, our trust in God, and our spiritual leadership and service to others. Whatever empty pleasure we may feel from our compromises with the world, it is sure to cost us in ways far beyond what it is worth.

Compromise and worldliness may not seem or feel empty at the time, but be assured from God's Word and from the example of Lot that fitting in with the culture and giving in to your fleshly appetites, even in small ways, leads to self-ruin and potentially to the ruin of those closest to you.



GRACE CHURCH
WILLIAMSBURG