



Come & See What God Has Done

Sodom, Gomorrah & Lot's Wife – Day 6

Dec. 2

The story of Sodom & Gomorrah is one of deep-rooted sin and degradation.

Abraham had bargained with God to save the towns from the wrath of the Lord. We read the story of his bargaining in Genesis 18. Lot and his family were found to be worthy of saving. They followed the instructions of the Angels of the Lord and fled the cities. Their flight is captured in Genesis 19:14-22, So Lot went out and said to his sons-in-law, who were to marry his daughters, "Up! Get out of this place, for the Lord is about to destroy the city." But he seemed to his sons-in-law to be jesting. As morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Up! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be swept away in the punishment of the city." But he lingered. So the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the Lord being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city. And as they brought them out, one said, "Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away." And Lot said to them, "Oh, no, my lords. Behold, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life. But I cannot escape to the hills, lest the disaster overtake me and I die. Behold, this city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me escape there—is it not a little one—and my life will be saved?" He said to him, "Behold, I grant you this favor also, that I will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken. Escape there quickly, for I can do nothing till you arrive there." Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

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Lot's wife was turned into a pillar of salt because she disregarded the instructions not to look back. We find her story and the fate of Sodom and Gomorrah captured in Genesis 19:23-28, The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar. Then the Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the Lord out of heaven. And he overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. But Lot's wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt. And Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the Lord. And he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the land of the valley, and he looked and, behold, the smoke of the land went up like the smoke of a furnace.

Jesus rescued us from sin. His death on the cross paid the price that you and I could not. Yet, we are often tempted to look back on our past sins and may feel a sense of unworthiness. Or, we may foolishly think our past sins were too great to be forgiven. Looking back serves no purpose beyond the realization that we are loved so much that the Son of God was willing to die a horrible death for us to be granted forgiveness. Satan wants you to look back in shame. **DO NOT FALL FOR HIS TRAP!** Keep looking ahead. In Christ, the old us is gone, and the new us is redeemed in Christ. That is why we look forward to Advent. The birth of the Christ Child is the beginning of our redemption. Embrace the future for all it can hold!

Leaning on Jesus
Forest Holmes