

Lots Salty Wife-19 1-26.docx
Genesis 19:1-26

In the **Luke 17** passage, Jesus has just been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God will come.

Luke 17:32—"

His answer is to warn them to be ready for the coming of the kingdom is like the flash of lightening that instantly lights the sky.

It is compared to the coming of the flood in Noah's day, and to the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah in Lot's day.

Those who hear are warned to be ready to go when the Lord comes, and they are warned against turning back for anything.

Then, in the midst of His teaching, the Lord tells those listening to Him that they should ***"remember Lot's wife."***

Nowhere in the Bible are we told to remember Abraham, Isaac or Jacob.

We are not commanded to remember Ruth or Rahab, David or Joshua, but we are commanded to remember Lot's wife!

We are told to awaken our sluggish memories and look back to the death of one soul who passed through this world, lived in sin and died in sin.

We are told to remember Lot's wife.

What is there to remember?

She was married to Lot and she lived in Sodom.

Before God's judgment came on Sodom and Gomorrah she, along with her husband and two unmarried daughters were forced from the city.

They were all commanded not to look behind them as they fled, but she disobeyed and was instantly judged, killed and transformed into a pillar of salt.

That is what we know, but when we study her story, we can learn even more about her, how she lived and why she died like she did.

Evidently, there are some lessons that can be learned from Lot's wife.

Our assignment from the Lord is that we remember her.

Therefore, in keeping with the Lord's command, I want to preach for a while this morning on the thought, **Lot's Salty Wife**.

Let me just say that there is a message here for both saint and sinners.

There is a word here for both the saved and the lost.

There is a word from God for your heart in **Lot's Salty Wife**.

I want to consider Lot's Wife and her spiritual condition this morning.

There are three areas of her spiritual life that need to be remembered this morning.

To Know Him and Make Him Known

1) CONSIDER HER SPIRITUAL PRIVILEGES

a) She Was Privileged In Her Relationships –

- i) She was privileged to be married into the only family on the earth that was serving the one true God.

b) She Saw The Clear Faith Of Abraham –

- i) This man, who was called "*the Friend of God*", **James 2:23**, was her husbands uncle!
- ii) She had witnessed his dedication to the Lord.
- iii) She had seen his altars and his worship.
- iv) She had seen him operate in the power of God and deliver her husband from sure death in **Gen. 14**.
- v) She was privileged to be associated with one of the greatest godly men who ever walked this planet!

c) She Saw The Cloudy Faith Of Lot –

- i) Ill. Lot was a man of many spiritual failures.
- ii) His story is found in **Genesis 13:9-13; 14:12**.
- iii) He traded his tent for a townhouse!
- iv) In spite of his failures, the Bible calls Lot a righteous man,
- v) **2 Pet. 2:6-8—" and if He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing them to ashes, having made them an example to those who would live ungodly lives thereafter; 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),**
- vi) His wife could have benefitted from his faith, but she failed to do so!
- vii) (Ill. One's relationships do not save. Faith in Jesus saves souls!)
- viii) (Ill. The responsibility of parents, especially fathers to set the right example.)

d) She Was Privileged In Her Revelations –

- i) Because of her relationship with Lot and Abraham, she learned a few things about God.

e) She Was Acquainted With Deity –

- i) She certainly knew who God was and how one approaches Him.
- ii) She had learned this from her husband and his uncle.
- iii) Yet, she never followed through with it.
- iv) How many sit in church and know Who God is and how to come to Him, but they fail to act on what they know?
- v) Friend, it has to move from the head to the heart before it can save your soul.
- vi) Knowing **John 3:16; Acts 16:31; Acts 4:12; Romans 10:9; 10:13** is one thing.
- vii) Acting on them is what saves the soul!
- f) **She Was Aware Of The Destruction –**
 - i) God had even graced her by sending angels to warn her and her family of the impending doom, **Gen. 19:1-13**.
 - ii) Still, she refused to flee from the wrath of God, **Gen. 19:16**.
 - iii) Ill. **19:26**, "*from behind him*" carries the idea that she was lagging far behind the others.
 - iv) She knew, but it didn't phase her!
 - v) How many here today know of the judgment that is coming and still they do not flee to Jesus for refuge?
 - vi) Everyone know, how many have run to Him for shelter?
 - vii) Only a fool walks into Hell with his eyes open to its reality and closed to God's proximity!
- g) **She Was Privileged In Her Responsibility –**
 - i) Here is a woman who knew the facts and was given every opportunity to act upon them.
 - ii) She was given the chance to change, the chance to believe, the change to be saved.
 - iii) Yet, she squandered those chances and died without God.
 - iv) The privilege of conviction!
 - v) When God calls, it isn't to harm you, but it is to remind you that He loves you and wants to save you by His grace,
 - vi) John 6:44—" **"No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.**
 - vii) John 6:65—" **And He was saying, "For this reason I have said to you, that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted him from the Father."**
- 2) **CONSIDER HER SPIRITUAL PROBLEMS**
 - a) For thousands of years men have wondered why this woman looked back.
 - b) There are three spiritual problems that Lot's wife had in here life.
 - c) These are revealed in this passage and they answer this question.
 - d) **A Problem With Her Faith - Disbelief –**
 - i) She looked back because she did not believe that God would what He said He would do!
 - ii) She thought He was bluffing!
 - iii) Lost people still make the same gamble today!
 - iv) Friend, He isn't bluffing!
 - v) Just ask the Rich Man of **Luke 16:19-31**.
 - vi) Just ask Judas Iscariot!
 - vii) There is a Hell and you will go there if you do not come to Jesus Christ for salvation!
 - viii) There is chastisement for the child of God who chooses sin over the will of God,

ix) Heb. 12:6-11—" **FOR THOSE WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE DISCIPLINES, AND HE SCOURGES EVERY SON WHOM HE RECEIVES.**" It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness. All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

x) God isn't bluffing!

xi) Sin is a hard taskmaster,

xii) Pro. 13:15—" **Good understanding produces favor, But the way of the treacherous is hard.**

e) **A Problem With Her Face - Disobedience –**

i) She, along with all the others, had been commanded not to look back.

ii) But, there was something within her that caused her to turn back toward Sodom.

iii) The problem with Lot's wife was that she had her eyes on all the wrong things.

iv) She was looking back at a lost life, a lost lifestyle and a lost city.

v) Wherever your gaze is fixed this morning will determine the path taken by your feet.

vi) The Prodigal Son - **Luke 15:1-24** - His gaze was on the world and his feet followed.)

That is why some of you won't get saved! That is why some of you can't live right!

vii) Your gaze is fixed on the wrong things!

viii) What a dangerous way to live!

ix) God's plan, as it is laid out in His Word, is a perfect plan!

x) Those who follow God's plan enjoy God's blessings and His peace.

xi) Those who reject God's plan for living find their path strewn with disaster and trouble.

xii) What are you looking at this morning?

f) **A Problem With Her Focus - Deception –**

i) She probably had everyone in the family fooled!

ii) They probably thought that she was saved.

iii) She had everyone fooled but God!

iv) The problem with Lot's wife is the problem with many people today, they have merely made a profession of faith, but they have never truly been born again!

v) She proved what she was when she looked back to Sodom!

vi) **You see, her body was out of Sodom, but her heart was still there.**

g) This is a picture of that religious person, that church member who has turned over a new leaf, but who has never been converted!

h) There is a difference in claiming to be a Christian than in being saved!

i) When you are truly saved, you will not be able to enjoy the pleasures and allurements of the world as you did before!

j) Why?

k) Because you have been made a new creature, **2 Cor. 5:17**.

l) If you are just pretending to be saved, please be aware that you are not fooling the Lord!

- m) He knows your heart and will judge you accordingly!
- n) By the way, it is possible for those who have been converted to find themselves looking back longingly at the old life they lived in Sodom.
- o) This was condemned by Jesus,
- p) **Luke 9:62—" But Jesus said to him, "No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."**
- q) You see this trend in the church today.
- r) Everywhere there are professing Christians that want to dress, act, walk and talk like the world.
- s) People who say they know Jesus, but act like the unsaved around them.
- t) What they are doing is playing around with sin and treating sin too lightly!
- u) My friends, sin is a deceiver, it is a killer and it is dangerous!
- v) It must be dealt with early and radically.
- w) Do not let it get a foothold in your life, but root it out, whatever the cost or the pain,
- x) Eph. 4:27—" **and do not give the devil an opportunity.**
- y) **Matt. 5:27-30—" "You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY'; but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. "If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. "If your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to go into hell.**
- z) We must get radical with our sins!
- aa) That is a travesty!
- bb) That is a tragedy!
- cc) Some people in this room live, dress and act in such a fashion that I would just as soon you not tell anyone where you went to church!
- dd) It brings a reproach upon every saint of God who does try to live for Jesus in this place.
- ee) Yet, I thank God that there is a place of repentance for those who are guilty of the backward look this morning.

3) **CONSIDER HER SPIRITUAL PUNISHMENT**

- a) **It Was Sudden –**
 - i) When judgement came, it was swift and sure.
 - ii) **Pro. 29:1—" A man who hardens his neck after much reproof Will suddenly be broken beyond remedy.**
 - iii) You may walk in sin for years, but one day judgement will surely come.
 - iv) One day, time will run out!
 - v) There will be no more opportunities and no more calls to repentance,
 - vi) **Gen. 6:3—" Then the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."**
 - vii) There will be nothing but judgement swift and sure!
 - viii) Friend, I challenge you to flee the wrath of God!
 - ix) There is but one shelter for the soul,
 - x) **Romans 5:6-9—"**
- b) **It Was Serious –**

- i) The Bible says that she became a pillar of salt.
- ii) Instantly, the judgement of God fell on her and she perished and was swallowed up in the wrath of God.
- iii) Her judgement came in spite of her unbelief!
- iv) Friend, it won't be a pillar of salt for you, but it will be an eternity in Hell,
- v) Psa. 9:17—" **The wicked will return to Sheol, Even all the nations who forget God.**
- vi) If you die without Jesus, your judgement will be swift and sure!
- vii) Instantly, at the moment of death, you will find yourself in Hell!
- c) **It Was Settled** –
 - i) For Lot's wife there would be no pardons, no second chances and no hope.
 - ii) She was gone and lost forever and nothing could be done about it!
 - iii) My friend, the time to prepare for the next world is today,
 - iv) 2 Cor. 6:2—" **for He says, "AT THE ACCEPTABLE TIME I LISTENED TO YOU, AND ON THE DAY OF SALVATION I HELPED YOU." Behold, now is "THE ACCEPTABLE TIME," behold, now is "THE DAY OF SALVATION"—**
 - v) When time runs out on you, there will be no opportunities after death.
 - vi) There will be no pardons and no paroles.
 - vii) There will be nothing for you but justice and judgement.
 - viii) Your sentence will be settled forever.
- d) However, there is grace today if you will come to Jesus,
- e) **Eph. 2:1-10.**
- f) There is hope if you will respond to His call.
- g) There is salvation for all who will come to Him by faith,
- h) Rom. 10:13—" **for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED."**
- i) Rev. 22:17—" **The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.**
- j) Wouldn't you rather have hope than Hell?
- k) Would you rather have the joy of salvation rather than the judgement of sin?
- l) You can, but you have to come to Jesus! Will you do that today?

Conc: We need to remember Lot's Wife this evening!

Not so that we can revive an ages old, painful story, but so that we can be reminded that this life we are living is fleeting.

It doesn't last very long.

As you pass through this world, you can do not better than to come to faith in Jesus and be saved.

The lesson from Lot's Wife is this: Take God at His Word! If He says it, then it will come to pass, and men need to be ready to meet Him some day.

With that in mind let me say this: Hell is real!

Judgement is real!

Death is real!

The only way to safely navigate your way past these stark realities is through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Here is the invitation: if you are lost, like Lot's wife and you want to be saved, then you come to Jesus, He will save you.

If you are saved, but you are guilty of looking back at the world, and of living like the world, He has forgiveness and restoration for your soul.

Whatever the need of your heart, there is help in Jesus.

But, you will only get the help you need if you come!