

AN INSIDE LOOK AT SODOM

Text: Jude 7

INTRO: Our text tells us that Sodom has been made an example of God's wrath. This being true, it behooves us to take a closer look, an inside look at Sodom.

I. SODOM'S ABUNDANCE.

A. Sodom was in the beautiful & fertile plain of the Jordan River & was compared to Eden.

And Lot lifted his eyes and saw all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere... like the garden of the LORD... (Gen. 13:10).

B. Sodom was in or near the Valley of Siddim, the cite of numerous asphalt pits, Gen. 14:10. Asphalt (slime, KJV) had many ancient uses which would make Sodom valuable as an industrial cite.

1. Mortar, Gen. 11:3
2. Water-proofing, EX. 2:3
3. Fuel (?)

II. SODOM'S SINS. Not 10 righteous, Gen. 18:32.

As I live," says the Lord GOD, "neither your sister Sodom nor her daughters have done as you and your daughters have done. Look, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. And they were haughty and committed abomination before Me; therefore I took them away as I saw fit. (Ezek. 16:48-50).

A. Pride.

Pride goes before destruction, & a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud. (Prov. 16:18-19).

A man's pride will bring him low, but the humble in

spirit will retain honor. (Prov. 29:23)

Pharisee in prayer, Luke 18:11

B. Materialism. Fullness of food & abundance of idleness.

Woe to you who are at ease in Zion, & trust in Mount Samaria... Who lie on beds of ivory, stretch out on your couches, eat lambs from the flock & calves from the midst of the stall; Who sing idly to the sound of stringed instruments, and invent for yourselves musical instruments like David; Who drink wine from bowls, and anoint yourselves with the best ointments, but are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph (Amos 6:1, 4-6)

C. Selfishness. Eph. 4:28.

D. Abomination.

And they called to Lot and said to him, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may know them carnally." (Gen. 19:5).

You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination. (Lev. 18:22).

NOTE: Because of its identification with the city of Sodom, the sin of homosexual perversion has been given the name sodomy.

1. The events in Sodom show God's attitude toward sexual perversion before the giving of the Law.
2. Passages such as Rom. 1:24-27; 1 Tim. 1:9-11 & 1 Cor. 6:9-11 show that God's attitude toward such sins has not changed.

E. No sense of shame or guilt.

The look on their countenance witnesses against them, & they declare their sin as Sodom; They do not hide it. Woe to their soul! For they have brought evil upon themselves...Woe to the wicked! It shall be ill with him, For the reward of his hands shall be given him. (Isa. 3:9, 11).

III. THE DELIVERANCE OF LOT AND HIS FAMILY.

When the morning dawned, the angels urged Lot to hurry, saying, "Arise, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be consumed in the punishment of the city..." But his wife looked back behind him, and she became a pillar of salt. (Gen. 19:15, 26)

NOTE: The destruction of Sodom was visible to Abraham, at least 20 miles away, Gen. 19:28.

V. SOME LESSONS FOR US.

A. We have a greater opportunity and will be judged more severely than Sodom.

"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for you. And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. (Matt. 11:21-23).

B. God is still able to destroy the wicked & deliver the just.
2 Peter 2:6-9

C. The influence of 10 righteous people could have spared the city & given Sodom another chance.

Springhill, LA, February 3, 1974
Jonestown, TX, March 31, 1974
Smyrna, Atlanta, TX, June 6, 1974 (meeting)
KBSF Radio, Springhill, LA, September 15, 1974
Eastside, Denton, TX, March 24, 1975 (meeting)
La Porte, TX, October 31, 1976
Exton, PA, August 3, 1986
Shiloh, Mexia, TX, May 9, 1993
Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, December 9, 2001