1Thess #68

The lust of the eyes is the beginning of problems.

No class this Sunday. I will be away this coming weekend.

Resurrection Sunday is coming up on the 9th – we will do a special service and the Lord’s Supper on that Sunday.

Let us pick it back up in Genesis chapter nineteen.

Within this series on sexual immorality and being responsible for your own vessel, we have begun a look into the life of LOT.

Which, other than his choice to stay with uncle Abram and move away from Ur of the Chaldeans (modern day Iraq), was a life plagued with bad decisions and failure.

/It is believed that Lot and his family lived in the city of Sodom for nearly twenty years. Prior to his move into this area, Lot was well aware of the demonic influence of many of the towns and cultures within these regions. The lure of a popular city and the promise of happiness or wealth was part of the attraction. The landscape appeared lucrative yet the knowledge of evil present was substantial and yet Lot ignored that.\

Lot and Abram agreed to separate yet it was LOT who overlooked the valley and landscape, and thought the land next to Sodom would be profitable and advantageous.

His eyes were filled the lust of something which on the surface may have appeared profitable, yet it was outside of the plan of God. If BD is not available and the influence all around you will be cosmic viewpoint it is the wrong location.

 REPEAT

The fact that Lot lived in the region of Sodom and Gomorrah for 20 years and was deeply involved in the political agenda of the city of Sodom is an extremely, sad statement about his spiritual life.

His natural and spiritual life was a display of a weak man who had rejected the plan of God for his life.

The angels of the Lord were sent to evaluate and destroy the city – it was really God giving this region one last test before judgement would fall upon it.

Lot being a city councilman greeted the two angels and brought them into his house, in fear of what may happen to them left to the majority of the occupants of this satanic city.

/Gen 19:4 Before they lay down, the men of the city—**the men of Sodom—surrounded the house**, both young and old, all the people from every quarter;

This was the full demonstration of a culture immersed in criminal insanity.\

This only happens when God and HIS word have been removed for a long period of time.

It is mankind left to his or her own desires and the deep influence or possession of demonic forces.

[Gen 19:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/5/s_19005) 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 have relations with them.”

As I explained from the original language last lesson, this was a desperate call for sexual contact.

/[Gen 19:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/6/s_19006) But Lot went out to them at the doorway, and shut the door behind him, 7 and said, “Please, my brothers, **do not act wickedly** (*rāʿaʿ)*.

Do not act evil, harmful in spirit and bodily harm. It is a word for something or someone broken or spoiled to the point of destruction. \

RAH-AIR, is used as a strong term for evil, corruption and immoral or spiritual wickedness. That which opposes God.

When our OSN is allowed to control us and we remove ourselves far enough from God, we actually become broken or spoiled in mind, and spirit. Which leads to a body of corruption or illness.

Now LOT will show how broken he is in spirt and mind by his next statement.

[Gen 19:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/8/s_19008) “Now look, I have two daughters who have not had relations with *any* man; please let me bring them out to you, and do to them whatever you like; only do not do anything to these men, because they have come under the shelter of my roof.”

/[Gen 19:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/9/s_19009) But they said, “**Get out of the way!**” They also said, “This one came in as a foreigner, and already he is acting like a judge; now **we will treat you worse than them!” So they pressed hard against Lot** and moved forward to break the door.

Mob mentality is highly dangerous! It is easily escalated because it refuses to be satisfied until it is recognized as the only authority. \

Even then it will continue to be cruel and volatile. Because the OSN and Satan’s system combined is the prime definitions of implacability.

Tyrannical people are driven by lust patterns and emotions. They are never truly satisfied and they have a mean streak a mile wide!

[Gen 19:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/10/s_19010) But the men reached out their hands and brought Lot into the house with them, and shut the door.

[Gen 19:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/11/s_19011) Then they struck the men who were at the doorway of the house with blindness, from the small to the great, so that they became weary of *trying* to find the doorway.

The two wingless, destroyer angels, had to use their supernatural powers to gain control over this violent outburst.

[Gen 19:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/12/s_19012) Then the *two* men said to Lot, “Whom else do you have here? A son-in-law and your sons and daughters, and whomever you have in the city, bring *them* out of the place;

These two angels do not have omnipotence they do not have omniscience – they have to deal with the situation as it unfolds in front of them.

Only God has all power and all knowledge.

[Gen 19:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/13/s_19013) for we are about to destroy this place, because their outcry has become so great before the LORD that the LORD has sent us to destroy it.”

[Gen 19:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/14/s_19014) So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who were to marry his daughters, and said, “Up, get out of this place, for the LORD is destroying the city.” But he appeared to his sons-in-law to be joking.

These young men had no BD and very little respect for LOT – because Lot had never established himself as a leader in that household.

[Gen 19:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/15/s_19015) When morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Up, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away in the punishment of the city.”

/[Gen 19:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/16/s_19016) **But he hesitated. So the men grasped his hand** and **the hand of his wife and the hands of his two daughters,** because the compassion of the LORD *was* upon him; and **they brought him out**and put him outside the city.

Lot and his family were still not prepared to let go of the cosmic system. The angels had to forcefully pull them out of this evil environment. \

The term for LOT’s hesitation is *māhah,* (MAH-MA) it is a Hebrew verb for a person who is taking their time. They are slowing down because they have doubt or a question for the reason why they should move quickly.

It is the person who can’t make up their mind – they are stuck in the middle!

The further we push away from God the less we understand how and when HE is working in our life.

The more we get accustomed to the cosmic system and we find our safety and truth in counterfeits and satanic lies, the harder it is to get back in tune with the plan of God.

REPEAT

[Gen 19:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/17/s_19017) When they had brought them outside, one said, “Escape for your life! Do not look behind you, and do not stay anywhere in the surrounding area; escape to the mountains, or you will be swept away.”

[Gen 19:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/18/s_19018) But Lot said to them, “Oh no, my lords!

/[Gen 19:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/19/s_19019) “Now behold, your servant has found favor in your sight, and **you have magnified your compassion**, which you have shown me by saving my life; but **I cannot escape to the mountains, for the disaster will overtake me and I will die;**

Lot is fully aware he is dealing with angels from God, yet he is uncertain and afraid.\

The Bel in reversionism will always make bad choices and suffer self-induced misery.

Even when God is trying to assist them back toward HIM, they often go in the wrong direction.

Lot and his family could have gone back to Abraham and back to BD and safety.

[Gen 19:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/20/s_19020) now behold, this town is near *enough* to flee to, and it is small. Please, let me escape there (is it not small?) so that my life may be saved.”

This was nothing more than one of several villages or towns surrounding the two cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

It would be a place under the same culture of evil.

[Gen 19:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/21/s_19021) And he said to him, “Behold, I grant you this request also, not to overthrow the town of which you have spoken.

[Gen 19:22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/22/s_19022) “Hurry, escape there, for I cannot do anything until you arrive there.” Therefore the town was named Zoar.

This means not only, small or insignificant it comes from a Hebrew root word – lowly.

This was a small village on the southeast end of the Dead Sea.

God spared this one town.

Gen 19:23 The sun had risen over the earth when Lot came to Zoar.

[Gen 19:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/24/s_19024) Then the LORD rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah from the LORD out of heaven,

[Gen 19:25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/25/s_19025) and He overthrew those cities, and all the surrounding area, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground.

/[Gen 19:26](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/26/s_19026) But Lot’s wife**, from behind him, looked *back*** (*nāḇaṭ)****,*** and she became a pillar of salt.

Lot’s wife was dragging behind because she did not want to leave. She intently or longingly, looked back. To look upon in favor. \

NAW-VAT, means to intently stare or look on with deep curiosity or desire.

Lot’s wife was in love with the city of Sodom – she had found a home in the cosmic system. More than likely, she was a Bel who was brought home early as the sin unto death.

God had supplied the angels to rescue Lot and his family, yet Lot’s wife could not let go of her lust pattern for the cosmic system.

Now for us to complete this study of Lot’s poor choices related to his lust patterns and weak areas, jump down a few verses.

Gen 19:30 Now Lot went up from Zoar with his two daughters and stayed in the mountains, because he was afraid to stay in Zoar; and he stayed in a cave, he and his two daughters.

Lot is so filled with misery and anxiety that his decisions making skills are completely depleted.

He runs into the first cave he can find.

Lot is reliant upon the cosmic system not God. His emotions dictate his decisions.

[Gen 19:31](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/31/s_19031) Then the firstborn said to the younger, “Our father is old, and there is not a man on earth to have relations with us according to the custom of all the earth.

/[Gen 19:32](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/32/s_19032) “**Come, let’s make our father drink wine, and let’s sleep with him** so that we may keep our family alive through our father.”

Children raised under weak authority who lack BD will make the similar mistakes of their parents. They will be influenced by the devil’s world.\

Notice Lot is a grown man, older, but none the less in control of his own decisions.

His daughters can influence him but only Lot in his state of weakness and misery will be responsible for what happens next.

This is a group effort of sins and failure.

This was also a common practice back in the party city of Sodom.

**/**[Gen 19:33](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/gen/19/33/s_19033) So **they made their father drink wine** that night, and the firstborn went in and **slept with her father;** and he did not know when she lay down or got up.

From this family of debauchery, a race which constantly cursed Israel and constantly caused them trouble, the Moabites and the Ammonites were born. \

Lot was a Bel – his family was probably Bels, yet they failed miserably.

The Apostle Peter speaks of Lot in respect because Peter had the integrity not to speak evil of another Bel.

/2Pet 2:7 and *if* **He rescued righteous Lot, *who was* oppressed by the perverted conduct** of unscrupulous  people 8 (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),

The point is that Lot lived there 20 years while under self-induced misery.\

Many Bels walk for years in their flesh following the lust of their eyes and cosmic viewpoint.

/1Cor 3:15 If anyone’s **work is burned up, he will suffer loss;** but he himself **will be saved**, yet *only* so as through fire.

The wasted life of Lot was left for our example. \

The doctrine of winners and loser in heaven is hard to deny when studying the life of Lot.

We will close in 2Samuel chapter eleven.

One of the warnings came from TLJC as HE spoke about HIS return and how we should never turn back to the cosmic system once we have been rescued from it.

/Luk 17:31 “On that day, the one who will be on the housetop, with his goods in the house, **must not go down to take them out**; and likewise the one in the field must not turn back. 32 “Remember Lot’s wife.

Jesus warned about falling in love and wanting to go back into the cosmic system. His 2nd Advent will be violent and abrupt, we all should live as if HE will call upon us tomorrow.\

King David gives us a great lesson in the lust of the eyes which usually happens when we are outside the plan of God.

/2Sam 11:1 Then it happened in the spring, **at the time when kings go out *to battle****,* that David sent Joab and his servants with him and all Israel, and they brought destruction on the sons of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But **David stayed in Jerusalem**.

Every time we are out of the plan of God, either geographically or spiritually we make poor choices.\

/[2Sa 11:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2sa/11/2/s_278002) Now **at evening time David got up from his bed**and walked around on the roof of the king’s house, and from the roof **he saw a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful in appearance**.

David was laying around all day which is not the calling for a king. He noticed Bathsheba and stood there gazing upon her.\

King David was in a position of weakness and allowing his OSN to run the show!

He stood watching Bathsheba and examining her when he knew this was a married woman – and a wife of his close friend and most loyal soldier.

[2Sa 11:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2sa/11/3/s_278003) So David sent *servants* and inquired about the woman. And *someone* said, “Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?”

David had Bathsheba forcefully taken and brought to him. This was closer to a rape then any type of simple adultery.

/1Jhn 2:16 For **all that is in the world**, the **lust of the flesh** and the **lust of the eyes** and the boastful **pride**of life, is not from the Father, but **is from the world**.\

When some form of sinful behavior or desire is placed before you, you have to make the decision to turn from it.

/Pro 6:25 Do not **desire her beauty** in your heart, Nor let her capture you
with her eyelids.

Mat 5:28 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.\

You can not dwell on sinful desires for any period of time it will quickly turn into the lust of the eyes – meaning, you begin to plot and plan within your mind.

/Rom 13:14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to *its* lusts.

Gal 5:17 For the desire of the flesh is against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, in order to keep you from doing whatever you want.\

/1Pet 2:11 Beloved, I urge *you* as foreigners and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts, which wage war against the soul.

The Apostle Peter is reminding Bels they are now children of God – priests of a Royal priesthood.\