

THE HASTENING OF LOT

Gen. 19:15

Sermon by Donald Townsley

INTRODUCTION

1. The Old Testament was written for our learning (Rom. 15:4), and I believe we can learn a good lesson from Lot.
2. When Lot and Abraham separated, Lot pitched his tent toward Sodom -- Gen. 13:12
3. The sins of the people of Sodom were very grievous in the eyes of the Lord -- Gen. 18:20; 13:13
4. The Lord sent two angels (messengers) to destroy Sodom -- Gen. 19:13
5. Abraham had prayed to God to spare it; God said He would spare it for ten righteous souls -- Gen. 18:32
 - (1) But ten could not be found.
6. God in His mercy did spare Lot, and the part of his family that would be obedient.
7. God not only sent these two messengers to destroy, but He also sent them to SAVE Lot and his family -- James 4:12
8. These two angels of God had the job of arousing Lot to receive God's blessing.
9. That is the same job that preachers and Christians have today -- we have to arouse sinners with the gospel to receive God's blessings.
10. Let us observe how they did the job:
 - (1) They entered into his house -- Gen. 19:3; Acts 20:20
 - (2) They stated the case -- Gen. 19: 12 - 13
 - (3) They "hastened" him -- Gen. 19:15
 1. "Hastened" means: to press; hurry; urge forward.
 - (4) Lot wanted to linger, but they laid hands on him and his family to hasten them -- Gen. 19:16
11. TODAY both the righteous and sinners have to be hastened.

I. THE RIGHTEOUS NEED TO BE HASTENED

1. Hastened to be separated from the world -- II Cor. 6:17; I John 2: 15 - 17
 - (1) Lot lingered -- Gen. 19:16
 1. He hesitated or tarried in Sodom.
 2. Christians sometimes linger too long with worldly people, worldly places, watching worldly things and doing worldly things.
 - (2) Lot's wife looked back -- Gen. 19:26
 1. Christians sometimes look back and lust after the world.
 2. Jesus warns -- Luke 9:62
2. They need to be hastened in seeking the good of their families.
 - (1) The angels said to Lot, "*Hast thou any here besides?*" -- Gen. 19:12
 - (2) Lot spake to his sons-in-law; they did not listen -- Gen. 19:14
 - (3) Christians need to be hastened to teach their families -- Eph. 6: 1 - 4
 - (4) To provide good influence for their families -- Lot did not -- II Pet. 2: 7 - 8; Gen. 13:12
3. Christians need to be hastened to put the Kingdom FIRST -- Matt. 6:33
 - (1) In attending the services -- Heb. 10:25
 - (2) In work -- I Cor. 15:58
 - (3) In Giving -- I Cor. 16:1 - 2

(4) In Living -- Tit. 2: 11 - 12

II. WHY THE RIGHTEOUS NEED TO BE HASTENED

1. The flesh is weak -- Matt. 26:41

(1) Lot was away from the good influences of Abraham.

(2) Christians get away from home and home congregation.

2. The World has a sluggish influence -- I Cor. 15:33

3. We forget and let the Word slip -- Heb. 2:1; II Pet. 3:1

III. THE SINNERS NEED TO BE HASTENED

1. Sinners are very slow and apt to linger.

2. The sinner has settled down in the "Sodom of sin".

(1) The sinner is like the sluggard-- he desires "*A little more folding of the hands to sleep*"--Prov. 6:10; He wants a little more time to stay in sin.

(2) The sinner is bound by many ties to the world -- just as Lot and his wife had ties to Sodom.

(3) The sinner does not want to believe the warning

 1. Lot's sons-in-law -- "*He seemed as one that mocked*" -- Gen. 19:14

3. The delay of the sinner is Satan's grand device for the sinner's ruin.

4. The sinner quiets his conscience by saying "I will obey when I have a more convenient season" -- Acts 24: 25

5. It is the business of God's people to hasten sinners!

(1) We must be in earnest ourselves.

(2) We must be patient and repeat our pleadings -- II Tim. 4:2

(3) We must be resolute and "lay hold on their hands".

IV. WE HAVE MANY ARGUMENTS WITH WHICH TO HASTEN SINNERS

1. Their imminent danger while lingering in the Sodom of the world:

(1) One could die anytime -- James 4:14

(2) One could have something happen to his mind.

(3) The Lord could come -- Matt. 24:36

2. The sin of lingering when God commands to ESCAPE through OBEDIENCE.

(1) Heb. 5: 8 - 9

3. TODAY is the day of salvation; there could be no better time -- II Cor. 6:2

4. Sinner friend, you need to make an immediate decision because it may be NOW or NEVER.

CONCLUSION

1. Sinner friend, let us hasten you today!

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