

SODOM AND GOMORRAH

GENESIS 18:1-2, 18:23-26, 18:32-33, 19:15-17, 19:23-26

LEARN THE WORD

Genesis 12:1-2

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing."

- God is holy and just. He had to punish the sinful cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.
- God showed mercy to Lot and his family by sending angels to rescue them from the city.

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

OUTWORD FOR FAMILY DISCUSSION

You might be talking to friends or even family members who don't believe that the account of Sodom and Gomorrah really happened. They don't believe that God destroyed those cities—or maybe they don't believe those cities ever existed!

What could you say?

I am very sure that Sodom and Gomorrah were real cities and that God destroyed them because of the sin He saw there. I believe the Bible and that's where we read about it. Jesus Himself mentioned Sodom in the Gospel of Luke. He said that fire and sulfur came from heaven and destroyed them all. If Jesus believed it and talked about it—I think we should, too. Also, archaeologists have found a city near the Dead Sea covered in ash, which fits the biblical account of how the cities were destroyed by fire.

Activity: Help Lot run to Zoar. Find the right path through the maze.



HOMESWORD FOR PARENTS

The Lord and two angels came to Abraham. They told Abraham that God would soon bring an end to the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah because of the sin and wickedness there. Abraham pleaded with the Lord to spare the city and his nephew Lot. However, God’s justice demands that He punish those who turn from Him in wickedness. But God is also merciful. And His mercy fell upon Lot and his daughters as He sent the angels into Sodom to bring them out before the destruction.

God offers us His mercy as well—through Jesus Christ. He alone can forgive us of our sins and provide a way—through His life, death, and resurrection—to everlasting life in heaven. Whoever calls on the name of the Lord in repentance and faith will be saved from the destruction of hell. But, God will judge those who do not humbly approach Him for forgiveness.

The terrible destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah is an event referred to throughout Scripture to demonstrate the severity of God’s judgment: Deuteronomy 29:23; Isaiah 1:9, 13:19; Jeremiah 50:40; Lamentations 4:6; Amos 4:11; Zephaniah 2:9; Matthew 10:15; Luke 17:28–29; Romans 9:29; 2 Peter 2:6; Jude 1:7. Clearly, the writers of both Old and New Testament books believed the account of God’s destruction on these wicked cities.