

Remember Lot's Wife

“Remember the Alamo!”

- Knowledge of history helps us prepare for the future and avoid repeating mistakes
 - Most are unaware of spiritual dangers
 - Jesus warned (Lk.17:31-32) –
 - Forget possessions and secure your life
 - How? Remember Lot’s wife

“Those who don’t remember the past are doomed to repeat it”

Gn.13

- Abraham and Lot forced to choose
- Lot chose land to bless his cattle, NOT family

Gn.18

- God would destroy Sodom...
- He graciously gave Lot and family a way of escape
- 1 Co.10¹³ No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make a way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

Gn.19, fire and brimstone

22: Zoar [*little, insignificant*]

23: sun had risen; beautiful valley; attractive home; no sign of danger... Why leave?

24: brimstone and fire

25-26: Mrs. Lot – pillar of salt

Jesus to Jews: remember her... Flee without hesitation from DOJ

Jesus to us: remember Mrs. Lot, but do not imitate her

I. The wicked will be punished

Dt.23:17-18

- Sodomy is sin; ultimate punishment is hell
- Ro.1:26...32, not just an OT sin
- 2 Pt.2:7...9, separates from God
 - “I’m glad I’m not that bad...” Consider:
- Mt.10:...14-15, worse off than Sodom??
 - Shake dust ... on par with heathen city
 - More inexcusable — superior advantages

Dt.23:17-18

- Sodomy is sin; ultimate punishment is hell
- Ro.1:26...32, not just an OT sin
- 2 Pt.2:7...9, separates from God
 - “I’m glad I’m not that bad...” Consider:
- Mt.11:20-24, opportunity ... guilt
 - Chorazin / Bethsaida / Capernaum: what miracles occurred here...? ...rocks; 23
 - “But we didn’t do anything.” Mt.25:26
 - One horror of hell: undying memory...
 - Privilege, pride, and apathy cost them

I. The wicked will be punished

II. This world's goods do not
compensate for loss of soul

Mt.6:33

- Seek God first = gain here and hereafter
- Seek world first: may gain here, but lose eternally
 - Care for own soul and family: seek God first, train children... 2 Pt.2⁸ (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented *his* righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing *their* lawless deeds).
- Danger – Ja.4:13-17

I. The wicked will be punished

II. This worlds goods do not compensate

III. When delivered from sin,
don't look back

Mrs. Lot's warning: don't look back

1. Did not appreciate deliverance
2. Placed affections with sinners, not God
3. Preferred being left alone (wish God would leave...)
4. Addicted to low living
5. Misplaced affections; belated sorrow for lost; even defend them – 'they can't help it...?'
6. Wished God would punish real sinners (not Sodomites)

Mrs. Lot's war with self

- Self-seeking wants to preserve worldly ways at any cost – even if it requires sacrifice of spiritual goals...
- Opposite of Savior-seeking
 1. Can't look back and go right way
 2. It's hard to leave paradise / possessions for a cave. Lk.9:62
 3. Some of most frightening words – “Too late”

Mrs. Lot's divided allegiance ...lost in the –

1. Best connection: wife of 'righteous Lot'
2. Best company: angels had been her guests
3. Best cause: leaving Sodom, heading to safety
4. Best conduct: did not go back; *looked back*

Died immediately

In one sin

Unusual death

Remained unburied

An example of the vengeance of God

Why? Don't have to be a Sodomite to lose all

Mrs. Lot's worldliness

Some come as close to escape as possible without achieving it. Some Christians...

1. are addicted to TV...no time for Word
2. let money, luxuries rob the soul
3. steadily think / act like people of world; don't realize they're addicted to sin

Ja.1⁸ he is a double-minded man,
unstable in all his ways

¹² Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. ¹³ Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴ I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus – Philippians 3

1. He has not 'arrived'

2. He presses on

3. He has a goal

4. He has single focus

5. He avoids distractions

6. He seeks the prize

- Looking back leads to worldliness, sin, and judgment.
- Paul forgot past successes / failures and kept his eyes on the goal. WE can too...