

Lingering Lot

Gen. 19:15-16

Introduction:

- A. Why would Lot linger in the face of certain destruction?
 - 1. His city and his home was about to be destroyed.
 - 2. He was risking staying until the fire rained down upon him.
- B. Lot's case is a lesson for us (Luke 17:28-29)
 - 1. Lot lingered in the face of God's promised judgment upon Sodom and Gomorrah.
 - 2. Many are lingering in the face of God's promised judgment upon the world.
- C. There only three possible reason for one lingering in the face of such danger.

Discussion:

I. One May Be Unaware of the Danger.

- A. This was not so with Lot.
 - 1. He was warned (vv. 12-13)
 - 2. He understood (v.14)
- B. This is should not be so of us.
 - 1. Warned of the uncertainty of life (Luke 12:18-20; Jas. 4:13-14),
 - 2. Warned of the certainty of death and judgment (Heb. 9:27; 10:27)
 - 3. Warned of the hardening effect of sin (Heb. 3:13)
 - 4. Warned of the reality and horrors of hell (Mark 9:43, 44; Rev. 14:10)
 - 5. Warning of ignoring these warnings (2 Pet 3:3-4, 9-10, 14).

II. One May be Unable to Escape.

- A. Lot's way of escape (cf. 2 Pet. 2:6-10)
- B. Our way of escape.
 - 1. The knowledge of the Lord (2 Pet. 2:20)
 - 2. The salvation spoken by Jesus and confirmed unto us (Heb. 2:3,4; 12:25; Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38).
 - 3. The obedience to the gospel (2 Thess. 1:8)
- C. No one is unable to escape hell, except those who allow themselves to be hardened (2 Pet 2:14)

III. One May be Unwilling to Escape.

- A. Lot was unwilling.
 - 1. Could have expected 11th hour reprieve.
 - 2. Likely for emotional reasons – attachment to his home and family.
- B. Many today linger in sin for emotional reasons
 - 1. Unwilling to put salvation before:
 - a. Family (Matt. 10:37-39).
 - b. Possessions (Matt. 19:22)
 - c. Cherished traditions (Matt. 15:3, 9, 13, 14)
 - 2. Often blinded to truth by emotions.
 - a. Blank was not baptized, will he/she be lost?
 - b. Brother Blanks is so good and sweet, could he be wrong?"
 - c. Soldier shot on battlefield without being baptized?
 - d. Even brethren: "Baby on door step"; "Losing young people"; "Innocent in divorce"
 - 3. Emotions change no facts – Lot still had to escape of be burned.

Conclusion:

- A. Are you not a Christian and still lingering in sin? – Believe, Repent and be Baptized.
- B. Are you a backslider? – Repent, confess and pray.