

"Characteristics of False Teachers"

Part 4

2 Peter 2

Introduction: The last time we were together in our study of 2 Peter we were looking at the judgment of the false teachers.

Notice 2 Peter 2:1-3

Peter told his readers that the false teachers would experience swift destruction and their judgment would not linger forever. There would be a day when God would judge them, and when that day arrived their judgment would be swift. Now as Peter penned these words his readers would have a question:

How can we be sure God will judge them? Peter then goes on to point to three times in the past when God's judgment swiftly overtook the unrighteous.

Notice 2 Peter 2:4-6

1. **The wicked angels of Noah's day.**
2. **The unrighteous of Noah's day.**
3. **The inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah.**

Now before we move on to look at the depravity of the false teachers there are several verses here that speak of Lot and since the Holy Spirit moved Peter to write the verses, we need to take the time to look at what is here for us.

"Lot's Deliverance"

Notice 2 Peter 2:6-9

These verses are here to show us how God delivered Lot from the immoral conditions of his day. There is however more for us to see.

1. How did Lot end up in Sodom?

Genesis 11:29-32, 12:1

²⁹ *And Abram and Nahor took them wives: the name of Abram's wife was Sarai; and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of Milcah, and the father of Iscah.*

³⁰ *But Sarai was barren; she had no child.*

³¹ And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son's son, and Sarai his daughter in law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there.

³² And the days of Terah were two hundred and five years: and Terah died in Haran.

¹ Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

Acts 7:3-4

³ And said unto him, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and come into the land which I shall shew thee.

⁴ Then came he out of the land of the Chaldaeans, and dwelt in Charran: and from thence, when his father was dead, he removed him into this land, wherein ye now dwell.

Abram was called to go to Canaan and from these verses we see that his father, Terah took control of the trip. They went to Haran and there Terah died, and Abram moved on to Canaan. With him there was a group of family and Lot was in the group.

Genesis 12:

⁹ And Abram journeyed, going on still toward the south.

¹⁰ And there was a famine in the land: and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there; for the famine was grievous in the land.

There was a test that came in the life of Abram which was a grievous famine and Abram turned to Egypt/the world for survival. It was there that Abram and Sarai were caught in a lie and they were kicked out of Egypt. A little while later there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram and Lot. Notice how it was resolved.

Genesis 13:5-11

⁵ And Lot also, which went with Abram, had flocks, and herds, and tents.

⁶ And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together.

⁷ And there was a strife between the herdmen of Abram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle: and the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelled then in the land.

⁸ And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren.

⁹ Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.

¹⁰ And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the LORD, **like the land of Egypt**, as thou comest unto Zoar.

¹¹ Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.

¹² Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and **pitched his tent toward Sodom**.

Lot chose the land that reminded him of Egypt, and he pitched his tent toward Sodom. Once he got a taste of the world he desired more. Then as we move on into Genesis 14 Sodom and Gomorrah were invaded by a group of kings and we need to see what is said there.

Genesis 14:11-12

¹¹ And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their victuals, and went their way.

¹² And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, **who dwelt in Sodom**, and his goods, and departed.

Now we see that Lot was dwelling IN Sodom. But it goes further. In Genesis 19 God sends two angels to Sodom to get Lot before it is destroyed, and we see that Lot has moved in deeper.

Genesis 19:1

And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and **Lot sat in the gate of Sodom**: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;

Here we see that Lot is sitting in the gate of the city. This is the political center of the city. Lot is now involved in the politics of the city.

This all started with a visit to Egypt where Lot got a taste of the world.

Application:

From these verses parents can see the danger of exposing your children to the ways of the world. You have no idea what they may get attached to that will lead them away from the Lord. We need to also know that when a believer gets this deep in the world, they have no testimony.

Genesis 19:12-14

¹² *And the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, bring them out of this place:*

¹³ *For we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of the LORD; and the LORD hath sent us to destroy it.*

¹⁴ *And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law.*

2. Lot's misery in Sodom

Notice 2 Peter 2:7-8

Lot was a saved man, but he was also a miserable man while he lived in Sodom. Being exposed to the immoral lifestyles of the people in Sodom "VEXED" his soul. The word "vexed" means to "oppress and afflict". Why did he stay there? Possibly being involved in the politics earned him a substantial income. Whatever kept him there was something that his trip to Egypt triggered, because after Egypt he continued to move toward Sodom until he finally got rooted into the city. He apparently loved the world and the ways of the world. But he was vexed from day to day.

Application:

Let us understand that the world offers many temptations to us, but no believer will ever be happy living for the world. Remember Solomon's experiment?

Ecclesiastes 2:10-12

¹⁰ *And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was my portion of all my labour.*

¹¹ Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun.

¹² And I turned myself to behold wisdom, and madness, and folly: for what can the man do that cometh after the king? even that which hath been already done.

God has something so much better for you and me.

John 10:9-11

⁹ I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

¹⁰ The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

¹¹ I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

This abundant life is experienced as we walk closer to the Lord.

John 17:3

³ And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

Eternal life is having a relationship with the Lord and the closer that relationship is the more of the abundant life we experience.

John 15:1, 4, 5, 7, 11

I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

⁵ I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

⁷ If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

¹¹ These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

Conclusion:

The bottom line is that we as believers need to be separated from the world.

1 John 2:15-16

¹⁵ *Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.*

¹⁶ *For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.*