

Genesis 19:27-29

²⁷ Now Abraham arose early in the morning and went to the place where he had stood before the LORD; ²⁸ and he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the valley, and he saw, and behold, the smoke of the land ascended like the smoke of a furnace. ²⁹ Thus it came about, when God destroyed the cities of the valley, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when He overthrew the cities in which Lot lived.

It is most interesting to note here, that the Lord saved Lot, because of his uncle Abraham. It wasn't Lot who God was thinking of when He spared him; but rather the Lord was mindful of Abraham. Many times, it seems that when a believer is praying for a family member, and especially one who isn't walking with the Lord, that our prayers are hitting a lead ceiling. Yet this scripture should be a reminder to all of us that God does move in behalf of people's lives, because of the prayers and relationships of His people. I wonder how many people who are serving the Lord today, had a friend or family member praying for them in their past? When Lot and Abraham separated because the land they were in was unable to sustain the wealth and livestock of both men. Abraham gave his nephew Lot, the choice of where Lot wanted to go and live. Please notice that Lot did not seek the Lord; but rather he chose the valley of the Jordan to call his new home. Yet, in that valley were the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, two of the most wicked cities of that time. Lot chose the Jordanian valley, because it appealed to his senses. If we follow the same pattern of Lot when we make our decisions, then we can easily fall into dangerous circumstances as well.

This scripture should also be a reminder to each of us that it is imperative to be in a healthy relationship with the Lord at all times. None of us know what each day will bring. Certainly judgment is not only something that the Lord did in the past; but it is a very real consequence to any people who choose to live outside of His laws and ordinances. Because God's mercy is so great, it is easy for someone to convince themselves that their choices must not be too awful; because good things are still taking place in their lives. Yet, herein lies the danger. Once we have refused repentance, we are living in not only very dangerous territory, but on borrowed time. Most of us have seen people refuse God's forgiveness and salvation; because they weren't ready to lay down their sins. I can think of nothing more terrifying than to fall into the hands of an angry God! Yet that is exactly what is going to happen to the masses of people in our generation. Unless you and I are faithful to lift up and pray for those who are lost or in rebellion, then what is to remind God to move in their behalf? Are you trusting luck or chance that your lost loves ones will be saved? How faithful are you to daily lift up in prayer, those that are in need or are suffering? I understand that many pastors don't believe that today's Christian can stand up to the realities of the New Testament church. So they water it down with a Dr. Phil sermon on making "me" feel good about myself. What the church needs is to get our minds off of "me", and onto "we". Everywhere around us, people are dying and going to hell. What will it take, for the church to wake up and reach out to this lost and hurting world? Are you willing to do your part? Will you join me to take the time to pray, love, and serve those around us? Who knows, their eternity could be depending on it!!