



Righteous but Unwise
September 1, 2019
Genesis 19:1-5 & 15-29

“But Lot lingered; so the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and left him outside the city” (Genesis 19:16).

The Bible calls Lot a righteous man. Prior to the destruction of Sodom, God told Abraham that He would not destroy the city if He found ten righteous men there (Genesis 18:32). After God’s angels arrived, they found only one righteous man in Sodom, so they took only Lot, his wife and his two daughters by the hand and brought them outside Sodom before the Lord rained fire and brimstone upon it. In 2 Peter 2:7, we read, “Lot, a righteous man [was] greatly distressed by the licentiousness of the lawless.” But what does it mean to be righteous? In Habakkuk 2:4, the Lord said through the prophet Habakkuk, “The righteous live by their faith,” which the New Testament reaffirms in Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11, and Hebrews 10:38. In Genesis 6:9, we read that Noah was righteous and blameless in his generation; therefore, he obeyed God and built the ark. In Romans 4:9, Paul wrote, “Faith was reckoned to Abraham as righteousness.” By faith Abraham obeyed God and by faith Abraham offered up Isaac (Hebrews 11:8, Hebrews 11:17). Believers in the Lord Jesus show forth their faith and

righteousness by doing what God tells them to do. By the grace and mercy of God, the Lord saved Lot and his family even though Lot was slow to obey and had to be dragged out of the city. Lot had faith in God, but Lot lacked discernment and wisdom, for he left his tent and moved into a wicked city that was licentious, lawless, and godless.

Thinking Further

1. Why do you think Lot invited these two strangers into his home for the night?
2. How many men in the city surrounded Lot's house and what were their ages? How many righteous men stayed behind?
3. Read John 3:19. Why do you think the men came to Lot's house after dark? Why do you think some people parade their evil deeds in the light of day?
4. What did Lot need to do to be saved?
5. Why did the angels seize Lot and his family and take them outside of the city?

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