

## Sermon Discussion - 30 July 2023

Read Genesis 19:1-38

### **Getting Started** *Sharing from personal experience*

In the sermon, the comparison between getting a tan and sin was made. The thought being something might look and feel great in the moment, but eventually there are consequences. How does this analogy help us understand the consequences of sin? Do you agree or disagree with this comparison? Why?

### **Observation** *Discovering the context*

Over the course of Lot's life, we see his gradual drifting away from God in choosing to live "near Sodom" to living "in Sodom" to "sitting in the city gates."

- Can you describe a time in your life when you drifted away from God? Explain.
- What areas of life are you prone to making certain choices that may lead to a drifting away from God in your journey of faith?

### **Interpretation** *Discovering the meaning*

1. Lot's decision in v. 8 illustrates that sin doesn't operate on logical, rational principles. How can we guard ourselves against falling into sin even when it seems tempting or attractive? What practical steps can we take to maintain a strong spiritual foundation?
2. One of the points seen in this story is the certainty of God's judgment. How can we reconcile the concept of a loving God with the idea of judgment? How does understanding God's judgment affect the way we live our lives as Christians?
3. The account of Lot's wife looking back and turning into a pillar of salt is described in v. 26. What do you think this story teaches us about the dangers of clinging to our past or worldly attachments? How can we cultivate a heart that is fully devoted to God?
4. We read in 2 Peter 2:7-8 that Lot was righteous. And yet, we see the failure of Lot and his daughters illustrated in v. 30-38. In what ways do we see this pattern of failure repeating in our own lives or the lives of those around us? How can we break this cycle and seek genuine transformation in Christ?
5. The saving of Lot is described in v. 29 as God remembering Abraham. This emphasizes that we all need a mediator between us and the judgment we deserve. How does Jesus

fulfill this role as our ultimate mediator? How can we grow in our understanding and appreciation of Jesus' work on our behalf?

**Application** *Putting knowledge into practice*

- The sermon discusses the idea of being a "tainted saint," where one has a saved soul but a wasted life. How can we avoid falling into the trap of complacency or compromise as Christians? What are some signs that may indicate we are living as "tainted saints"?
- Try memorising Genesis 19:19...  
*"Behold, your servant has found favour in your sight, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life."*
- How has God blessed you and answered prayer this week?