

Sunday, February 25 "Purged"

Genesis 19:12-26 NASB

¹² Then the *two* men said to Lot, "Whom else do you have here? A son-in-law and your sons and daughters, and whomever you have in the city, bring *them* out of the place; ¹³ for we are about to destroy this place, because their outcry has become so great before the LORD that the LORD has sent us to destroy it." ¹⁴ So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who were to marry his daughters, and said, "Up, get out of this place, for the LORD is destroying the city." But he appeared to his sons-in-law to be joking.

¹⁵ When morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Up, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away in the punishment of the city." ¹⁶ But he hesitated. So the men grasped his hand and the hand of his wife and the hands of his two daughters, because the compassion of the LORD *was* upon him; and they brought him out and put him outside the city. ¹⁷ When they had brought them outside, one said, "Escape for your life! Do not look behind you, and do not stay anywhere in the surrounding area; escape to the mountains, or you will be swept away." ¹⁸ But Lot said to them, "Oh no, my lords! ¹⁹ Now behold, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have magnified your compassion, which you have shown me by saving my life; but I cannot escape to the mountains, for the disaster will overtake me and I will die; ²⁰ now behold, this town is near *enough* to flee to, and it is small. Please, let me escape there (is it not small?) so that my life may be saved." ²¹ And he said to him, "Behold, I grant you this request also, not to overthrow the town of which you have spoken. ²² Hurry, escape there, for I cannot do anything until you arrive there." Therefore the town was named Zoar.

²³ The sun had risen over the earth when Lot came to Zoar. ²⁴ Then the LORD rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah from the LORD out of heaven, ²⁵ and He overthrew those cities, and all the surrounding area, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. ²⁶ But Lot's wife, from behind him, looked *back*, and she became a pillar of salt.