

## Genesis 19

Verses 1-3

**Now the two angels came to Sodom in the evening as Lot was sitting at the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw *them*, he stood up to meet them and bowed down *with his face to the ground*. <sup>2</sup> And he said, “Now behold, my lords, please turn aside into your servant’s house, and spend the night, and wash your feet; then you may rise early and go on your way.” They said, “No, but we shall spend the night in the public square.” <sup>3</sup> Yet he strongly urged them, so they turned aside to him and entered his house; and he prepared a feast for them and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.**

**Now the two angels came to Sodom in the evening as Lot was sitting at the gate of Sodom**

Lot sitting at the gate meant he was a leader of the city

Lot may have gained this position because Abraham had rescued the city

Because it seems unlikely that Lot was a natural fit for this group of people

Peter refers to Lot as being righteous

See 2 Peter 2:7

Much like Noah was righteous in his generation

And compared with the people of Sodom Lot was righteous

But comparing someone to degenerates isn't saying a lot (no pun intended)

**So they turned aside to him and entered his house; and he prepared a feast for them and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.**

Lot extended hospitality to the strangers and prepared a “feast”

Much like Abraham did when the 3 men arrived

Verses 4-8

**<sup>4</sup> Before they lay down, the men of the city—the men of Sodom—surrounded the house, both young and old, all the people from every quarter; <sup>5</sup> and they called to Lot and said to him, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may have relations with them.” <sup>6</sup> But Lot went out to them at the doorway, and shut the door behind him, <sup>7</sup> and said, “Please, my brothers, do not act wickedly. <sup>8</sup> Now look, I have two daughters who have not had relations with *any* man; please let me bring them out to you, and do to them whatever you like; only do not do anything to these men, because they have come under the shelter of my roof.”**

### **All the people from every quarter**

All the people of Sodom were wicked except for Lot and his family

### **Bring them out to us that we may have relations with them**

This had to be a terrifying time for Lot

He thought these were mere men and were in grave danger at this point

### **Please, my brothers, do not act wickedly**

Here he refers to these men as my brothers

But Lot did not belong in Sodom

### **I have two daughters who have not had relations with *any* man; please let me bring them out to you**

The obligations of hospitality is no excuse for offering his daughters

He avoided one sin by committing a greater one

Clearly, his "righteousness" must be understood in a relative sense

Verses 9-11

**<sup>9</sup> But they said, “Get out of the way!” They also said, “This one came in as a foreigner, and already he is acting like a judge; now we will treat you worse than them!” So they pressed hard against Lot and moved forward to break the door.**

**<sup>10</sup> But the men reached out their hands and brought Lot into the house with them, and shut the door. <sup>11</sup> Then they struck the men who were at the doorway of the house with blindness, from the small to the great, so that they became weary of *trying* to find the doorway.**

**But they said, Get out of the way**

If Lot thought that he had any influence in Sodom, he was wrong

They were ready to kill him

**Then they struck the men who were at the doorway of the house with blindness**

Lot had entertained angels unaware

But he was aware of it now

Verses 12-14

**<sup>12</sup> 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; <sup>13</sup> 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.” <sup>14</sup> 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.**

**<sup>12</sup> Then the *two* men said to Lot, “Whom else do you have here?”**

It is not clear from the text how many relatives Lot had in the city

But when he talked to his sons-in-law they did not take him seriously

**Because their outcry has become so great before the Lord that the Lord has sent us to destroy it**

The Lord will destroy any city, state or country that reaches a point of no return

When the wickedness of the people leaves no room for repentance

Verses 15-17

**<sup>15</sup> 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.” <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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.”**

**The angels urged Lot, saying, “Up, take your wife and your two daughters who are here”**

Lot may have had other daughters in addition to the two daughters with him

Because verse 15 says “**who are here**”

This may have been a way of distinguishing them from his other daughters

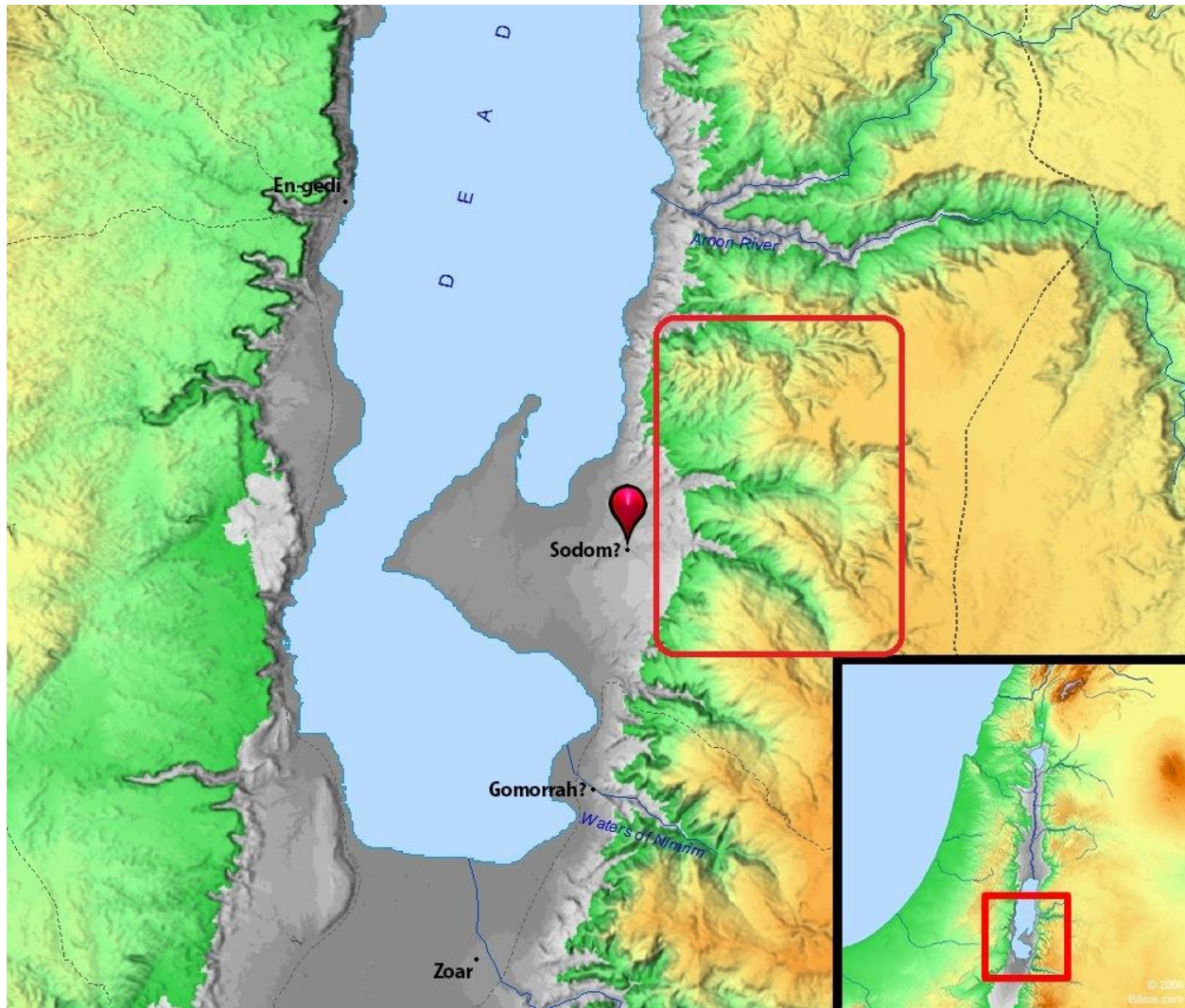
**But he hesitated. So the men grasped his hand and the hand of his wife and the hands of his two daughters**

It was hard for Lot to tear himself away from his home and children

But God showed him mercy in order to save him

**<sup>17</sup> 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.”**

See Map 1905



Verses 18-22

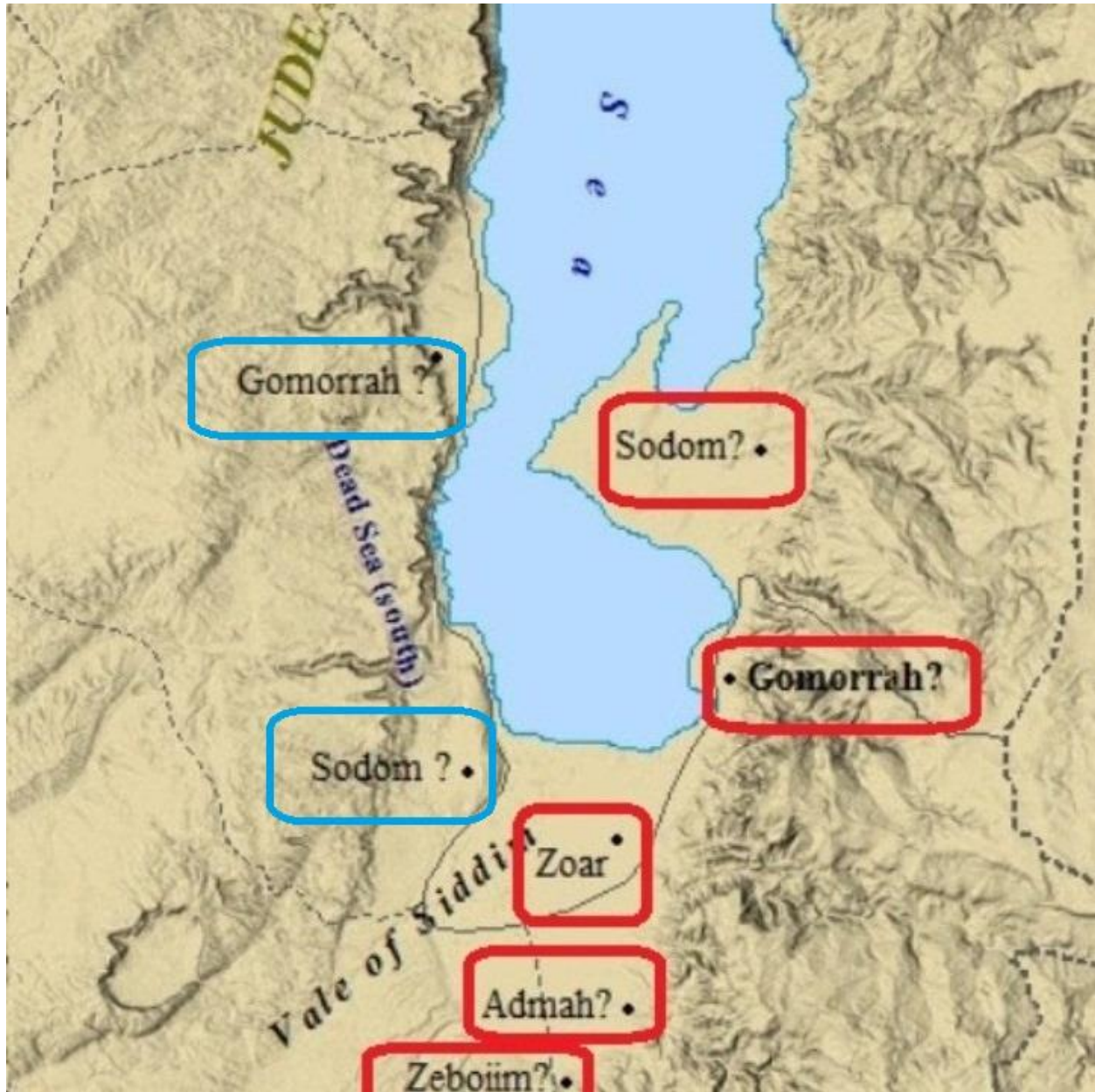
**<sup>18</sup> But Lot said to them, “Oh no, my lords! <sup>19</sup> Now behold, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have magnified your compassion, which you have shown me by saving my life; but I cannot escape to the mountains, for the disaster will overtake me and I will die; <sup>20</sup> 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.” <sup>21</sup> And he said to him, “Behold, I grant you this request also, not to overthrow the town of which you have spoken. <sup>22</sup> Hurry, escape there, for I cannot do anything until you arrive there.” Therefore the town was named Zoar.**

This town is near *enough* to flee to, and it is small.

Therefore the town was named Zoar.

During the time of Abraham there were five cities in the area of the Dead Sea

See Map 1910



The location of these towns is still in question.

Verses 23-26

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

**Then the Lord rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah**

Some people try to explain this judgment as a natural disaster of some kind

Because brimstone or sulfur is common in volcanic regions

However, do they acknowledge that this natural disaster was from the Lord?

**But his wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt**

God was doing everything He could to save her

Even sending angels to take her by the hand and lead her out of the place.

But she longed for something she had left behind

Was this part of that natural disaster also?

Verse 27-29

<sup>27</sup> Now Abraham got up early in the morning *and went* to the place where he had stood before the Lord; <sup>28</sup> and he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the surrounding area; and behold, **he saw the smoke of the land ascended like the smoke of a furnace.**

<sup>29</sup> So it came about, when God destroyed the cities of the surrounding area, that **God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the destruction,** when He overthrew the cities in which Lot had lived



**He saw the smoke of the land ascended like the smoke of a furnace.**

The destruction of the cities was complete and permanent

**God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the destruction,**

Abraham's prayers had not been in vain, Lot and his two daughters were spared

This event shows us how God can protect and save the righteous

While bringing judgment and destruction on sinners

See 2 Peter 2:6-10

Verses 30-35

**<sup>30</sup> Now Lot went up from Zoar with his two daughters and stayed in the mountains, because he was afraid to stay in Zoar; and he stayed in a cave, he and his two daughters. <sup>31</sup> Then the firstborn said to the younger, "Our father is old, and there is not a man on earth to have relations with us according to the custom of all the earth. <sup>32</sup> Come, let's make our father drink wine, and let's sleep with him so that we may keep our family alive through our father." <sup>33</sup> So they made their father drink wine that night, and the firstborn went in and slept with her father; and he did not know when she lay down or got up. <sup>34</sup> On the following day, the firstborn said to the younger, "Look, I slept last night with my father; let's make him drink wine tonight too, then you go in and sleep with him, so that we may keep our family alive through our father." <sup>35</sup> So they had their father drink wine that night too, and the younger got up and slept with him; and he did not know when she lay down or got up.**

**He was afraid to stay in Zoar; and he stayed in a cave, he and his two daughters.**

Lot had received divine permission to dwell in Zoar

But the Sodom and Gomorrah disaster had a strong impact on Lot

And he no longer wanted to remain in even a small town

So he fled to the mountains and stayed in a cave



**Our father is old, and there is not a man on earth to have relations with us according to the custom of all the earth.**

This must have been a very secluded area?

**Come, let's make our father drink wine, and let's sleep with him so that we may keep our family alive through our father**

Lot made two major mistakes here

1. Living in a cave with no neighbors for a long period of time was not a good environment for two young women

Lot should have considered the needs of his two daughters

2. Drinking too much wine

Noah was taken advantage of by his grandson after he drank too much wine

And now Lot will unknowingly father two boys by his own daughters

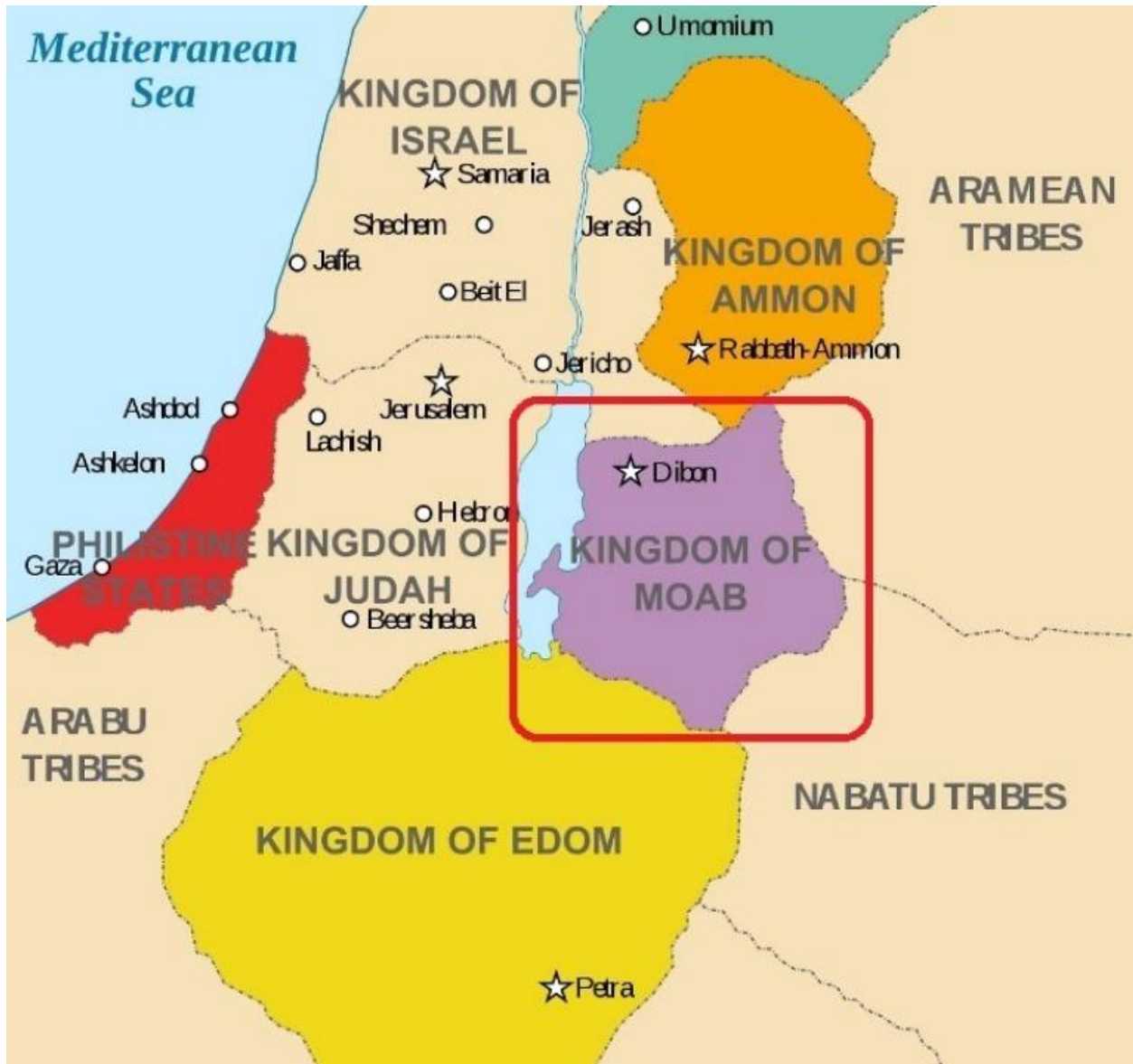
Partaking of too much wine seems to make one vulnerable to undesirable surprises

Verses 36-38

**<sup>36</sup> And so both of the daughters of Lot conceived by their father. <sup>37</sup> The firstborn gave birth to a son, and named him Moab; he is the father of the Moabites to this day. <sup>38</sup> As for the younger, she also gave birth to a son, and named him Ben-ammi; he is the father of the sons of Ammon to this day.**

**The firstborn gave birth to a son, and named him Moab; he is the father of the Moabites to this day.**

See map 1915



Moab closely resembles the Hebrew [-me'ab], meaning from a father

The king of Moab hired Balaam to curse Israel

See Numbers 25

However, Ruth the Moabitess became an ancestor of Jesus

As for the younger, she also gave birth to a son, and named him Ben-ammi; he is the father of the sons of Ammon to this day.

See map 1920



Ben-Ammi or Ammon means son of my kinsman

Solomon built a high place for Molech, the god of the Ammonites

See 1 Kings 11

However, Naamah, an Ammonite woman, was one of Solomon's wives, and the mother of king Rehoboam