

Genesis 19

Once long ago there was a man named Lot who was married and had two daughters. Lot's uncle Abraham had giving him a choice of places to live and Lot chose to live in a large city called Sodom. Lot's wife liked living in the city for there were many things to do and so many fun people to see. However, in Sodom there were also many bad people. Sometimes big cities can have mean people living there who like to hurt others. We have to be careful not to speak to people we don't know, and don't ever go with strangers even if they offer us candy or something fun, don't we? I bet you are careful about speaking to strangers, aren't you?

God saw how bad the people were in Sodom and this made God very unhappy. God knew Lot was a good man who believed in him and tried to do right...but others in the city were not good people. God knew if he destroyed the city, then those who were bad would go away and those who were good could build a new place to live where there were other good people could live.



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God needed to warn Lot about destroying the city, so God sent two angels to talk to Lot; the angels looked like regular men and when Lot saw two men entering the city gate he thought they were strangers come to visit the city. It was growing dark when the two angels arrived and Lot was heading home for supper. Now Lot knew that it was dangerous to be outside on the streets at night time. Why do you think it was dangerous? Because night time is when the bad men of the city came out to steal and drink and fight and cause trouble.

Lot went up to the two strangers and asked them to come home with him. They agreed and so they hurried toward Lot's home. When they got to the house Lot asked his wife and daughters to help him fix a specially nice supper for the men to eat.

What do you think they fixed? Some warm bread and probably some meat cooked over the fire and some grapes and melon and fresh vegetables. Maybe they ended their dinner with some juicy oranges and some sweet, sticky dates. They didn't have cookies and candy and pies in those days. Can you name some of the food on this platter?



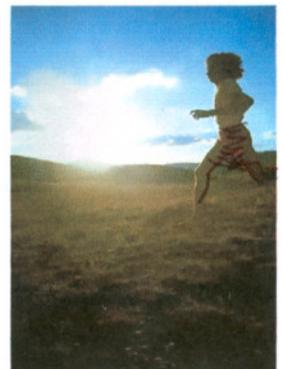
After a nice supper Lot and the men sat down by the fire to talk. Just then they heard laughter and scuffling noises outside. Lot looked frightened for he knew the bad men of the city had gathered around the outside of his house. "Hey Lot," the men yelled. "Who is that visiting you?" "Send them outside, we want to meet them!" Then the bad men laughed and laughed and banged on the door. Lot knew the men didn't want to meet anyone, they only wanted to hurt the two strangers.

Lot hurried outside and shut the door behind him. "No, no, my friends," he said. "Don't do this wicked thing, these men have come to my home for protection." The bad men only laughed at Lot, "Get out of our way," they shouted, "We want those men!" and the wicked men shoved and pushed at Lot, trying to get in the door. Inside the angels heard what was going on; they quickly opened the door, grabbed Lot and pulled him inside. Then the angels did something very strange that showed Lot that these were not ordinary men but were angels sent from God. What do you think the angels did?



The angels used God's power and suddenly all the wicked men were blind. The men couldn't see at all! They couldn't see where Lot's house was, they bumped into each other and they were very frightened! "Who could do such powerful things?" they thought. The men felt their ways home, they were too afraid to do anything more. Lot now realized these must be angels sent by God. The angels told Lot that God was going to destroy the city of Sodom and he was to quickly go to all his friends and the young men that were engaged to marry his daughters and tell them to come to his home because by tomorrow the city of Sodom would be destroyed.

Lot quickly went around the town, knocking on the doors of his friends and the young men who were to marry his daughters. He tried to warn them, but no one would listen to him. Some were mad because he woke them up, others laughed at what he said. How silly, no one could destroy this big city in one day, they thought! Lot ran through Sodom looking for anyone who would listen to him, but finally it began to get light, so Lot hurried home.



When Lot arrived home the angels said, "hurry, get your wife and daughters and leave this city for God is about to destroy it." Lot and his family didn't want to go, they waited for a few minutes, so the angels took them by the hand and hurried them out of the city. The angels warned Lot and his family, "Whatever you DON'T STOP AND DON'T LOOK BACK, hurry into the hills and you'll be safe."

Then there was rumbling and roaring and the ground shook and suddenly a huge explosion that sent firey rocks raining down on the city of Sodom! Lot tried to hurry his family up into the hills, but Lot's wife didn't want to go, she loved the city of Sodom and wanted to go back to the city. She didn't want to mind what the angels said. There were big pits of salt and other minerals close to the sea where the town was. Just as Lot's wife turned around and looked back, a huge whoosh sent salt all over Lot's wife. She looked like a tall pillar of white salt and she died there.

The city of Sodom was completely destroyed, but because God was kind and merciful, Lot and his daughters were safe, for they had obeyed God.

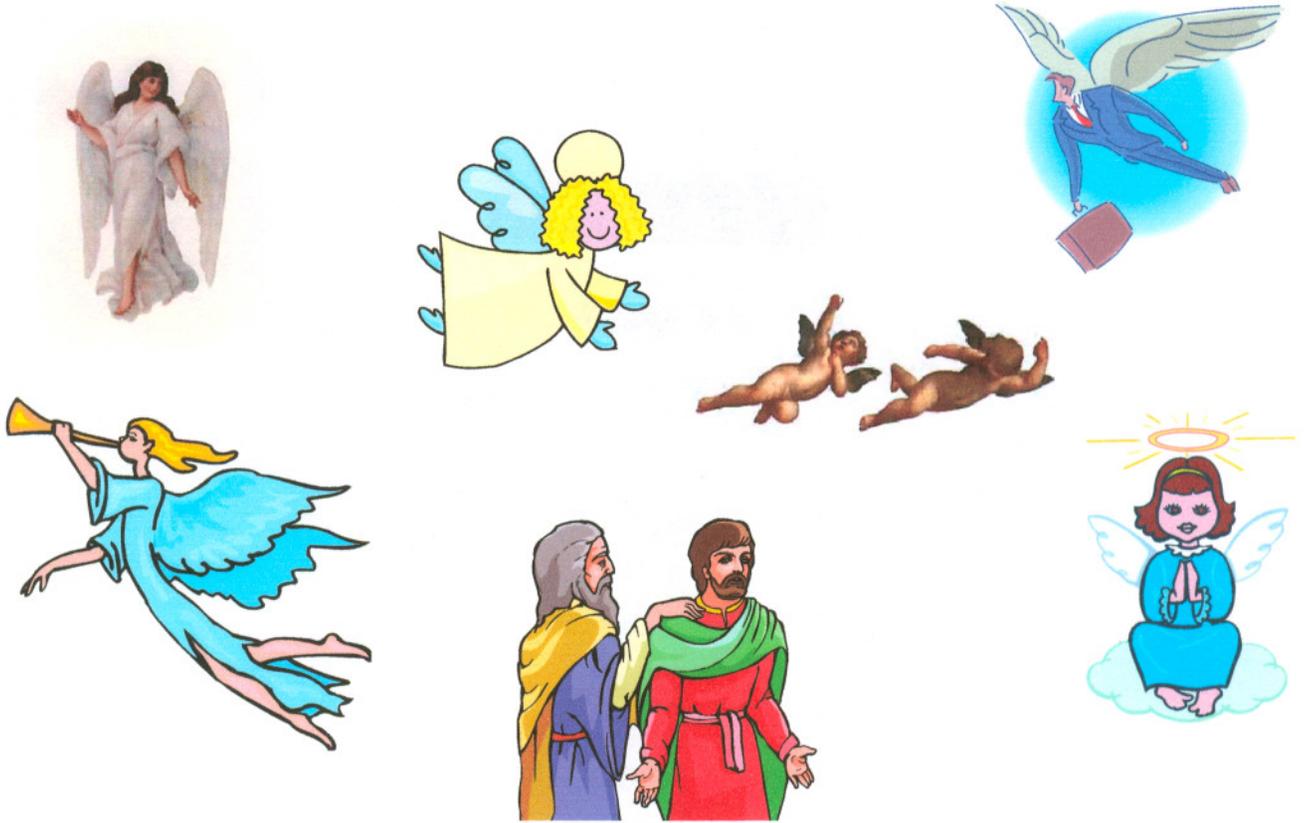


Question Page

1. Were most of the people in Sodom good people or bad people?
2. Was Lot a good man or a bad man?
3. How many angels came to the city?
4. Did the angels have wings and wear shiny clothes or did they look like regular men?
5. What did the angels do to the wicked men who wanted to break open the door?
6. Did any of the people in Sodom listen to Lot when he warned them that the city was going to be destroyed?
7. Did Lot have two sons or two daughters?
8. What did the angels say about stopping and looking back at the city?
9. Which person stopped and looked back?
10. What happened to Lot's wife? Did she look like a pillar of flour or salt or cake mix?
11. What happened to the wicked city of Sodom?
12. If strangers come up to you and talk to you or ask you to go with them, what should you do?

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Put a circle around the kinds of angels that Lot saw and put an X on the ones he didn't see



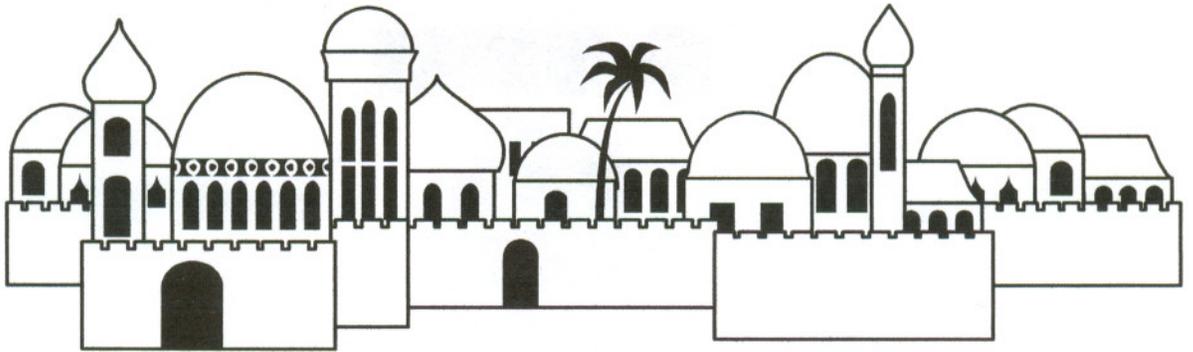
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Draw some stones like the one below and color some yellow and orange and red fire on the rocks to show what kind of firey rocks fell on the city of Sodom



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Color the picture of the town of Sodom, making the different houses pretty colors. Color some green grass and draw some flowers around the city. Are most of the people in this city good people or bad people?



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Lot ran through the city trying to save others. He needed a light, what kind of light do you think Lot used to see at night? Match the lights by drawing a line between the matching ones.

