

Short but fascinating lesson

Genesis 18-19  
Sodom and Gomorrah

> **Notable Backstory**

- > Abraham has a nephew, Lot  
He loves that guy  
Used to be living together
  - Thriving together
  - Became very rich
  - Lots of livestock
- > But had to separate due to their size

Abraham gave Lot the choice of land  
Right or left  
Lot chose the area that was around Sodom and Gomorrah  
Because it was fertile plains  
Abraham took the opposite side, basically

> **The Story**

Abraham is chilling with God  
Which he does, often

- > God sees the Sin of Sodom and Gomorrah  
Is going to check it out
  - With some Angels
  - Definitely gonna destroy them
  - But should probably check it out still
- > Abraham pleads with God  
Surely you wouldn't destroy everyone?!  
What if a few righteous there?
  - One so merciful and just and wonderful and magnificent and blah blah
  - He goes on and on
- 50
- 45
- 40
- 30
- 20
- 10
- > Jump to the angels in Sodom

Find lot  
He invites them into his home

Eat the yum yums  
Almost go to bed

> Men from Sodom show up

*This is where is gets messed up*

ALL the men  
Young and old  
Show up

Not sure how many people lived there  
It's a thriving city, however

Even with that though  
Say  
Only 50 men in city

50 MEN outside Lots door  
Heard about two dudes in town  
Here's the kicker

> They want to have sex with them

Lot says no  
Men say yes  
Try to break down door

> Angels pull Lot in  
Lock door  
Blind men

All the men give up and leave

Now it's escaping time

Angels tell lot to tell all his relatives to get out of the city  
For God is going to destroy it

> So, Lot tells all his family  
He has four daughters  
Two are married  
Two are single

- > But  
His sons-in-law did not listen
- > So Lot escapes with his wife and two of his daughters

Angels say don't look back or stop!  
Keep going until you reach the mountains  
For the whole area will be destroyed

- > But  
Lot's wife turns back  
Pillar of salt
- > Lot escapes with his two daughters  
And
- > Sodom and Gomorrah  
And ALL the surrounding area  
DESTROYED

- > **Take away**  
What can we learn?

First  
Let's talk about Lot's wife

- > *A pillar of salt*  
How crazy is that??

I imagine  
Human sized salt shaker  
Glass, magically disappears  
Pillar salt just falls to the ground

- > But more than likely  
She looked a lot more like this

- > Passage doesn't say  
God turned her into  
Simply  
She became a pillar of salt

>

How?

Theories

Sodom, Gomorrah destruction

One is by invasion, burned to the ground

One is earthquake, sunk into the ground

- > Most convincing is a comet
  - Hit the atmosphere

Where's the evidence?

- > Tunguska event

June 30, 1908

Near Siberia, Russia

A comet hit the atmosphere

Wreaked havoc

The comet never actually hit the Earth

Exploded in the atmosphere

Known as "air burst"

About 3-6 miles above surface

With temperatures estimated

3,600 degrees

Even though comet didn't

Hit Earth per se

Atmospheric explosion

Still enough to do massive damage

To forest in region

- > Blast flattened
  - 80 million trees
  - Over
  - 830 square miles

Witnesses reported seeing a fireball – a bluish light, nearly as bright as the sun – moving across the sky, followed by a flash and a sound similar to artillery fire. Along with the sound was a powerful shockwave that broke windows hundreds of miles away and knocked people off their feet. The explosion in the sky was like nothing ever seen before.

Going back to Sodom and Gomorrah

If a similar event happened there  
Comet exploding in atmosphere  
Would have been enough to destroy  
Estimated 300 mile area around Sodom and Gomorrah

The blast would have decimated the land  
By the high heat  
Waves from the dead sea would have  
Tsunami like  
Washed over surrounding area

All the sand and SALT in the area would have  
Been blow away from the impact  
At blisteringly hot temperatures and high speed  
Anything close by would have been  
Immediately covered in sand and SALT

SOOOO

> In essence  
Lots wife  
Was just too close to the impact  
And was covered in molten hot salt  
Which crystalized her body into a pillar of salt

> Similar to Pompeii

> Let's talk about Abraham  
Asking God to change his mind

God basically said  
I'm going to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah

Abraham basically said  
Please! No! Don't!

In fact, goes as far to remind God of his character  
18:25

> "Surely you wouldn't do such a thing, destroying the righteous along with the wicked. Why, you would be treating the righteous and the wicked exactly the same! Surely you wouldn't do that! Should not the Judge of all the earth do what is right?"

> And he talked God down to saving cities  
If there were 10 righteous people

> Or did he?

Did Abraham really change God's mind?  
The God that is the same yesterday, today and forever?  
The God that always plans things perfectly?  
The God that always has our best in mind?

Did Abraham really change his mind?  
OR  
Did God just know what Abraham was really asking for?

You see

Deep down

> Abraham wanted to save 1 man  
1 man that he loved dearly  
His nephew Lot

Abraham was aware that Lot was in Sodom  
And didn't want him to die

I'm sure he justified it  
There's got to be other righteous people  
You can't destroy everybody!  
I bet he assumed there would be 10 righteous  
And the city and Lot would be saved

> But let's be real  
There was really only 4  
MAX  
Lot, Lots wife, lots two single daughters

There weren't 10  
Just 4  
And God saved them anyway

Why would God bother saving Lot?  
It wasn't the 10 Abraham asked for?

> God always knew what Abraham was really asking for

It was always his plan to save them  
Abraham didn't change the unchangeable mind of God  
God already knew what Abraham wanted and needed

> As he does for all of us