



August 31, 2025

Title: "The Sin of Sodom and Gomorrah"

Scripture: Jude 1:7

Review

The Purpose of Jude:

- Contend for your faith (know what you believe)
- Beware of false teachers

Jude gives three examples of God's severe judgment on false teachers:

1. The Jews and their unbelief brought by the 10 unbelieving spies: 40 years in the wilderness
2. The fallen angels in gloomy chains of darkness/hell/the pit/the Abyss
3. The destruction upon Sodom and Gomorrah (today's message)

Jude, verse 7

7 just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.

To understand the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah, we need to go back to **Genesis**:

- Lot is Abraham's nephew
- They traveled together from Ur of the Chaldees to the Promised Land
- Then, once they were in the Promised Land...

Genesis 13

- Their herds grew, and they needed to separate property (tension over pasturelands)
- Lot took the lush, verdant land plains of Sodom and Gomorrah
- He began living a more rural lifestyle
- Five major cities in this area (estimated population: 1.5 million)
- Urbanization equals more sinfulness (more sinful people closer together equals more sin)
- Red states/blue states in USA (larger cities/coastal often equals more progressive)
- Lot's slow movement from rural home to the large city
- Abram takes the less prosperous, mountainous area whose name means "closeness"

Genesis 14

- Records the first war in the Bible
- Four kings to the north versus five kings to the south
- In their war, Lot is kidnapped
- Abram has an army of 318 trained militia at his disposal
- Abram is one of the richest people, if not THE richest man in the world, at that time
- After a daring raid, Lot is rescued by Abram (and all of Lot's possessions are taken back)
- Abram encounters a mysterious figure: Melchizedek

- Melchizedek is the King and Priest of “Salem”/peace: a theophany of Jesus?
- Abram gives a tithe of all his possessions (first mention of the tithe in Bible)
- Abram’s wealth tied to his generosity?

Genesis 18

- Provides an account of two angels in human form and a theophany of Jesus (?)
- They come to Abraham and eat and drink with him (last week and the fallen angels)
- They assure him that the promise of a son will soon (“next year”) happen
- Sarah laughed. Her son’s name is Isaac - which means “laughter”
- They said they’d come to deal with the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah: “the outcry”
- Sodom’s sins (**Ezekiel 22:30-31**) and other places in the Bible...
 1. Wealth
 2. Unconcern for the poor
 3. Pride
 4. Injustice
 5. Violence
 6. Lack of hospitality
 7. Sexual immorality (**Jude, verse 7** says there were “unnatural desires” - like the fallen angels last week who left their natural abode to have unnatural relations with the daughters of men)
- What is sexual immorality (sexual sins in the Bible?):
 1. Fornication: any sex outside of marriage (includes living together and before)
 2. Adultery: other than your wife/husband
 3. Polygamy: one man and several wives (the Bible and polygamy: the difference of description and prescription)
 4. Polyamory: one woman and multiple men
 5. Forcible imposition: without consent

6. Bestiality: you know...(ugh!)
7. Prostitution: paid intimacy
8. Sexual immorality: porneia in the Greek, yes, porn but also thought life - Jesus in **Matthew 5**
9. Pagan intimacy: associated with becoming one with an idol - pagan occultism
10. Homosexuality: same sex activity - the major sin of Sodom and Gomorrah

Before moving forward, does everyone feel included? Especially #8! Sexual sins are prevalent in our culture. We need a Savior!

Christians are called to sexual purity: within marriage between a man and a woman

- **Genesis 2:24:** a creation mandate
24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.
- Restated by Jesus in **Matthew 19:4-6**, quoting **Genesis 2:24**
- Jesus DID address homosexuality in **Matthew 19**: God's original intent
- **1 Thessalonians 4:3**
"For this is God's will: your holiness; that you abstain from sexual immorality."

Chapter 19

- The two angels leave Jesus and Abraham and go toward Sodom
- Lot is "at the gate"- indicates he is an elder in Sodom
- He had slowly but surely moved from the rural to the urban life
- F.B. Meyer quote: "No one suddenly become base"
- The next decision to sin is easier than the one before: the slippery slope of compromise
- The angels/men meet with Lot and offer to sleep in the public square (like Central Park in NYC)
- Lot won't allow it:
2 Peter 2:7
and if he rescued righteous Lot, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked

- The men of Sodom come as a mob at night to Lot's house desiring the two angels (as men)
- Unbridled lust always needs new experiences: the need for different experiences
- The men of the city try to knock down the door to Lot's house
- Astonishingly and disgustingly, Lot offers his two daughters (the law of hospitality? A desire to be accepted? It seems unexplainable)
- The men of Sodom don't want women but these new, attractive men/angels
- The angels strike all the men blind who are trying to break down the door
- Yet astonishingly, the men of Sodom still furiously try to find the door handle to kidnap the two angels
- This is an ugly example of lust ruling lives (**Galatians 5:23**: the last fruit of the Spirit is self-control)
- The two angels tell Lot to go tell his two sons-in-law about Sodom's certain destruction and to get out now!
- He does and they laugh/scoff at him and refuse to leave
- The angels take Lot's wife and daughters by the hand to remove them from the city
- Fire and brimstone rain down on Sodom and Gomorrah and the five cities of the plain
- FYI: Archaeology today validates this phenomenon (southeast part of the Dead Sea)
- Lot's wife looks back
- Lot goes to Zoar (which means "small")

Jude's point: This is the kind of judgment awaiting the false teachers!

This judgment came primarily because of Sodom and Gomorrah's homosexuality

Homosexuality is a sin. It's **NOT** God's original intent or design in creation order - **Genesis 1-2** (nor are other sexual sins that are listed above)

Reasons?

1. Abuse?
2. Genetic predisposition? (no “gay gene” discovered - how can a homosexual reproduce life with a same sex partner? Surrogacy is not God’s original intent and design)
3. Social contagion? (27% of Gen Z report gay “feelings”)
4. Self-worship?
5. There is a dark/demonic world tempting us to disobedience
6. Once experimented and experienced, the next step is easier until the sin controls us and the culture falls into moral chaos

There are **eight places in the Bible** where this is discussed and not one is positive (the “clobber verses,” as one pastor put them)

I don’t want to clobber anyone. Homosexuality is not my sin, but I have others. We all need grace. But homosexuality IS undeniability on the list.

We all need a Savior and his enormous, healing grace!

A quick overview of Romans 1:18-32

Romans 1:18-19

18 *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. 19* *For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.*

1. When truth is suppressed
2. When God is denied (God is clearly seen in creation and conscience)
3. Secularism grows
4. Nature abhors a vacuum
5. Agnostics and atheists are without excuse

Romans 1:20-25

20 *For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. 21* *For although*

they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

22 *Claiming to be wise, they became fools, **23** and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. **24** Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, **25** because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.*

1. Our thinking become futile
2. Our hearts become foolish
3. We exchange the glory of the Creator for creation (all idolatry)
4. God gives us up to the lusts of our hearts

Romans 1:26-27

26 *For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; **27** and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.*

1. God gives us over to “dishonorable passions”
2. Natural relations to unnatural ones (remember the fallen angels last week?). God has a natural order for human sexuality.
3. Natural is men and women
4. Now it's women and women, men and men
5. “Shameless acts...”
6. “Due penalty” for this sin

Romans 1:28-32

28 *And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. **29** They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, **30** slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, **31** foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. **32** Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.*

1. Does everyone feel included?
2. God gives us over to all our sins. He lets us have what we want - even hell!
3. We are all so broken in our sin
4. **Romans 3:23**
23 *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,*
5. We ALL need a Savior for our sexual and all other sins
6. Homosexuality is not the unpardonable sin
7. It can and will be forgiven if confessed, but people can be delivered from it

(I believe this with all my heart): **1 Corinthians 6:9-11**

9 *Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, **10** nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. **11** And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*

1. No sin is unforgivable
2. All sin can be overcome through the power of Jesus
3. "Such WERE some of you" - **1 Corinthians 6:11**
4. Beckett Cook and Rosaria Butterfield among others as examples

Let's conclude with this warning: **Luke 17:28-35**

28 *Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot—they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, **29** but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all— **30** so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed. **31** On that day, let the one who is on the housetop, with his goods in the house, not come down to take them away, and likewise let the one who is in the field not turn back. **32** Remember Lot's wife. **33** Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it. **34** I tell you, in that night there will be two in one bed. One will be taken and the other left. **35** There will be two women grinding together. One will be taken and the other left."*

1. Right before the Rapture will be like the days of Lot
2. There is no concern about God's judgment: eating, drinking, marrying
3. Remember Lot's wife! Don't look back and yearn for your sin
4. God's judgment will come! Live every day in his imminent return!
5. Lose your life for Jesus's glory; it's the way you'll gain your life/find purpose
6. **The good news:** God raptures us out like Lot and his family BEFORE the judgment!
7. "Two in bed...two in the field" - one taken and the other left
8. We who love Jesus are not destined for God's wrath
9. We will be taken out before God's Great Tribulation is expressed on earth
10. A massive revival for Jesus during the Great Tribulation

Final warning: There is a hell. Jesus (who is God) said so: **Matthew 25:41**
41 *"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels."*

PLEASE:

- Believe in Jesus
- Receive his forgiveness
- Repent of all your sins - sexual and nonsexual
- And live completely and totally for him

May Jesus alone and always receive all the glory!

