

Abraham Intercedes, but Sodom Is Destroyed

Genesis 18:16-19:38

Read Genesis 18:16-33.

Abraham prays for Sodom and Gomorrah.

- What challenges and encourages you about Abraham's prayers and God's responses?
- How does God's conversation with Abraham help you pray boldly?

Principle: God works His will through the prayers of His people.

Read Genesis 19:1-14.

God's angels visited Sodom and told Lot of the coming destruction.

- What do you learn about sin from Lot and the crowd at his home?
- How does God's warning of judgment impact the way you think and live?

Principle: God warns all people of His certain judgment.

Read Genesis 19:15-38.

Lot's family is delivered, but their sins bore consequences for generations.

- What different choices in Lot's life would you write into his story?
- What do your choices in everyday life tell you about your heart?

Principle: God's judgment is sure, but all can seek His mercy.

Review Genesis 18:16-19:38.

- How have you seen God work in your life this week?

Main truth: God's judgment of our sin is sure, but all can seek His mercy.

Scripture Memory Verse

"So when God destroyed the cities of the plain, he remembered Abraham, and he brought Lot out of the catastrophe that overthrew the cities where Lot had lived." – Genesis 19:29

Interested in studying the Bible with others? To find a Bible Study Fellowship class near you, check out bsfinternational.org.

Exploring the Christian Faith

An Attribute of God

from this week's passage

Omniscient (all-knowing)

God is never surprised. He knows all there is to know. Nothing is hidden from God. God knows the past and the future; He knows every person even before we are born. He knows the number of our days and all the plans He has for us. He knows what every person thinks, feels, says and does. Only God knows the choices people would make if their circumstances were different. Therefore, we can trust God to judge perfectly. Only God knows all things.

To learn more Attributes of God, visit mybsf.org.

A Basic Truth of the Christian Faith

Why must the Redeemer be truly human?

Only a perfect human being could pay for the sins of other human beings.¹ As a man, Jesus perfectly obeyed God's law and lived without sin. He alone was qualified to die for sinful human beings.² Because Jesus was tempted in every way that we are and never sinned, He understands us and can help us.³

Hebrews 2:17¹; Romans 5:19²; Hebrews 4:15³

Think About It

Jesus is so different from us. How can you say He is fully human?

Jesus was fully God, but also fully human. This is hard to understand but true. Like every other human, Jesus cried and was hungry. He learned to talk and walk, like any other baby. He grew from a child to a man, like any other boy. He talked to His friends. He slept. When Jesus died on the cross, He shed blood. The Roman soldiers knew a real man had died. Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit, so He was also God.

How is it possible that Jesus never sinned if He is truly man?

Though He was fully human, Jesus was not born with a sinful nature as we are. The Holy Spirit gave Jesus strength to obey God fully. As a child and as a man, Jesus was tempted to sin. He overcame every type of temptation we face with the gifts God gives every believer: God's Word, prayer and the Holy Spirit. Jesus trusted that His Father's will was right and good.

Why did Jesus enter the world as a baby instead of an adult ready to die for us?

Jesus had to live the full life of a human being to fully represent all men on the cross. Jesus perfectly obeyed God's law from the day He was born to the day He died. He loved His brothers and sisters and obeyed His parents. From the moment we trust in Jesus as our Savior, God credits Jesus' entire perfect life to us.

To learn more Basic Truths of the Christian Faith, visit mybsf.org.