



“The Merciful Hand of Rescue”

Genesis 18:16 - 19:29

When God draws us into His purposes, He diligently equips us for the mission. Genesis 18:16-22

- God draws Abraham into His world to instruct Him about righteousness and justice.

God is always just: *“Shall not the Judge of all the earth deal justly?”* Genesis 18:23-33

- God is morally righteous so all of His actions are always just - He is not the problem.

Lot's conflicting life: Reconciling his belief in God with Sodom's evil. Genesis 19:1-11; 2 Peter 2:7,8

- Two worlds collide when angels enter the domain of the perverted men of Sodom. Jude 1:7

The importance of understanding the grip & consequences of sin apart from God. Gen. 19:12-22

- *“So the men seized his hand...for the compassion of the LORD was upon him.”* 19:16

Any attempt to escape sin's grip must involve a decision to make a clean break. Genesis 19:17

- *“...put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh...”* Romans 13:14
- Connect to God/His Word - Eliminate flesh-feeding stimulus - Christian community.

We must regularly evaluate if we've pitched our tent too dangerously near to Sodom.

- Sin deceptively enslaves us one little step at a time.
- Evaluate: Does the sin God hates and Jesus died for, sicken you and make you angry?

Further Study and Pondering:

1. Can you identify ways God has been equipping/preparing you to accomplish His purposes? (It's important we connect our daily circumstances with God's hand in shaping us.)
2. Explain the importance of responding to life by acknowledging that God is always just.
3. **Further Study** - Breaking the grip of sin in your life: (Amos 7:7,8; 2 Timothy 2:15; Galatians 5:16-26; Romans 7:14-8:2; Romans 6:1-14; Romans 13:13,14; 1 Peter 2:2,3)
4. **Action Step** - Create a God-driven strategic plan to help you make a clean break from sin.
 - Step One - Prayerfully evaluate the input in your life. Compare the primary influencers in your life with God's plumb-line of truth. Is anything feeding your sinful nature?
 - Step Two - Eliminate anything that stimulates your sinful desire. Put practical safeguards in place to insure you don't reopen the door to these bad influencers.
 - Step Three - Engage in Christian community/accountability that keeps pointing you to the Lord Jesus Christ and away from sin. (Encourage someone with the truth you learned today.)

“Jesus is reaching out to you today - Grasp His hand”