



In the beginning...

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים

The Intercession of Abraham

Chapter 18-19



The Book of Genesis

Part 1

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| Genesis 1, 2 | Creation |
| Genesis 3 | Fall of Man |
| Genesis 4 | Cain & Abel |
| Genesis 5 | Genealogy of Noah |
| Genesis 6-9 | Flood of Noah |
| Genesis 10-11 | Table of Nations & Tower of Babel |

Part 2

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| Genesis 12-20 | Abraham |
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**Abraham's
Visitors
Chapter 18**

Genesis 18

¹ And the LORD appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day;

² And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground,

Genesis 18:1-2

- The first time 'worship' is mentioned
 - Gen 24:26 / 2 Sam 15:32

Genesis 18

³ And said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant:

⁴ Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree:

⁵ And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and comfort ye your hearts; after that ye shall pass on: for therefore are ye come to your servant. And they said, So do, as thou hast said.

Genesis 18:3-5

- How much do we desire the presence of the LORD?

Five Acts of Grace

³ And said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant:

⁴ Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree:

⁵ And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and comfort ye your hearts; after that ye shall pass on: for therefore are ye come to your servant. And they said, So do, as thou hast said.

Genesis 18:3-5

Five Acts of Grace

Abraham asks for 5 things:

- A little water for washing
- To rest under the tree
- Enough bread to satisfy
- Comfort for your hearts
- Then continue the journey
 - God is offering us cleansing, rest (at the tree), refreshment, comfort and strength for the journey

Genesis 18

⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth.

⁷ And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetcht a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it.

⁸ And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat.

Abraham's Offering

- A **measure**, *se'a*, was one third of an ephah, or about a peck and a half.
- Two Hebrew words, *gemaḥ* and *solet*, are used to designate the exceptional character of the flour used in making the rolls for the meal.
- *Hema*, “curdled milk” - cheese
- The calf was a rare and added luxury provided for these distinguished visitors.

The Cost of Sacrifice

24 And king David said to Ornan, Nay; but I will verily buy it for the full price: for I will not take that which is thine for the LORD, nor offer burnt offerings without cost.

1 Chronicles 21:24

- If there is no cost it is not sacrifice

Genesis 18

⁹ And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent.

¹⁰ And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him.

Genesis 18:9-10

Genesis 18

¹¹ Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.

¹² Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?

Genesis 18:11-12

Genesis 18

¹³ And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old?

¹⁴ Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.

¹⁵ Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; for she was afraid. And he said, Nay; but thou didst laugh.

Genesis 18:13-15

Genesis 18

¹⁶ And the men rose up from thence, and looked toward Sodom: and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way.

¹⁷ And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do;

¹⁸ Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

Genesis 18:16-18

Genesis 18

¹⁹ For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

Genesis 18:19

- The answer to the LORD's prayer is clearly 'yes – *tell Abraham*'
- The LORD reveals what is to happen to those He calls friends (**John 15:15**)

Genesis 18

²⁰ And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;

²¹ I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know.

Genesis 18:20-21

Genesis 18

22 And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.

23 And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?

24 Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?

Genesis 18:22-24

Genesis 18

25 That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

26 And the LORD said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.

Genesis 18:25-26

Genesis 18

27 And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which am but dust and ashes:

28 Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for lack of five? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy it.

Genesis 18:27-28

Genesis 18

²⁹ And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do it for forty's sake.

³⁰ And he said unto him, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do it, if I find thirty there.

Genesis 18:29-30

Genesis 18

³¹ And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for twenty's sake.

Genesis 18:31

Genesis 18

³² And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake.

³³ And the LORD went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.

Genesis 18:32-33

The Search for One

¹Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it.

Jeremiah 5:1

The Search for One

³⁰ And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.

Ezekiel 22:30



In the beginning...

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים

Sodom &
Gomorrah
Chapter 19

Genesis 19

¹ And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;

² And he said, Behold now, my lords, turn in, I pray you, into your servant's house, and tarry all night, and wash your feet, and ye shall rise up early, and go on your ways. And they said, Nay; but we will abide in the street all night.

“Sitting In The Gate”

- Lot had become a leader of the community; a judge, (v. 1; cf. v. 9)
- Judges usually sat by the city gates, in a public place
- The ‘gate’ was where legal and business transactions were finalized
 - Job 29:7,12-17 / Gen. 23:18) / Ruth 4:1
- Lot had integrated into society very well
- ...yet had made little or no difference

Genesis 19

³ And he pressed upon them greatly; and they turned in unto him, and entered into his house; and he made them a feast, and did bake unleavened bread, and they did eat.

Genesis 19:3

Genesis 19

⁴ But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter:

⁵ And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.

Genesis 19:4-5

Genesis 19

⁶ And Lot went out at the door unto them, and shut the door after him,

⁷ And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly.

⁸ Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes: only unto these men do nothing; for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof.

Genesis 19:6-8

Genesis 19

⁹ And they said, Stand back. And they said again, This one fellow came in to sojourn, and he will needs be a judge: now will we deal worse with thee, than with them. And they pressed sore upon the man, even Lot, and came near to break the door.

Genesis 19:9

Genesis 19

¹⁰ But the men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door.

¹¹ And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great: so that they wearied themselves to find the door.

Genesis 19:10-11

Genesis 19

¹² And the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, bring them out of this place:

¹³ For we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of the LORD; and the LORD hath sent us to destroy it.

Genesis 19:12-13

- The sin of Sodom was the public condoning of that which the LORD had forbidden

Genesis 19

¹⁴ And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law.

¹⁵ And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city.

Genesis 19:14-15

Genesis 19

¹⁶ And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city.

Genesis 19:16

Genesis 19

¹⁷ And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed.

Genesis 19:17

Genesis 19

18 And Lot said unto them, Oh, not so, my Lord:

19 Behold now, thy servant hath found grace in thy sight, and thou hast magnified thy mercy, which thou hast shewed unto me in saving my life; and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me, and I die:

20 Behold now, this city is near to flee unto, and it is a little one: Oh, let me escape thither, (is it not a little one?) and my soul shall live.

Genesis 19:18-20

Genesis 19

²¹ And he said unto him, See, I have accepted thee concerning this thing also, that I will not overthrow this city, for the which thou hast spoken.

²² Haste thee, escape thither; for I cannot do any thing till thou be come thither. Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

Genesis 19:21-22

Genesis 19

²³ The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar.

²⁴ Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven;

²⁵ And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

Genesis 19:23-25



Sodom
&
Gomorrah



Zoar



Some views of
Sodom & Gomorrah

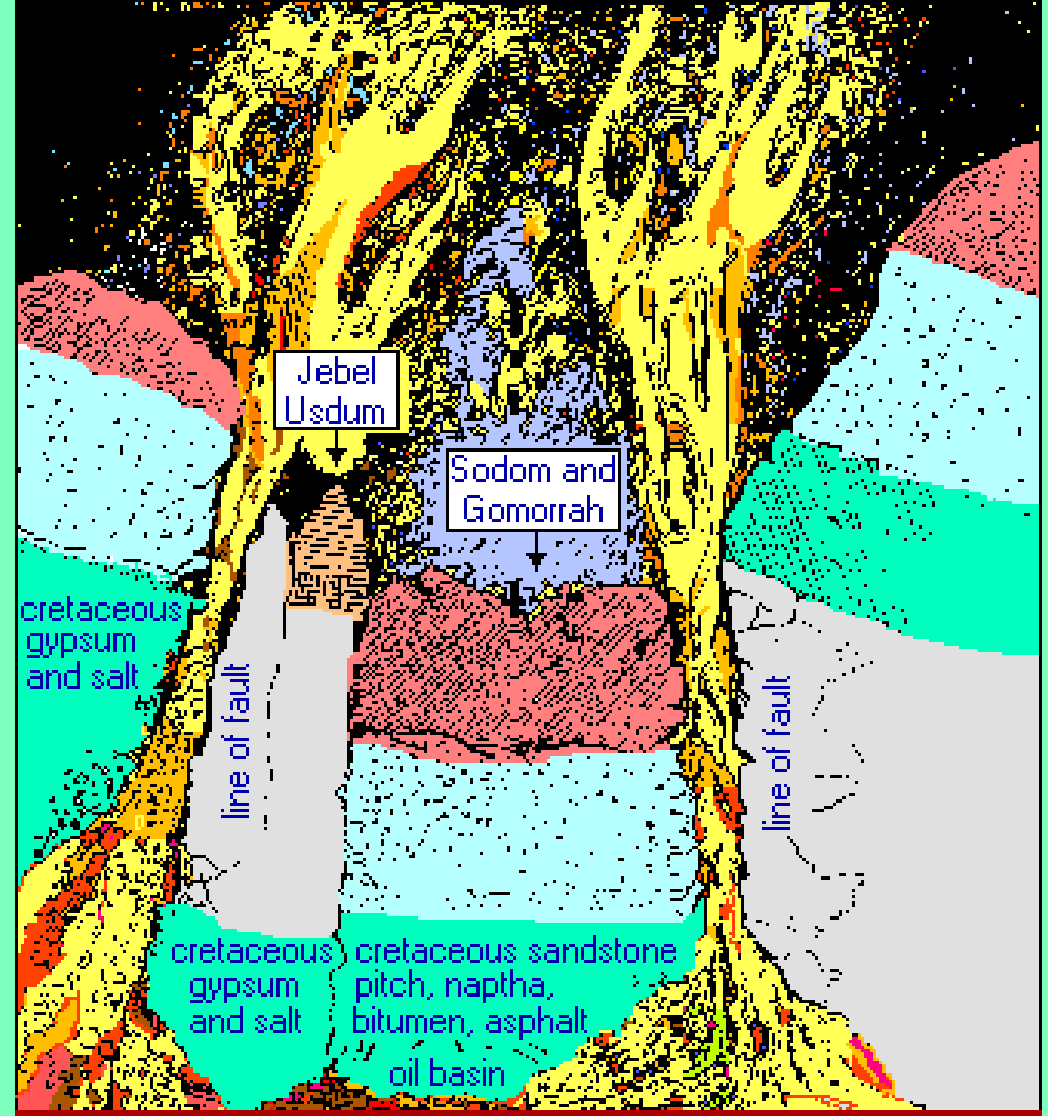
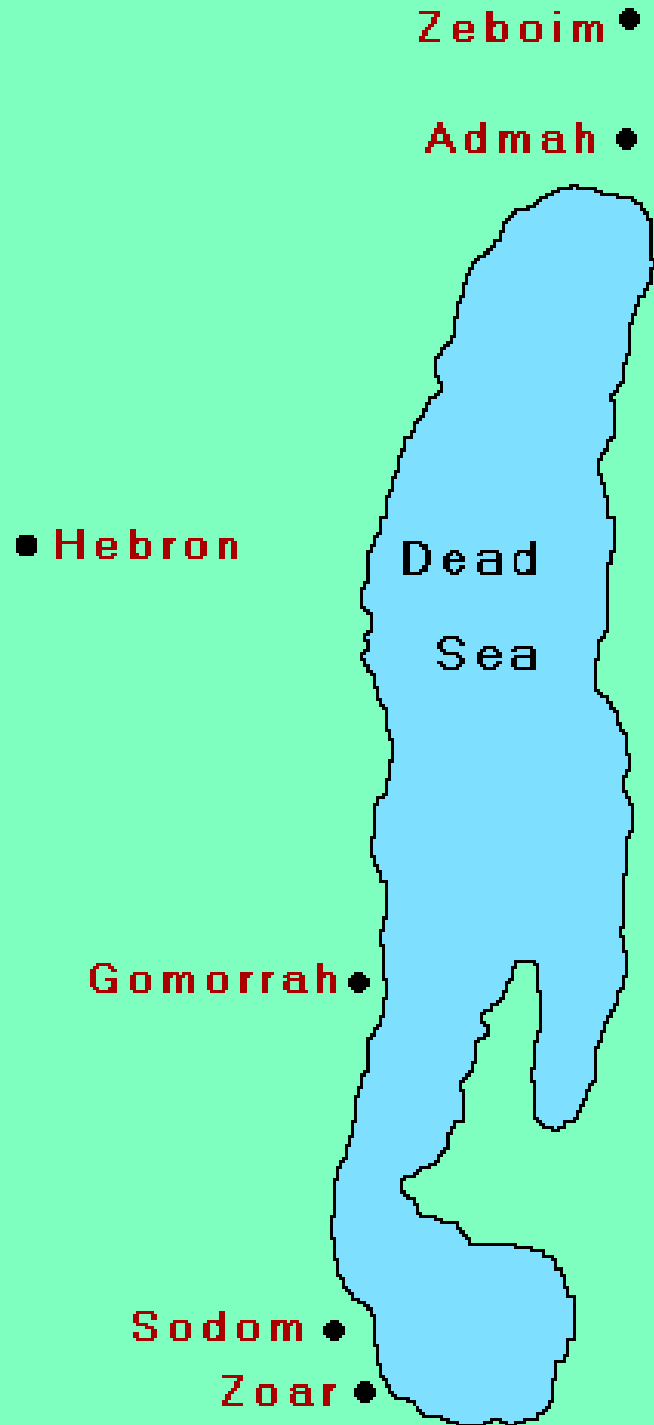


Diagram illustrating how excessive pressure caused by faulting resulted in ignition of oil, gas, sulphur and bitumen from the underlying oil field.

Location of Sodom and Gomorrah

Catastrophism & the O.T.

Donald W Patten / Ronald R Hatch

- Oct 2484 B.C. Flood of Noah began
- Oct 1944 B.C. Tower of Babel destroyed
- Mar 1879 B.C. Sodom & Gomorrah destroyed
- Mar 1447 B.C. Exodus Plagues
- Oct 1404 B.C. Long Day of Joshua
- Oct 1296 B.C. Sisera's encounter
- Oct 1241 B.C. Gideon
- Oct 864 B.C. Elijah on Mt. Carmel
- Oct 756 B.C. Joel-Amos catastrophe
- Mar 701 B.C. Sennacherib (185,000 Assyrians died)

Genesis 19

²⁶ But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

Genesis 19:26

But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed *them* all.

Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

In that day, he which shall be upon the housetop, and his stuff in the house, let him not come down to take it away: and he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back.

Remember Lot's wife.

Luke 17:29-32

And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.

But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee.

Matt 11:23, 24

Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

1 John 2:15-17

Genesis 19

27 And Abraham gat up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the LORD:

28 And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace.

Genesis 19:27-28

Genesis 19

²⁹ And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt.

Genesis 19:29

Genesis 19

³⁰ And Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the mountain, and his two daughters with him; for he feared to dwell in Zoar: and he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters.

Genesis 19:30

- Lot has sought to gain the world and ended up losing everything!

Genesis 19

³¹ And the firstborn said unto the younger, Our father is old, and there is not a man in the earth to come in unto us after the manner of all the earth:

Genesis 19:31

- Simply not true!
- Abraham will send to his brethren to find a bride for Isaac (rather than allow marriage to a Canaanite bride)
- Notice how our perception of the current affects our decisions! (Sight vs. Faith)

Genesis 19

³² Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.

³³ And they made their father drink wine that night: and the firstborn went in, and lay with her father; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose.

Genesis 19:32-33

Genesis 19

³⁴ And it came to pass on the morrow, that the firstborn said unto the younger, Behold, I lay yesternight with my father: let us make him drink wine this night also; and go thou in, and lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our Father.

³⁵ And they made their father drink wine that night also: and the younger arose, and lay with him; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose.

Genesis 19:34-35

Genesis 19

³⁶ Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father.

³⁷ And the firstborn bare a son, and called his name Moab: the same is the father of the Moabites unto this day.

³⁸ And the younger, she also bare a son, and called his name Benammi: the same is the father of the children of Ammon unto this day.

Genesis 19:36-38



Bashan

Ammon

Moab

Edom

Midian

Negev

Mt Hermon

Mt. Carmel

Lake Kinnereth

Edrei

Jericho

Mt Pisgah

Gaza

Hormah

Kadesh

Mt Hor

Ezion Geber

King's Highway

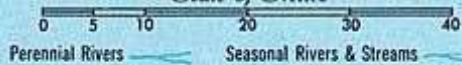
Rephidim

Jabal al Lawz

Traditional Site

Zoan

Rameses



The Israelites were unable to capture the fortified towns of the plains during the early period of settlement.

Although all of Bashan was assigned to the half tribe of Manasseh, it is doubtful that settlement reached beyond the Yarmuk Valley.

The Israelites were under constant attack from Philistine invaders who occupied the coastal area at about this time.

During the period of Judges, invading Ammonites, Moabites and Midianites were repulsed by the Israelites.

Philistines
Gaza
Ashkelon
Ashdod
Gath
Eglon
Lachish
Debir
Ziklag
Anab
Gerar
Beer-sheba
Moladah
Arad

Philistines
Gaza
Ashkelon
Ashdod
Gath
Eglon
Lachish
Debir
Ziklag
Anab
Gerar
Beer-sheba
Moladah
Arad

Moab
Ar



calvary
chapel
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www.calvaryportsmouth.co.uk