An Angelic Warning

Tony Mauck · Genesis 19:17

INTRODUCTION

- There is a story in the Old Testament that definitely affirms God means what he says. And it's the story of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.
- God's judgment upon sin is no laughing matter. It is no joke.
- But what is amazing in this story is God's amazing mercy toward the righteous.

1 Escape for Your Life

Genesis 19:17; Romans 13:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:2–3

- Escape for your life. Do not look behind you, and do not stay anywhere in the valley. Escape to the mountains, lest you be swept away.
- The angelic message is you've got to get out of here now. The people of Sodom and Gomorrah possessed no sense of urgency.
- Our salvation is nearer to us than when we believed. And each one of us will give account of ourselves to God.
- The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.
- Escape for your life. Look, residing in sin is peril. And yet people often don't perceive it or realize it.
- It's not just your physical life, it's something even more valuable. It is your spiritual life.

2 Do Not Look Behind You

Luke 17:32

- Once you get out of here, do not look back. Be resolute in your determination to leave.
- Do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance. That wasn't smart back there. That wasn't wisdom.
- He chose rather to endure ill treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin. And he made the break. And he never looked back.
- Lot's wife did not heed the message. And as they were departing and heading up, she looked back. And she became a pillar of salt.
- Jesus referenced the event in a passage about judgment in Luke chapter 17 and verse 32, when he simply said, Remember Lot's wife.
- There may be a very good reason why her name is never revealed. Because she is one that we are not supposed to imitate.

3 Do Not Stay Anywhere in the Valley

1 Thessalonians 5:21–22; 1 Peter 5:8; Hebrews 12:22–24

- You've got to stay away from everything associated with this place.
- The application that we're to make is that we are to steer clear and to distance ourselves from evil. Stay as far away from that as you can.
- Examine everything carefully. Hold fast to that which is good. Abstain from every form of evil.
- Be sober-minded, be watchful, be vigilant. Because you have an adversary, the devil, who prowls about like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour.
- As aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul. Don't stay anywhere in the valley.
- You have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, to heavenly Jerusalem.

THE CHALLENGE

Heed the angel's message or be swept away. Because in regard to God's judgment, it's not a matter of if, but when.

MY NOTES