LOT'S HISTORY IS REPEATING, part 2 quotes

- 1) Lot "lingered" (Genesis 19:16). The Hebrew word for "lingered" is "mahahh" and it translates and means "to question or hesitate, to be reluctant, delay, linger, stay, tarry." (Strong's Exhaustive Concordance, Hebrew word #4102). So Lot began to question this heavenly message! His questioning thoughts led him to hesitate to obey God, his hesitancy led him to be reluctant to obey, until he ended up lingering, staying and tarrying in Sodom and thus delaying his obedience.
- 2) Lot allowed his attachments to his loved ones and to his possessions to dampen the urgency of the situation. But "the Lord being merciful unto him" instructed His two angels to grab the hand of Lot, his wife and each of his daughters, and then they rushed them through the streets and past the gates until they were all "without the city" (Genesis 19:16). After they were outside of the city walls, the angels then commanded them all to:

"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.

3) Having lived the easier life for so long within the city, and now facing the prospect of having to go back to roughing it in the country, Lot begged to be allowed to flee to a nearby city, declaring that:

"I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me, and I die: 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 19:19-20.

Lot's request was amazingly granted, even though this little city in the plain had also been designated to be destroyed along with all the rest! This reveals that the great and mighty Lord God Michael is not heartless and unbending in regards to the feelings of His righteous followers, but sympathizes with them and is mercifully willing at times to even alter His plans for their sake.

"For he remembered that they were but flesh; a wind that passeth away, and cometh not again." Psalms 78:39.

4) "Lot (and his family) entered into Zoar. Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; 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.
5) Lot purposely chose to dwell within the wicked city of Sodom. Then why would the Lord
deal so mercifully and kindly with Lot and his family, even to the point of physically taking them by the hand and hurrying them out of the doomed city?
"In all the cities of the plain, even ten righteous persons had not been found; but <u>in</u> <u>answer to the patriarch's prayer</u> , the one man who feared God was snatched from destruction." Patriarchs and Prophets, p 160-161.
6) After Lot and his family were entering into Zoar, Lot's wife's heart yearned for all of her loved ones, for her home and all of her possessions that were being destroyed. She had allowed the angel to pull her out of Sodom, but she herself had not made the decision to leave it. This meant that even though her body was physically separated from all the wickedness, yet her heart was still connected and in sympathy with Sodom. This led her to lightly regard the heavenly command, and she then decided to cast one lingering glance behind her in giving a final goodbye to all of these. In doing this, she directly disobeyed the solemn and plain command to not look behind thee, and as a punishment for her rebellion, she lost her life along with the rebellious and "became a pillar of salt" (Genesis 19:26).
7) "Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the mountain, and his two daughters with him". Genesis 19:30.

8) Lot's firstborn daughter began to wonder how she and her sister could ever preserve the name of their father without being married themselves.

"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: Come,...and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father." Genesis 19:30-32.

Lot's daughters realized that their father would never knowingly agree to engage in the great forbidden sin of incest. So they schemed and agreed to "make our father drink wine" so that he would not know what was going on and thus would be too drunk to prevent having sexual relations with them (Genesis 19:32). Lot's daughters figured that out of love for their father they could trick him and then practice such wickedness because circumstances had now changed, which in their minds warranted this evil practice to now be permissible and acceptable with God. So even though the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed for involving themselves in such wicked sexual practices, yet because Lot's daughter's motive for committing the same wicked practice was out of love for their father, they figured God would understand and bless them for doing so.

"And they made their father drink wine that night: and the firstbom went in, and lay with her father; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose....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 19:33, 35.

Their devious plan proved successful because "both the daughters of Lot [were] with child by their father" (Genesis 19:36).

9) Did this wickedness now become permissible just because the motive for committing it was from love and not from inordinate perverted desire? Did circumstances really alter God's law, thus making the same sin punishable in one instance, but allowable in another? And would God's blessing instead of His curse rest upon the two children who were born through such deception and sinful practices?

"And the firstborn bare a son, and called his name Moab: the same is the father of the Moabites unto this day. 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 19:37-38.

Neither of these two sons chose to serve the God of their father Lot or of their uncle Abraham, but chose instead to serve the same pagan gods and indulge in the same immoral sexual rites and practices of the nations surrounding them (Judges 10:16; Numbers 25:1-3).

The Moabites served and worshipped Baal and Chemosh (Numbers 25:2-3; Ezekiel 25:9; 1 Kings 11:7), and the Ammonites served and worshipped Milcom and Molech (1 Kings 11:5, 7). Both were the constant troublers and enemies of God's Israelite followers (Numbers 25:18; Judges 3:28), and both chose to fight and war against God's followers instead of being peaceful (Judges 3:12-14, 10:9; 2 Kings 3:22), even though they were blood relatives to one another.

Because of their great wickedness against God and against His followers, never could either the Moabites or the Ammonites enter into God's sanctuary (Deuteronomy 23:3), or be allowed to marry with any of God's followers (Exodus 34:16; 1 Kings 11:2). Both were to be destroyed because they had become just like Sodom and Gomorrah in character (Zepheniah 2:9), and all the praying done to their gods, even from within the sanctity of their pagan sanctuaries, could not save them from being destroyed (Isaiah 16:12).

- 10) Can this history be repeated in our own time just before Jesus Christ comes again?
- "...as it was in the days of Lot...Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed....Remember Lot's wife." Luke 17:28, 30, 32.

11) Over 100 years ago God sent warning messages that His people were also to leave the corruptive atmosphere of the cities as soon as possible and move into the more purer atmosphere of the country.

"The time is fast coming when the controlling power of the labor unions will be very oppressive. Again and again the Lord has instructed that our people are to take their families away from the cities, into the country, where they can raise their own provisions; for in the future the problem of buying and selling will be a very serious one. We should now begin to heed the instruction given us over and over again: Get out of the cities into rural districts, where the houses are not crowded closely together, and where you will be free from the interference of enemies." Country Living, p 9-10.

"Let children no longer be exposed to the temptations of the cities that are ripe for destruction. The Lord has sent us warning and counsel to get out of the cities." Country Living, p 12-13.

"To parents who are living in the cities the Lord is sending the warning cry, Gather your children into your own houses; gather them away from those who are disregarding the commandments of God, who are teaching and practicing evil. Get out of the cities as fast as possible." Medical Ministry, p 310.

Why is it so urgent that God's followers are to get out of these cities as fast as possible?

"The Lord calls for His people to locate away from the cities, for in such an hour as ye think not, fire and brimstone will be rained from heaven upon these cities. Proportionate to their sins will be their visitation." Last Day Events, p 95.

12) God's followers must take the first steps in faith in obeying God's will to move into the country, and as they do then God will begin to part all of the giant obstacles ahead of you by opening doors so that you can indeed move forward into country living!

"Parents can secure small homes in the country, with land for cultivation where they can have orchards and where they can raise vegetables and small fruits to take the place of flesh-meat, which is so corrupting to the lifeblood coursing through the veins. On such places the children will not be surrounded with the corrupting influences of city life. **God will help His people to find such homes outside of the cities**." Medical Ministry, p 310.

"During the night season I was in council. I was pleading with some families to avail themselves of God's appointed means, and get away from the cities to save their children. Some were loitering, making no determined efforts. The angels of mercy hurried Lot and his wife and daughters by taking hold of their hands. Had Lot hastened as the Lord desired him to, his wife would not have become a pillar of salt. Lot had too much of a lingering spirit. Let us not be like him. The same voice that warned Lot to leave Sodom bids us, 'Come out from among them, and be ye separate, . . . and touch not the unclean.' **Those who obey this warning will find a refuge**. Let every man be wide awake for himself, and try to save his family. Let him gird himself for the work. **God will reveal from point to point what to do next**." Review and Herald, December 11, 1900.