



Sodom Was Haughty and Committed Abomination

by Gene Easley

"Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. ⁵⁰And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good" (Ezekiel 16:49-50).

Ezekiel mentioned some of the sins of Sodom in the forty-ninth verse of the sixteenth chapter of his book. These sins were pride and fullness of bread--that is to say, they had abundance--and the indication is that they became very spoiled because of their great prosperity.

The inhabitants of Sodom also had an "abundance of idleness." They had plenty of spare time and were looking for ways to entertain themselves. Serving and worshipping God was not on their list of things to do. And in our day, with our abundance of time, are we scheduling more prayer meetings? Are we having more Bible studies and special revival events? Or are we looking to other things to fill our time?

The Sodomites made no special effort to help the poor. Everything they did centered around themselves. The cry of the needy could not reach their selfish ears. Maybe they went to the chariot races or some other great sporting event. They looked forward to another night of indulgence and did not want to be bothered by those who were struggling financially to make it just one more day. Yet, though we have a way of closing our hearts and our minds to the cries of the desperate, we still want God's greatest blessings for ourselves.

But Ezekiel 16:50 reveals why judgment came upon Sodom. First, the people were haughty. They turned their nose up to God, to His Word, to His righteous ways, and to His people. They were so proud and self-centered that they could not be reached. Then the final nail is put in their coffin. They "committed abomination" before the Lord.

The people of Sodom willfully gave themselves over to vile affections. Their "men leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet" (Romans 1:27). This means they received the just penalty for their perverse actions.

The people of Sodom were so haughty and their actions such an abomination before God that He sent judgment in accordance to their sin. God sent two angels to Sodom to verify the depth of Sodom's sin. It wasn't that God didn't already know their sin, for He is omniscient. But God wanted the entire world to know why He was sending such severe judgment. Sodom had been overcome by the sin of homosexuality. These people not only openly practiced their sin but attempted to force Lot's two visitors to partake in their unlawful deeds. God said "That's enough." There is a time when God will send judgment upon any people. He will send it upon a city, or a nation, or even upon a local church that has departed from Him.

All of the sins of Sodom are being repeated again and again in our time. There will be a last day judgment on a world in bondage to sin. God is still calling men and women to repentance, but judgment is inevitable upon a world that turns its back on God.

Judgment is knocking at our door in these last days. Individual states in America and numerous nations around the world are allowing same sex marriages. It is sin, and those who preach what the Bible says concerning this sin, are labeled bigots. You are accused of being hateful. The truth is no one loves the homosexual more than the person who will warn him or her of the penalty of his or her sin. People who will tell homosexuals that they are okay like they are do not love them. They are deceiving them and will allow them to lose their eternal souls. That isn't love. The person who loves the sinner is the one who will denounce his sin and let him know the end results of continuing in that sin.

Today we are taught that tolerance toward sin and toward sinful behavior is the way to be kind to one another. In reality, when we keep silent and refuse to denounce sin, we are simply allowing people to lose their souls. Their blood will be upon our hands.

Judgment is coming today, just as it came upon Sodom. The only answer is to repent and to turn to Christ. Christ can cleanse from sin. He can give deliverance from sin, and He alone can give eternal life.

God loves all sinners, but all sinners must forsake their sins. No one can hold on to their sin and still enter Heaven's eternal gates. Every soul must be cleansed by the blood shed on Calvary's Cross. Every sinner has the same opportunity to come to Christ, and every sinner can find forgiveness and cleansing.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him, should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).