

## Sermon: “A Hard Truth and a Soft Heart”

Text: Genesis 18:20-22 and 19:1-11(pew Bible page 13)

Genesis 4:1 “Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain...”

### I. Where to begin? A secular source and a religious source.

#### I. Sodom’s sins

**A. It is clear from the Bible that Sodom’s sins were many and not just one.**

Ezekiel 16:49-50 49 “Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had pride, excess of food, and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy. 50 They were haughty and did an *abomination* before me. So I removed them, when I saw it.

**B. It is emphatically clear from the Bible that sodomy (same sex relations) was the chief among the sins of Sodom**

“their sin is very grave,” v Genesis 18:20

“And they called to Lot, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, **that we may know them.**” Genesis 19:5

Ezekiel 16:50 “They were haughty and **did an *abomination*** before me. So I removed them, when I saw it.

Lev 18:22 You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; **it is an *abomination.***”

Jude 7 “Just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.”

So, again, while homosexuality was not the only sin in which the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah indulged, it does appear to be the primary reason for the destruction of the cities.

#### II. The New Testament’s statements on same sex relations

I Corinthians 6:9-11 “Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you...”

Romans 1:26-27 “Women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another...”

I Timothy 1:8-11 “The ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.”

#### III. The spirit of Abraham

Genesis 18:32 “Suppose ten are found there.” He (the Lord) answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

**If we are Abraham’s descendants, then we must exhibit the spirit of Abraham - who prayed not for the destruction of the Sodomites, but for their deliverance, that they might be spared.**

“Such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.”

I Corinthians 6:11