

Title: DO NOT LINGER IN SODOM

Text: GENESIS 19:1–29

SERMON SYNOPSIS

Sin is not something we can manage, it's something we must mortify. Like the machinery that pulls you in once caught, sin entangles and destroys all who linger. In the story of Sodom and Gomorrah, we see sin's pervasiveness, its pollution, and its persuasion. Yet amid the judgment, we also see God's mercy: the same mercy that seized Lot by the hand and pulled him to safety still reaches for sinners today. The call is clear, **DO NOT LINGER IN SODOM, DO NOT LOOK BACK, FLEE TO CHRIST.**



SERMON OUTLINE

INTRODUCTION

- **Illustration:** The farm machinery — once you're caught, you're pulled in.
- **Personal challenge:** What sin do you wrestle with most deeply?
- **Context:** Sodom & Gomorrah — a city under judgment, a lesson in mercy.
- **Main Idea:** Do not linger in Sodom, but flee to Christ.

I. BEWARE THE PERVASIVENESS OF SIN

GENESIS 18:20; 19:1–5

- **Sodom's corruption:** “Both young and old, all the people, to the last man.”
- **Lot's position:** Sitting in the gate, comfortable in a corrupt place.
- **Sin spreads:** It infects homes, families, and entire cultures.
- **Application:**
 - Sexual sin has become normalized, from fornication to pornography to distorted gender and sexual ideologies.
 - Sin wants your household; it will not stay contained.
- **Gospel note:** Christ alone can set you free. The gospel doesn't merely clean behavior; it gives a new heart.
- **Charge:** You can't save Sodom, but you can guard your home. Sweep it clean.

II. BEWARE THE POLLUTION OF SIN

GENESIS 19:6–8; 2 PETER 2:7–9

- **Lot's compromise:** Offering his daughters is unthinkable!
- **Explanation:** The influence of Sodom's moral smog, even the righteous can breathe it in.
- **Illustration:** Daniel 3, those near the fire were burned by the flames
- **Application:**
 - Cultural pollution seeps into hearts unnoticed.
 - What we watch, what we normalize, what we excuse — all shapes our soul.

- **Call to action:** Self-examination and repentance. Don't live breathing poisoned air.

"Little sins become big sins over time. For Christ's glory, take an axe to them."

III. BEWARE THE PERSUASION OF SIN

GENESIS 19:15–26; LUKE 17:32

- **Lot lingered:** Because his heart still loved Sodom.
- **Lot's wife looked back:** Not out of curiosity, but out of affection.
- **Sin's persuasion:** It whispers that what God forbids will make us happy.
- **Reality:** Sin kills families, churches, joy, witness, and souls.
- **Illustration:** The blood is on the knife, seeing sin in light of the cross.

"The very sins we toy with are the sins that crucified Christ."

- **Gospel call:**
 - See your sin for what it is.
 - Remember your Savior who took the fire for you.
 - Be killing sin, or sin will be killing you.

CONCLUSION — FLEE TO CHRIST

- Lot's story ends not in moral success, but in mercy.
- The same God who rained fire on Sodom has rained GRACE through His Son.
- Christ entered our judgment so we could escape to the mountain.
- **Invitation:**

Do not linger. Do not look back. Take the hand of mercy — run to Christ.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS FOR THE WEEK

1. Where in my life have I tolerated sin, convincing myself that I can "manage" it?
2. How has the culture I live in subtly shaped my moral thinking or dulled my sensitivity to sin?
3. What sins do I secretly LOVE, even while outwardly resisting them?
4. How can remembering the cross, "the blood on the knife," reshape my affections this week?
5. What practical steps can I take to "flee Sodom" to guard my home, my habits, and my heart from sin's pull?