

WELCOME TO WORD OF FAITH LIFE GROUPS **WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER**

LIFE GROUP LESSON PLAN

Praying Scripturally Against The Kingdom Of Darkness, Part 4

Thursday, June 9, 2022 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Teaching The Bible Through Practical Biblical Teaching

OPENING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME TO OUR GROUP (5 MINUTES)

If this is your first time joining us, please introduce yourself! We are glad you took the time to join us today. Our group has four purposes:

1. **L... Learning together from God's Word**
2. **I... Interceding through prayer**
3. **F... true Fellowship in the Spirit of Christ**
4. **E...Evangelizing the lost**

PRAISE & WORSHIP (5 MINUTES)

FACILITATION OF LESSON

Sermon Title: *“Praying Scripturally Against The Kingdom Of Darkness,” Part 4*

POINT 1

Last week we began our study of Abraham and the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah . You can read this story in the Book of Genesis, chapters 18 & 19. We saw where Abraham pled his case with God according to **Isaiah 43:26**, which says, *“Put me in remembrance: let us plead together: declare thou, that thou mayest be justified.”*

Abraham talked to God about the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. There were wicked spirits in Sodom and Gomorrah, and as a result, God's wrath was about to fall upon those cities due to their wickedness.

READ: Genesis 19:13

For we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of the LORD; and the LORD hath sent us to destroy it.

That same cry is getting greater and greater in this nation and around the world. What cry?

READ: Genesis 19:4-5, According to Genesis 19, Lot spoke to the angels, who appeared to be men, and asked them to come into his home. The text says,

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4 But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter: 5 And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.

The word “*know*” in this verse doesn’t mean they wanted to sit down and have tea. It means they desired an intimate relationship with these men. Sodom is where we get the word “*sodomize*.” The act of sodomy is referred to as wickedness in the Bible because it contradicts God’s original plan for creation.

QUESTIONS:

1. Just like in Sodom and Gomorrah was great in the face of the Lord what similar cry are hearing today in our generation?
2. What does the word “**know**” mean in the bible? How does it relate to what we’re reading in this passage?

The Book of Romans gives us some details of God’s reaction towards this **Romans 1:21**”

“Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations,.....”

The English word “*imagination*” is derived from the Greek word “*dialogismos*.” The Strong’s Concordance definition of the Greek word “*dialogismos*” is

- 1) the thinking of a man deliberating with himself,
- 2) thought, inward reasoning, purpose, design.
- 3) a deliberating, questioning about what is true;
- 4) A hesitation, doubting, disputing, arguing, reasoning.

They reasoned themselves out of what is truth. Just like the abortion issue. Christians have reasoned themselves out of what is truth.

Romans 1:21 goes on to say, “..... *and their foolish heart was darkened.*”

“*Foolish heart*” means “an unintelligent heart, a heart without understanding. The word actually means “*stupid*.” Their “stupid heart” was darkened. When something is dark that means it’s an absent of light. Their hearts were darkened because they refuse to allow the light of God’s word to bring truth into their heart.

Romans 1:22 states “*Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,....*”

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The English word “fools” in this verse is the Greek word “*mōrainō*” and it is defined as “to become insipid or wishy washy, to lose your savour; to make flat and tasteless of salt that has lost its strength and flavor.

Verse 22 tells us they became that way. That wasn’t God original plan for their life. There are a lot of reasons they became that way. A lot of it is a lack of understanding God’s way!

QUESTIONS:

1. How do people become vain in their imaginations?
2. How does a person’s heart become darkened?
3. How do people become fools?

Because they became vain in their imaginations, because their foolish heart was darkened and because of the lack of light **Romans 1:24 says:**

“Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:”

This is what was happened in Sodom and Gomorrah.

READ: Romans 1:26

For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:

They turned against the way God originally created them. Notice it says they changed it. God had nothing to do with it! And it says in **verse 27:**

“And likewise also the 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 recompence of their error which was meet.”

They have paid an awesome price.

QUESTION:

1. What does God call “vile affections?” Is that the way God created them?

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POINT 2

Read: Genesis 19:5-8

*And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them. 6 And Lot went out at the door unto them, and shut the door after him, 7 And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly. **Lot called it wickedness!** 8 Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man;*

His daughters were married. But the men they married were downlow. The term “downlow” means men who secretly have sex with other men. They never consummated the marriage because they too were homosexuals. There lust burned towards other men.

In **verse 8** continues to say, “.....let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes: only unto these men do nothing: for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof.”

They didn't want his virgin daughters, the wanted to have sex with the men. They were going to breakdown the door until the angels smote them with blindness. This gives you an idea of how society wants to cram this down your throat. They are using every means possible to get people to agree with this lifestyle. Even Disney is constantly subtly brainwashing your children and they blatantly admit it.

That's why this country needs prayer because, sad to say, a lot of this stuff is because Christians have the idea that if it's not affecting me directly, I have nothing to do with it. But it is affecting you indirectly with the policies that are being put in place that affect your bank account and your children and grandchildren.

The money that being used to advertise it and change schoolbooks, and even get you in legal trouble for calling someone a boy when they want to identify as a girl. You can lose your job!

As your kids get older, you need to make sure they date the right sex. Let's say for instance, some parents want a girl instead of a boy. What's the next best solution? Give the child hormones treatments to make it a girl or vice-versa. The same wicked spirits that were around in Sodom and Gomorrah are around today. Remember they are not going anywhere because it's not their time.

Abraham didn't fight the ruling spirits in his efforts to see the cities spared. Because God was about to bring judgment. What did Abraham do? Abraham made intercession to the Lord regarding the cities, and the Lord responded to Abraham by sparing the righteous. So, the unrighteous perished under the fire and brimstone. God spare the few righteous which were lot and his two daughters. But what happened to Lot's wife? That desire was so strong that the wife couldn't let it go and looked back and turned into a pillar of salt.

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QUESTIONS:

1. What was so wicked about Sodom and Gomorrah? Explain
2. Why is the world so adamant about getting people to agree with homosexuality? Who are they targeting? Give examples!
3. Why did Lot's wife turn into a pillar of salt?

POINT 3

Abraham's intercession teaches us that it doesn't take a great number of believers to effect change on this earth through prayer. The bible says in **Matthew 18:19:**

Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.

All it takes is for some believers to come into agreement and pray. Like it says in **Ezekiel 22:30 AMP**
I searched for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for [the sake of] the land, that I would not destroy it, but I found no one [not even one].

I believe this is going to change among men! God is going to raise up some praying men that will lift up holy hands. Because he couldn't find one:

31 Therefore I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; I have repaid their way [by bringing it] upon their own heads," says the Lord GOD.

It was their way that brought on the judgement. But get this, one man can make a difference!

QUESTIONS:

1. What does Abraham's intercession teach us?
2. What is God searching for and why? What happens if he can't find anyone?

Just like in Abraham's case one person or a few people can make all the difference. Besides that we are under an even better covenant than Abraham. The Bible tells us in **Hebrews 8:6:**

But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.

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We have it better than Abraham. Abraham didn't have authority over the devil, as we do under the New Covenant in Jesus' Name. If God moved according to Abraham's intercession under the Old Covenant, how much more under the New Covenant will God move in our cities and nations just because believers asked Him to regardless of the strategies of Satan!

Christians could accomplish so much more for the Kingdom of God if they would only exercise the authority they have in the name of Jesus and enforce the devil's defeat on this earth. The majority of Christians don't take advantage of the authority in prayer that belongs to them. If they did, much damage would be done to the kingdom of darkness and many souls would be won to God.

You and I can change the political, economic, and social scenes in our islands, cities and nations through scriptural prayer. Christians can hold back judgement on the unsaved, giving them more time to hear the Gospel and repent.

Whenever God's people take their place in prayer just as Abraham did for the nations of the world, they can change things on this earth to the Glory of God and thwart the plans of the enemy in every encounter.

We have a big problem with a lot of so-called Christians. They are so caught up with their political party that they forget everything the Word of God says. People have become so politically minded that they have become spiritually dead. They don't line anything up scripturally. They just go with the flow. God can't move on behalf of a spiritually dead person. I don't care what party you're in abortion is wrong and we need to pray that the Supreme Court overturns Roe vs Wade.

QUESTIONS:

1. What advantages do we have over Abraham?
2. What can we as Christians really do if we exercise our authority?
3. In the world today what is a big problem with so-called Christians?

CALL - TIME OF DECISION (EVERYONE BOW YOUR HEADS)

PRAISE REPORTS - *2-MINUTES PER PERSON

PRAYER FOCUS / INDIVIDUAL PRAYER REQUEST (10 MINUTES)

Prayer focus:

- 1) Your Circle (friends and family)
- 2) Life Group members

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3) Word of Faith Leadership:

- a. Pastor Ronald D. Walker, Jr., Evangelist Sharon L. Walker, Minister Promise Walker, Brittany and Christian and the ministerial staff.
- b. Bishop Keith A. Butler and Pastor Deborah Butler

Have you reached out to your circle today?

ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to all those celebrating in the Month of June.
2. Single with Purpose it's time to exercise! Come out and engage in a variety of exercises **Friday, June 10th at 7:00 pm** in the WOFICC Courtyard. Be reminded that our bodies are the temple of God and we got to take care of God's temple. There will be a \$10 charge per person. Please see Minister Bachelor to sign up.
3. Join them for the next SWAT Outings, **Saturday, June 11th & June 25th at 11am**. SWAT Outings are schedule every 2nd and 4th Saturdays. For more information see Minister Francis.
4. Join us for **Baby Dedication, Sunday, June 12th at 10:00 am**. To register for baby dedication, call the church office at (340) 774-8617 or email wordoffaithvi@gmail.com.
5. Join us for our Father's Day Celebration – **Sunday, June 19th at 10:00 am**. Invite your husband, brothers, uncles, nephews. It's going to be a day filled with surprises for the men.
 - **Sunday, June 5th** - Father's Day Event Planning after service.
 - **Tuesday, June 7th & 14th** - Women's Father's Day Praise & Worship Rehearsal 7pm at the church.
 - **Saturday, June 11th** - Kitchen Clean-up Day 11am-2pm
6. Join Covenant Partner's, **Friday, June 24, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.** for Karaoke Night!! Bring your song and let's "Duet" Together. Invite another couple and see you there! For more information contact Minister Lavern Oysterman by email at wofcovenantpartners@gmail.com
7. Mark your calendars! **Sunday, June 26th at 10:00 am** - Get ready to have an encounter with God with ministry of the Word by Bishop Keith A. Butler from Word of Faith Southfield, Michigan. Prayer begins promptly at 9:45 am. This is an event you don't want to miss.

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OFFERING

- <https://wordoffaithstthomas.com/give-online/>
- <https://www.givelify.com/>

CLOSING PRAYER & DISMISSAL
