

GENESIS 18 vs 1

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In this chapter, Abraham's house is visited by the Lord and two others; later chapters will include the birth of Isaac (chapter 21), the marriage of Isaac and Rebekah (chapter 24) the death of Abraham as well as the birth of Abraham's grandsons Esau and Jacob (chapter 25); and all the numerous [promises of God to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob](#) which are nationalistic promises still being fulfilled by their descendants, heirs of those promises scattered throughout the world in our 21st century,

The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah,

¹ And the **LORD** appeared to him by the oaks of Mamre: while he was sitting in the door of the tent in the heat of the day;

² so he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, lo / mark this, **three men** were standing by him: and when he saw, he ran from the door of the tent to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground,

³ and said, My **LORD**, if now I found favor in Your sight, please, do not pass by your servant:

⁴ please, Let a little water be fetched and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree:

⁵ and I will fetch a piece of bread, and refresh your hearts; afterward you may pass by: since you visit your servant.

And **they** said, So do, as you have said.

⁶ So Abraham hurried to the tent to Sarah, and said, Quickly prepare three measures of fine flour, knead it, and make bread cakes on the hearth.

⁷ Then Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf tender and choice, and gave it to a servant; and he hurried to prepare it.

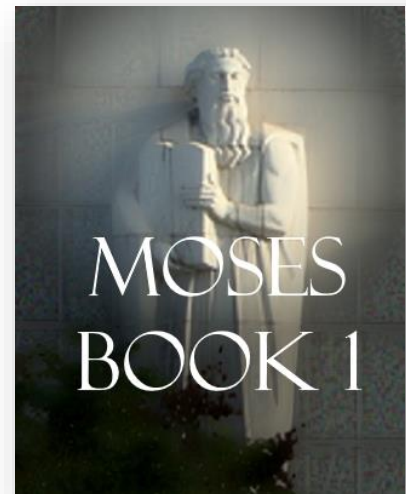
⁸ And he took butter and milk, and the calf which he prepared, and placed it before **them**; and he stood by them under the tree as they ate.

⁹ And **they** said to him, Where is Sarah your wife? / which is an odd question for three strangers to ask, and it makes you a little curious why these three men were looking for his wife.

And he said, Behold, in the tent.

➡ ¹⁰ And **He** said, indeed I will return to you at this time next year; and behold, Sarah your wife will have a son. And Sarah was listening at the tent door, which was behind him.

¹¹ Now Abraham and Sarah were old and advanced in age; and Sarah ceased being on the path of women / which is a euphemism for: being able to bare children.



GENESIS 18 vs 1

¹² So Sarah **laughed** to herself, saying, After I am grown old / being worn out, will I have pleasure, my lord being old also?

¹³ And the LORD said to Abraham, Why did Sarah **laugh**, saying, will I indeed bear a child, when I am old?

¹⁴ Is anything too difficult for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, at this time next year, and Sarah will have a son / their son will be named: **Isaac** which means: **laughter**.

¹⁵ But Sarah denied it, saying, I did not **laugh**; for she was afraid. And **He** said, No, but you **did laugh** / the NASB says, Sarah laughed either because she did not know the promise previously made to Abraham, or she was unconvinced it would be fulfilled. **for more about this promise to Isaac:**

¹⁶ Then arose from there the men, and looked toward Sodom: and Abraham walked with them to send them off.

¹⁷ And the LORD said, Will I hide from Abraham what I am doing;

¹⁸ since Abraham indeed will become a great and mighty nation,

 **and in him all the nations of the **earth** will be blessed?**

¹⁹ For I have known him, for the purpose that he command his children and his household after him, **to keep** / guard to protect ... the way of the LORD, doing what is right and just; that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him.

²⁰ And the LORD said, Because the outcry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grave;

²¹ I will go down now, and see whether according to its outcry which comes to Me, if they have done entirely; and if not, I will know.

²² And turning from there, the men went toward Sodom: while Abraham stood still before the LORD.

²³ And Abraham came near, and said, will also You destroy the righteous with the wicked? / this response as well as the following verses give evidence that Sodom and Gomorrah had terrible reputations. Abraham knew what the prophets knew, the Lord God who created all things, **found no pleasure in the death of the wicked** – **Ezekiel 33**.

²⁴ Suppose there were fifty righteous within the city: will You also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous who were in it?

²⁵ Far be it for You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked: that the righteous should be as the wicked. Far be it for You: Will the Judge of all the earth not do right?

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²⁶ So the LORD said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare the whole place for their sakes.

²⁷ And Abraham answered and said, Now behold, I have ventured to speak to the LORD, who is but dust and ashes:

²⁸ Suppose the fifty righteous will lack five: will You destroy all the city for lack of five? And He said, I will not destroy it, if I find there forty-five.

²⁹ And again yet he spoke to Him, and said, Suppose there will be forty found there. And He said, I will not do it for the sake of forty.

³⁰ Then he said to the LORD, please be not angry, and I will speak: Suppose thirty will be found there. And He said, I will not do it, if I find thirty there.

³¹ And he said, Now behold, I have ventured to speak to the LORD: Suppose twenty will be found there. And He said, I will not destroy it for the sake of twenty.

³² And he said to the LORD, please be not angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose ten will be found there. And He said, I will not destroy it for the sake of ten.

³³ And the LORD departed, as soon as He finished talking with Abraham: and Abraham returned to his place.

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