

For millennia, the primary record of Sodom and Gomorrah was found in the Bible; although the roman historian Josephus clearly wrote of the 5 cities in the plain. Recent research and publication of the massive library of Ebla tablets reveals not only the 5 cities of the plain are identified along with Abraham and Jerusalem and many other biblical names, but also helps us to identify what happened:



几千年来，所多玛和蛾摩拉的主要记录都是在《圣经》中发现的；虽然罗马历史学家约瑟夫清楚地写过平原上的五个城市。最近大量的埃布拉石板图书馆的研究和出版表明，不仅平原上的 5 个城市，还有亚伯拉罕、耶路撒冷和许多其他圣经名字，而且帮助我们确定发生了什么：

¹ And two angels came to Sodom at evening; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: **Sodom and Gomorrah**

¹ 那两个天使晚上到了所多玛。罗得正坐在所多玛城门口：**索多玛和蛾摩拉，**

when Lot saw them, he arose to meet them; and bowed with his face toward the ground;



看见他们，就起来迎接，脸伏于地下拜，

² And he said, Now, behold, my lords, turn into your servant's house, and spend the night, wash your feet, then arise early and go your way. They said, No! We will spend the night in the street / were these heavenly visitors testing Lot?

² 说，我主阿，请你们到仆人家里洗洗脚，住一夜，清早起来再走。他们说，不，我们要在街上过夜。/这些天上的来客是在试验罗得吗？

³ But he urged them strongly; so, they turned in, and entered his house; and he prepared a feast for them, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.

³ 罗得切切地请他们，他们这才进去，到他屋里。罗得为他们预备筵席，烤无酵饼，他们就吃了。

⁴ But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, surrounded the house, both old and young, all people from every quarter:

⁴ 他们还没有躺下，所多玛城里各处的人，连老带少，都来围住那房子，

⁵ and calling to Lot, they said to him, Where are the people who came to you this night? bring them out to us, that we may know them / they were not just going to have a friendly chat.

⁵ 呼叫罗得说，今日晚上到你这里来的人在哪里呢。把他们带出来，任我们所为。/他们不只是友好地聊天。

⁶ Lot, going out to them at the doorway, shut the door behind him,

⁶ 罗得出来，把门关上，到众人那里，

⁷ and said, Brethren, please do **not** act wickedly.

⁸ Now behold, I have two daughters who have **not** known people; let me bring them out, please do to them as you see fit: only to these people do nothing; for they came under the shelter of my roof.

⁹ But they said, Stand back.

And they said again, This one came to us a foreigner, and already he wants to be a judge: we will deal with him worse than them. And they pressed against Lot with force, and nearly broke the door / the old-timers resented Lot's intervention;

¹⁰ but the men inside / the 2 citizens of heaven... reached out their hand and pulled Lot into the house with them, and shut the door.

¹¹ And the men who were at the door of the house, they struck with blindness, both small and great: so that they tired themselves groping for the door.

¹² And the men said to Lot, Who else is here beside you? A son-in-law, and your sons, and your daughters, and anyone you have in the city bring out of this place:

¹³ for we will destroy this place, because there is distressing outcry before the LORD; and the LORD sent us to destroy it.

¹⁴ And Lot went out, and spoke to his sons-in-law who married his *other* daughters, and said, Arise, get out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city.

But he seemed to his sons-in-law as if he was joking.

⁷ 说，众弟兄，请你们不要作这恶事。

⁸ 我有两个女儿，还是处女，容我领出来，任凭你们的心愿而行。只是这两个人既然到我舍下，不要向他们作什么。

⁹ 众人说，退去吧。

又说，这个人来寄居，还想要作官哪。现在我们要害你比害他们更甚。众人就向前拥挤罗得，要攻破房门。/老一辈人对罗得的干预不满；

¹⁰ 只是那二人伸出手来，将罗得拉进屋去，把门关上，

¹¹ 并且使门外的人，无论老少，眼都昏迷。他们摸来摸去，总寻不着房门。

¹² 二人对罗得说，你这里还有什么人吗。无论是女婿是儿女，和这城中一切属你的人，你都要将他们从这地方带出去。

¹³ 我们要毁灭这地方。因为城内罪恶的声音在耶和华面前甚大，耶和华差我们来，要毁灭这地方。

¹⁴ 罗得就出去，告诉娶了（或作将要娶）他女儿的女婿们说，你们起来离开这地方，因为耶和华要毁灭这城。

他女婿们却以为他说的是戏言。

15 And when the morning arose, the angels urged Lot, saying, Arise, take your wife and two daughters, who are here; lest you be swept up in the punishment of the city.

16 But he hesitated / which is not a wise thing to do, when the Lord sends an urgent message,

so the men seized his hand, and the hand of his wife, and the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being compassionate to him: and brought him out, setting him outside the city.

17 And it happened, when they brought them outside / they had done their part in the rescue effort,

that one said, **Escape for your life**; do **not** look behind you... do **not** stay in all the plain; to the mountain escape, lest you be swept away.

18 And Lot said to them, Oh, **no**, my lords / Lot is going to negotiate with the rescue team:

19 Now behold, your servant has found grace in your sight, and you have magnified your mercy, which you showed me in saving my life; but I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil overtake me, and I die:

20 Now behold, this town is near to flee there, and it is small: please let me escape there, isn't it small? and so save my life.

21 And he said to him, See, I accept your request, and will **not** overthrow this town about which you have spoken.

22 Hurry, escape there; for I cannot do anything until you arrive there; the name of the city was called Zoar.

23 The sun was risen over the earth when Lot entered Zoar.

15 天明了，天使催逼罗得说，起来，带着你的妻子和你在这里的两个女儿出去，免得你因这城里的罪恶同被剿灭。

16 但罗得迟延不走。/耶和華傳緊急的信息、这样行是不明智的。

二人因为耶和華怜恤罗得，就拉着他的手和他妻子的手，并他两个女儿的手，把他们领出来，安置在城外。

17 领他们出来以后，/他们在营救工作中尽了自己的一份力，

就说，逃命吧。不可回头看，也不可平原站住。要往山上逃跑，免得你被剿灭。

18 罗得对他们说，我主阿，不要如此，/罗得想和救援队协商

19 你仆人已经在眼前蒙恩。你又向我显出莫大的慈爱，救我的性命。我不能逃到山上去，恐怕这灾祸临到我，我便死了。

20 看哪，这座城又小又近，容易逃到，这不是一个小的吗。求你容我逃到那里，我的性命就得存活。

21 天使对他说，这事我也应允你。我不倾覆你所说的这城。

22 你要速速地逃到那城。因为你还没有到那里，我不能作什么。因此那城名叫琐珥（琐珥就是小的意思）。

23 罗得到了琐珥，日头已经出来了。

24 Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire... from the LORD out of heaven;

24 当时，耶和华将硫磺与火从天上耶和华那里降与所多玛和蛾摩拉，

25 He overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and whatever grew on the ground.

25 把那些城和全平原，并城里所有的居民，连地上生长的，都毁灭了。

26 But looking behind, his wife became a pillar of salt.

26 罗得的妻子在后边回头一看，就变成了一根盐柱。

27 And rising early in the morning, Abraham went to the place where he stood before the LORD:

27 亚伯拉罕清早起来，到了他从前站在耶和华面前的地方，

28 and looking toward Sodom and Gomorrah, toward all surface and land of the plain, and beheld, and mark this,

28 向所多玛和蛾摩拉与平原的全地观看，不料，

the smoke of the country ascended like the smoke of a furnace.

那地方烟气上腾，如同烧窑一般。

29 And it happened when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot from the midst of the disaster,

29 当神毁灭平原诸城的时候，他纪念亚伯拉罕，正在倾覆罗得所住之城的时候，

when He overthrew the cities where Lot lived.

就打发罗得从倾覆之中出来。

In **Mere Christianity**, Macmillan ©1952 C.S. Lewis asks, If we do not believe in the Law of nature, then why should we be so anxious to make excuses for not having behaved decently? We tend to minimize and dismiss our little errors and mistakes; we even argue with God. Lewis suggests we might reconsider that after a million years of practicing and perfecting those little mistakes, they might not appear so little, right?



在《返璞归真》一书中，C.S.刘易斯问道，如果我们不相信自然法则，那么为什么我们要如此急切地为自己的行为不得体找借口呢？我们倾向于最小化和忽略我们的小错误；我们甚至与上帝争论。刘易斯建议我们应该重新考虑一下，经过一百万年的练习和完善这些小错误，它们可能不会那么少，对吧？

In **The Book of Jasher** / mentioned twice in the OT; an ancient Hebrew manuscript dated 70AD: printed in 1613 with the consent of the prestigious Jewish Consistory of Rabbins at Venice; here we read excerpts:

Chapter 18:

11. In those days all the people of Sodom and Gomorrah and of the five cities were exceedingly wicked and sinful against the Lord; they provoked the Lord with their abominations, and increase acting abominably and scornfully before the Lord, and their wickedness and crimes in those days were great before the Lord.

12. And they had in their land a very extensive valley, about half a day's walk, and in it there were fountains of water and a great deal of herbage surrounding the water.

13. And all the people of Sodom and Gomorrah went there four times in the year, with their wives and children and all belonging to them, and they rejoiced there with timbrels and dances.

14. And in the time of rejoicing they would all rise and lay hold of their neighbors' wives, and some, the virgin daughters of their neighbors, and they enjoyed them, and each man saw his wife and daughter in the hands of his neighbor and did not say a word.

15. And they did so from morning to night, and they afterward returned home each man to his house and each woman to her tent; so, they always did four times in the year.

16. And when a stranger came into their cities and brought goods which he had purchased with a view to sell there, the people of these cities would assemble, men, women and children, young and old, and go to the man and take his goods by force, giving a little to each man until there was an end to all the goods of the owner which he had brought into the land.

在**雅煞尔之书**/在旧约中两次提到;一份日期为公元 70 年的古希伯来手稿;经威尼斯著名的犹太教教团同意于 1613 年印刷;以下是节选:

第十八章:

11. 当那些日子, 所多玛, 蛾摩拉, 和五个城的人都极其罪恶, 得罪耶和华。

他们以可憎的事惹耶和华发怒, 在耶和华面前越发行可憎轻慢的事。那些日子, 他们在耶和华面前的罪恶甚大。

12. 在他们的地上有一条极广大的山谷, 约有半天的路程, 山谷中有喷泉, 水的周围有许多的青草。

13. 所多玛和蛾摩拉的众人, 连妻子带儿女和一切所有的, 一年四次都到那里, 拿鼓跳舞, 欢乐。

14. 欢欢喜喜的时候, 众人都起来, 拉住邻舍的妻子, 还有邻舍的处女女儿, 彼此享福。各人看见自己的妻子和女儿交在邻舍的手里, 就不作声。

15. 他们早晚都这样行, 后来各归各家, 各女子各回帐棚。所以, 他们总是在一年中做四次。

16. 和当一个陌生人走进他们的城市和他购买, 出售商品, 这些城市的人将组装、男人、妇女和儿童, 无论老少, 都去那人用武力抢夺他的货物。

17. And if the owner of the goods argued, asking, what have you done to me? they would approach him one by one, and each would show the little he took and taunt him, saying, I only took that little which you gave me. And when he heard this from all of them, he would arise and go from them bitter and in sorrow; then they all would arise and go after him, and drive him out of the city with great noise and tumult.

Verses 18 – 43 is a detailed story about a stranger on a journey passing through the city... and Hedor, a wicked citizen, skilled to do evil... met up with him; even the corrupt judge of Sodom gets involved.



Chapter 19:

Verse 1 – 6 describes perverse humor toward unsuspecting strangers... leading to death's door.

7. And when men heard all... that the people of the cities of Sodom did, they refrained from coming there.

8. When a poor man came to their land, they would give him silver and gold, and cause a proclamation in the whole city **not** to give him a morsel of bread to eat. Then at his death all the people of the city would come and take their silver and gold which they had given to him.

9. And those who could recognize the silver or gold which they had given him took it back, and at his death they also stripped him of his garments, and they would fight about them, and whoever prevailed over his neighbor took them.

11. And in the course of time, Sarah sent Eliezer to Sodom, to see Lot and inquire after his welfare.

12. And Eliezer went to Sodom, and he met a man of Sodom fighting with a stranger, and the man of Sodom stripped the poor man of all his clothes and went away.

17.若货主争辩说，你们向我作了什么呢？他们一个接一个地走近他，每个人都把他所拿的那一点拿给他看，并嘲笑他说：我只拿了你所给我的那一点。他听见他们众人这事，就痛苦悲哀的起来，离开他们。众人就起来，大声喧哗追赶他，将他赶出城。

第 18 - 43 节详细地讲述了一个陌生人在穿越这座城市的旅程中，一个邪恶的市民，一个擅长作恶的人，遇见了他；甚至索多玛的腐败法官也卷入其中。

第十九章:

第 1 - 6 节描述了对毫无戒心的陌生人的反常幽默...导致死亡之门。

7. 众人听见所多玛城邑的人所行的一切事，就都不敢到那里去。

8. 有一个穷人来到他们的地，他们就给他金银，并且全城的人都宣告说，不可给他一点饼吃。撒下 12:11 当他死的时候、城内的人、都要来把给他的金银、都取了来。

9. 谁能认出给了他金银，就把他夺了去。他死了，就剥了他的衣服，彼此争斗。谁胜了邻舍，就夺了去。

11. 过了些日子，撒拉打发以利以谢到所多玛去见罗得，问他好。

12. 以利以谢来到所多玛，遇见一个所多玛人与陌生人打仗，所多玛人就剥了那穷人的衣服，走了。

22. And Eliezer left the man of Sodom with the judge, and he went away.

22. 以利以谢就把所多玛人交给审判官，审判官自己走了。

23. And when the kings of Elam had made war with the kings of Sodom, the kings of Elam captured all the property of Sodom, and they took Lot captive, with his property, and when it was told to Abraham he went and made war with the kings of Elam, and he recovered from their hands all the property of Lot as well as the property of Sodom / this event is recorded in **Genesis 14**.

23. 当国王以拦了战争所多玛的国王,国王以拦捕获所有的财产所多玛,他们俘虏了很多,他的财产,当有人告诉亚伯拉罕他去战争诸王拦,他恢复从他们手中所有的财产以及很多的财产所多玛/这个事件被记录在《创世纪》14 章。



Verses 24-34 is about a daughter of Lot who stealthily helps another poor man who came to Sodom... who was left starving to death in the street, and she provided bread and water... and she was taken before the judge for transgressing their law. (It reminds me of the recent lawsuits in the news, in Florida)

24-34 节是关于罗得的一个女儿，她偷偷地帮助一个来到所多玛的穷人，这个穷人被饿死在街上，她提供面包和水，她被带到法官面前，因为她违反了他们的法律。
(这让我想起了佛罗里达州最近的新闻诉讼)

35. And the people of Sodom and Gomorrah assembled and kindled a fire in the street of the city, and they took the woman and cast her into the fire and she was burned to ashes. / like loveless roman crusaders

35. 于是所多玛和蛾摩拉的百姓聚集，在城里的街市上点火，将那妇人扔在火中，烧成灰。
/像无情的罗马十字军

Verses 36-42 a similar incident took place with a poor man passing through the city who just asked for a drink of water, and a young woman got bread and water for the man. The citizens disapproved and took her to the judge who sentenced her to death for this act, because she transgressed the law.

第 36-42 节也发生了类似的事情，一个穷人路过城里，向他求一杯水喝，一个年轻女人给了他面包和水。

And they drenched her in honey, and placed her next to a swarm of bees which stung her so that her whole body swelled / no different than the violent days of loveless roman inquisitors, right?

市民们不赞成她的做法，就把她带到法官那里，法官因为她犯法而判她死刑。他们把她浸在蜂蜜里，把她放在一群蜜蜂旁边，这些蜜蜂叮得她全身肿了起来/这和无爱的罗马审判官暴力日子没什么两样，对吧？

43. And the young woman cried out on account of the bees, but no one took notice of her or pitied her, and her cries ascended to heaven.

43. 年轻的女人因为蜜蜂的缘故而哭了起来，但是没有人注意她，也没有人同情她，她的哭声传到了天上。

44. And the Lord was provoked at this, and at all the works of the cities of Sodom... and sent for two of the angels that had come to Abraham's house, to destroy Sodom and its cities / this event is recorded in **Genesis 18:20**.

Sodom and its neighboring cities... in their careless prosperity had become callous toward the needy... and completely rotten to the core; their entire legal system had become a crooked, corrupted game to play; and everyone... young and old alike had become participants - pawns in their daily joke, leading to a lifestyle of lawlessness.

So, they were very much like our society has become today.

You know, when God stops talking... when His word no longer resonates throughout the general public, then it is definitely time to get ready.

Check out: **Sodom and Gomorrah**; by Ross Patterson

The Physical Ashen Remains of Sodom And Gomorrah

Having called and taught His 12 disciples, then sending them out, Jesus said, Truly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the Day of Judgment, than for that city... **Matthew 10:15**. Then it seems He kept teaching the multitude who gathered from around Galilee, and even chided those cities as He prepared and sent 70 more 2 by 2... into those nearby communities. Jesus said a second time, Truly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the Day of Judgment, than for you... **Matthew 11:24**.

Jesus said, It will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah on Judgment Day -- for those who never heard the good news of God's word: for those who never heard of the wonderful works of Messiah... it will be more tolerable... on Judgment Day.

44. 神见这事和所多玛各城所行的一切事，就激动…差遣两个天使，就是从前到亚伯拉罕家里来，要毁灭所多玛和属所多玛的各城(这事记录在创世纪 18:20)。

所多玛和邻近的城市…在他们无忧无虑的繁荣中，对穷人变得麻木…彻底腐朽了;他们的整个法律体系已经变成了一个不正当的、腐败的游戏;每个人，无论老少，都成了他们日常玩笑的参与者，导致了一种无法无天的生活方式。

所以，他们和我们今天的社会很像。你知道，当上帝停止说话，当他的话语不再在公众中产生共鸣，那么就是时候做好准备了。

看看:**所多玛和蛾摩拉**;罗斯帕特森

所多玛和蛾摩拉的灰烬

耶稣叫了十二个门徒来，教导了他们，然后打发他们出去，说:我实在告诉你们，当审判的日子，所多玛和蛾摩拉所受的，比那城还容易呢…**太 10:15**。然后他继续教导那些从加利利周围聚集的人们，甚至斥责那些城市，同时他又把 70 座，两个接两个的，送到附近的社区。耶稣第二次说:我实在告诉你们，当审判的日子，所多玛和蛾摩拉所受的，比你们还容易受呢…**马太福音 11:24**。

耶稣说:“在审判日，所多玛和蛾摩拉所受的，为那些没有听见神话语福音的人所受的，为那些没有听见弥赛亚奇妙作为的人所受的，也要受的。”

向主欢呼 向主歡呼

火把音樂 - 唯獨倚靠祢