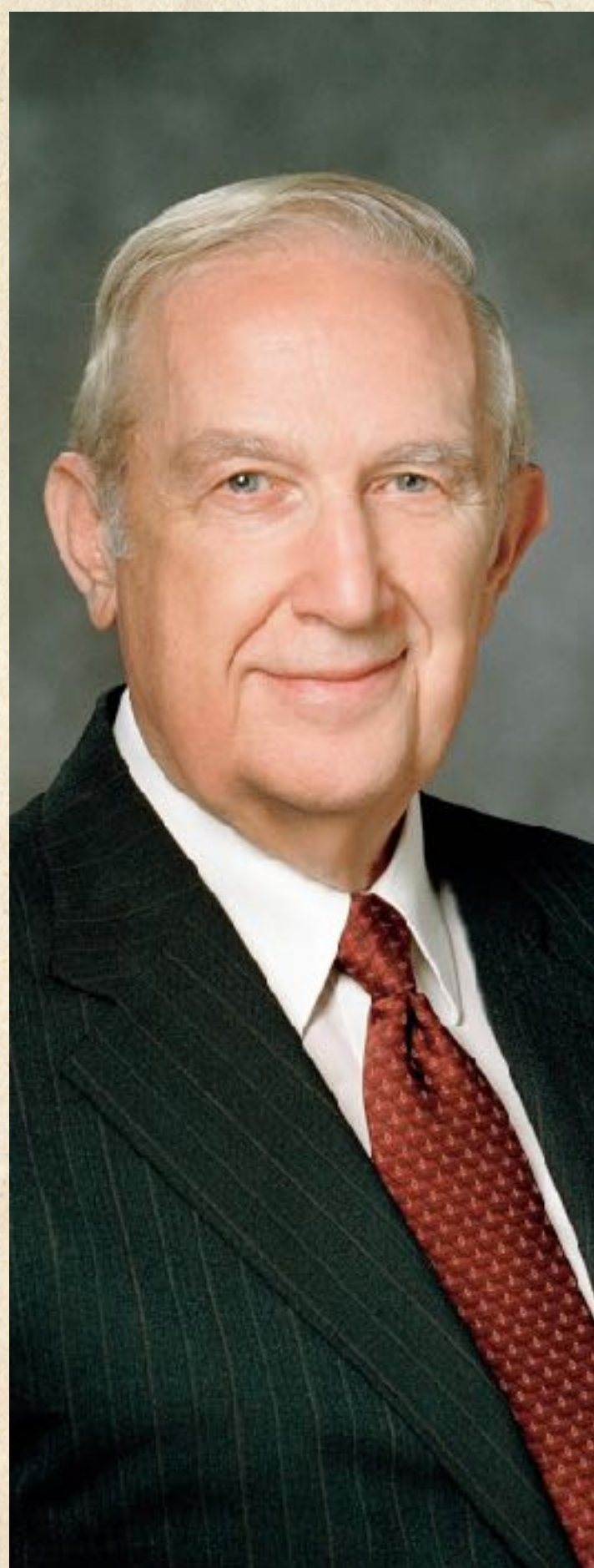




**Come Follow Me 2022**  
**Genesis 18-23**





## Elder Scott on Memorizing Scriptures

**“Learning, pondering, searching, and memorizing scriptures is like filling a filing cabinet with friends, values, and truths that can be called upon anytime, anywhere in the world.**

**Great power can come from memorizing scriptures. To memorize a scripture is to forge a new friendship. It is like discovering a new individual who can help in time of need, give inspiration and comfort, and be a source of motivation for needed change.”**

*(Richard G. Scott, “The Power of Scripture,” GC, October 2011, 6)*

# COME FOLLOW ME: OLD TESTAMENT



bear unto thee at this set <sup>b</sup>time in the next year.

22 And he left off talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.

23 ¶ And Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all that were born in his house, and all that were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house; and <sup>a</sup>circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the selfsame day, as God had said unto him.

24 And Abraham *was* ninety years old and nine, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

25 And Ishmael his son *was* thirteen years old, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

26 In the selfsame day was Abraham circumcised, and Ishmael his son.

27 And all the men of his house, born in the house, and bought with money of the stranger, were circumcised with him.

## CHAPTER 18

*Abraham entertains three holy men—They promise that Sarah will have a son—Abraham will command his children to be just—The Lord appears to him—They discuss the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.*

AND the LORD <sup>a</sup>appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day;  
2 And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three <sup>a</sup>men stood by him: and when he saw *them*, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and <sup>b</sup>bowed himself toward the ground,

3 And said, My <sup>a</sup>Lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant:

4 Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and <sup>a</sup>wash your feet, and <sup>b</sup>rest yourselves under the tree:

5 And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and <sup>a</sup>comfort ye your hearts; after that ye shall pass on: for therefore are ye <sup>b</sup>come to your servant. And they said, So do, as thou hast said.

6 And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead *it*, and make cakes upon the hearth.

7 And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetcht a calf tender and good, and gave *it* unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it.

8 And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set *it* before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat.

9 ¶ And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent.

10 And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, <sup>a</sup>Sarah thy wife shall have a <sup>b</sup>son. And Sarah heard *it* in the tent door, which *was* behind him.

11 Now Abraham and Sarah *were* <sup>a</sup>old and well stricken in age; and it <sup>b</sup>ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.

12 Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being <sup>a</sup>old also?

13 And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah <sup>a</sup>laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am <sup>b</sup>old?

14 Is any thing too <sup>a</sup>hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the

Messengers repeat the promise that Abraham and Sarah will have a son

Abraham Intercedes for Sodom before God

<sup>b</sup>time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.

15 Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; for she was afraid. And he said, Nay; but thou didst laugh.

16 ¶ And the men rose up from thence, and looked toward Sodom: and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way.

17 And the LORD said, Shall I <sup>a</sup>hide from Abraham that thing which I do;

18 Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty <sup>a</sup>nation, and all the <sup>b</sup>nations of the earth shall be <sup>c</sup>blessed in him?

19 For I <sup>a</sup>know him, that he will <sup>b</sup>command his <sup>c</sup>children and his <sup>d</sup>household after him, and they shall <sup>e</sup>keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and <sup>f</sup>judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

20 And the LORD said, Because the <sup>a</sup>cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their <sup>b</sup>sin is very grievous;

21 I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will <sup>a</sup>know.

22 <sup>a</sup>And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham <sup>b</sup>stood yet before the LORD.

23 ¶ And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also <sup>a</sup>destroy the <sup>b</sup>righteous with the <sup>c</sup>wicked?

24 Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou

also destroy and not <sup>a</sup>spare the place for the fifty righteous that *are* therein?

25 That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the <sup>a</sup>Judge of all the earth do right?

26 And the LORD said, If I find in Sodom fifty <sup>a</sup>righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.

27 And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which *am* but <sup>a</sup>dust and ashes:

28 Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for *lack of five*? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy *it*.

29 And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do *it*, if I find thirty there.

30 And he said *unto him*, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do *it*, if I find thirty there.

31 And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy *it* for twenty's sake.

32 And he said, Oh let not the Lord be <sup>a</sup>angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be

14b 2 Kgs. 4:16.

17a Abr. 3:15.

TG Revelation.

18a TG Nations.

b TG Abrahamic Covenant.

c Zech. 8:13; D&C 110:12; 115:5

d Alma 23:3.

e TG Loyalty; Trustworthiness.

f TG Judgment.

20a Gen. 19:13; Mosiah 19:7 (1-9); Morm. 2:13 (10-15).

b TG Homosexual

23a 1 Ne. 22:16;

Omni 1:7 (6-7); Hel. 13:13 (12-14); D&C 64:24.

b Gen. 20:4.

c TG Wickedness.

24a TG Worth of Souls.

25a TG Jesus Christ, Judge

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7 And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetcht a calf tender and good, and gave *it* unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it.

8 And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set *it* before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they

## Joseph Smith Translation

Verse 3 (footnote a) uses the phrase “My brethren” instead of “My Lord,” indicating that the Lord was not one of the three men. Also, verse 23 (footnote a) clarifies that these three messengers were “holy men ... sent forth after the order of God.”

4 Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and <sup>a</sup>wash your feet, and <sup>b</sup>rest yourselves under the tree:

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## Seminary Manual

In the King James Version of the Bible, the word angels, which was used in reference to these men (see Genesis 19:1), was translated from the Hebrew word malakhim, which can also mean "messengers." Although we do not know the identity of the three messengers, Abraham treated them as if they were presiding authorities of the Lord's kingdom then on the earth, and their messages were directly from the Lord

7 And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetcht a calf tender and good, and gave *it* unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it.

8 And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set *it* before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat.

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16 ¶ And the men rose up from thence, and looked toward Sodom: and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way.

17 And the LORD said, Shall I <sup>a</sup>hide from Abraham that thing which I do;

18 Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty <sup>a</sup>nation, and all the <sup>b</sup>nations of the earth shall be <sup>c</sup>blessed in him?

19 For I <sup>a</sup>know him, that he will <sup>b</sup>command his <sup>c</sup>children and his <sup>d</sup>household after him, and they shall <sup>e</sup>keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and <sup>f</sup>judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham

## **Old Testament Institute Student Manual**

**Sarah's astonished laughter at the news that she was to conceive and bear a son should not be interpreted as proving her lack of faith. Often in the scriptures the servants of the Lord are astonished beyond belief at the miraculous goodness of the Lord. Moses could not believe that he was capable of being God's spokesman with the pharaoh and asked that he receive help (see Exodus 4:10–17). Gideon needed dramatic proof that the Lord wanted him to deliver Israel from the Midianites (see Judges 6:11–24). Hezekiah asked for confirmation that Isaiah's promise of extended life was really of the Lord (see 2 Kings 20:1–11). Zachariah was struck dumb so that he would know that his wife Elizabeth would conceive (see Luke 1:19–20). And when the disciples saw the resurrected Lord for the first time, Luke tells us, "they yet believed not for joy" (Luke 24:41). It was the incredible nature of the news that caused Sarah's response. And after approximately seventy years of childlessness, who could condemn her temporary inability to believe the joyous promise?**

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20 And the LORD said, Because the <sup>a</sup>cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their <sup>b</sup>sin is very grievous;

21 I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will <sup>a</sup>know.

22 <sup>a</sup>And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham <sup>b</sup>stood yet before the LORD.

23 ¶ And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also <sup>a</sup>destroy the <sup>b</sup>righteous with the <sup>c</sup>wicked?

24 Peradventure there be fifty

after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the <sup>a</sup>Judge of all the earth do right?

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27 And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which *am but* <sup>a</sup>dust and ashes:

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29 And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do *it* for forty's sake.

30 And he said *unto him*, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do *it*, if I find thirty there.

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## “Very Grievous” Sin

Genesis 19:4–5 and Jude 1:7  
“Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh...” (or “pursued unnatural desire” (ESV)).

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22 <sup>a</sup>And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham <sup>b</sup>stood yet before the LORD.

## Romans 1:25

They “worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator”

**PRIDE is the core sin**

## Ezekiel 16:49–50

49 Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.

50 And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me...

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31 And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy *it* for twenty's sake.

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30 And he said *unto him*, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall *thirty* be found there. And he said, I will not do *it*, if I find thirty there.

31 And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord: Peradventure there shall be *twenty* found there. And he said, I will not destroy *it* for twenty's sake.

32 And he said, Oh let not the Lord be <sup>a</sup>angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure *ten* shall be

found there. And he said, I will <sup>b</sup>not destroy *it* for ten's sake.

33 And the LORD <sup>a</sup>went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.

## CHAPTER 19

*Lot entertains holy men—The men of Sodom seek to abuse Lot's guests and are smitten with blindness—Lot is sent out of Sodom—The Lord rains brimstone and fire upon Sodom and Gomorrah—Lot's daughters preserve his seed in the land.*

AND there came <sup>a</sup>two <sup>b</sup>angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing *them* rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;

2 And he said, Behold now, my lords, turn in, I pray you, into your servant's house, and tarry all night, and <sup>a</sup>wash your feet, and ye shall rise up early, and go on your ways,

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2 And he said, Behold now, my lords, turn in, I pray you, into your servant's house, and tarry all night, and <sup>a</sup>wash your feet, and ye shall rise up early, and go on your ways. And they said, Nay; but we will abide in the street all night.

3 And he pressed upon them greatly; and they turned in unto him, and entered into his house; and he made them a <sup>a</sup>feast, and did bake <sup>b</sup>unleavened bread, and they did eat.

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 <sup>a</sup>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.

8 <sup>a</sup>Behold now, I have two <sup>b</sup>daughters which have not known man; 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 <sup>c</sup>came they under the shadow of my roof.

9 And they said, Stand back. And they said *again*, This one *fellow* came in to <sup>a</sup>sojourn, and he will needs be a judge: now will we deal worse with thee, than with them. And they pressed sore upon the man, *even* Lot, and came near to break the door.

10 But the men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door.

11 And they smote the men that *were* at the door of the house with <sup>a</sup>blindness, both small and great: so that they wearied themselves to find the door.

12 ¶ And <sup>a</sup>the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, <sup>b</sup>bring *them* out of this place:

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

14 And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, <sup>a</sup>get you <sup>b</sup>out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that <sup>c</sup>mocked unto his sons in law.

15 ¶ And when the morning arose, then the <sup>a</sup>angels hastened <sup>b</sup>Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city.

16 And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being <sup>a</sup>merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city.

17 ¶ And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; <sup>a</sup>look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the <sup>b</sup>mountain, lest thou be consumed.

18 And Lot said unto them, Oh, not so, my Lord:

19 Behold now, thy servant hath found <sup>a</sup>grace in thy sight, and thou hast magnified thy mercy, which thou hast shewed unto me in saving my life; and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me, and I die:

20 Behold now, this city *is* near to flee unto, and it *is* a little one: Oh, let me escape thither, (*is* it not a little one?) and my soul shall live.

21 And he said unto him, See, I have <sup>a</sup>accepted thee concerning this thing also, that I will not overthrow this city, for the which thou hast spoken.

22 Haste thee, escape thither; for I cannot do any thing till thou be come thither. Therefore the name of the city was called <sup>a</sup>Zoar.

23 ¶ The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar.

24 Then the LORD rained upon <sup>a</sup>Sodom and upon <sup>b</sup>Gomorrah <sup>c</sup>brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven;

25 And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

26 ¶ But his wife <sup>a</sup>looked back from behind him, and she became a <sup>b</sup>pillar of salt.

27 ¶ And Abraham gat up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the LORD:

28 And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the <sup>a</sup>smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace.

29 ¶ And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt.

30 ¶ And Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the <sup>a</sup>mountain, and his two daughters with him; for he feared to dwell in Zoar: and he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters.

31 And the <sup>a</sup>firstborn said unto the younger, Our father *is* old, and *there is* not a man in the earth to come in unto us after the manner of all the earth:

32 Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.

33 And they made their father drink wine that night: and the

### God Rescues Lot and Some of His Family

### God Destroys Sodom

### Lot's daughters devise a wicked plan

32<sup>b</sup> Isa. 65:8.

this kind of context as a

11<sup>a</sup> 2 Kgs. 6:18:

15<sup>a</sup> TG Angels.  
<sup>b</sup> 2 Pet. 2:7.

Gen. 13:10; 14:2 (2, 8).  
24<sup>a</sup> Gen. 13:10;

Deut. 29:23;  
Ezek. 16:50 (48–50).

2 And he said, Behold now, my lords, turn in, I pray you, into your servant's house, and tarry all night, and <sup>a</sup>wash your feet, and ye shall rise up early, and go on your ways. And they said, Nay; but we will abide in the street all night.

3 And he pressed upon them greatly; and they turned in unto him, and entered into his house; and he made them a <sup>a</sup>feast, and did bake <sup>b</sup>unleavened bread, and they did eat.

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 <sup>a</sup>know them.

11 And they smote the men that *were* at the door of the house with <sup>a</sup>blindness, both small and great: so that they wearied themselves to find the door.

12 ¶ And <sup>a</sup>the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, <sup>b</sup>bring *them* out of this place:

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

14 And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, <sup>a</sup>get you <sup>b</sup>out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that <sup>c</sup>mocked unto his sons in law.

found there. And he said, I will <sup>b</sup>not destroy *it* for ten's sake.

33 And the LORD <sup>a</sup>went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.

## CHAPTER 19

*Lot entertains holy men—The men of Sodom seek to abuse Lot's guests and are smitten with blindness—Lot is sent out of Sodom—The Lord rains brimstone and fire upon Sodom and Gomorrah—Lot's daughters preserve his seed in the land.*

AND there came <sup>a</sup>two <sup>b</sup>angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing *them* rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;

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.

8 <sup>a</sup>Behold now, I have two <sup>b</sup>daughters which have not known man; 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 <sup>c</sup>came they under the shadow of my roof.

9 And they said, Stand back. And they said *again*, This one *fellow* came in to <sup>a</sup>sojourn, and he will needs be a judge: now will we deal worse with thee, than with them. And they pressed sore upon the man, *even* Lot, and came near to break the door.

10 But the men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door.

bring them out unto us, that we may <sup>a</sup>know them.

seemed as one  
his sons in law

32 *b* Isa. 65:8.

33 *a* TG God, Body of,  
Corporeal Nature.

19 1 *a* JST Gen. 19:1 . . .  
*three* . . .

*b* HEB messengers.  
TG Angels.

2 *a* TG Wash.

3 *a* TG Hospitality.

*b* TG Bread. Unleavened.

5 *a* “Know” is used in both  
Hebrew and English in

this kind of context as a  
euphemism in place of  
a sexual word.

Judg. 19:22 (22–28);  
Isa. 3:9.

TG Homosexual  
Behavior.

8 *a* JST Gen. 19:9–15  
(Appendix).

*b* Judg. 19:24 (24–27).

*c* Gen. 18:5.

9 *a* Gen. 13:12.

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7 And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly.

8 <sup>a</sup>Behold now, I have two <sup>b</sup>daughters which have not known man; 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 <sup>c</sup>came they under the shadow of my roof.

9 And they said, Stand back. And they said *again*, This one *fellow* came in to <sup>a</sup>sojourn, and he will needs be a judge: now will we deal worse with thee, than with them. And they pressed sore upon the man, *even* Lot, and came near to break the door.

10 But the men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door.

11 And they smote the men that *were* at the door of the house with <sup>a</sup>blindness, both small and great:

## **JST, Genesis 19:9–15 (Appendix)**

**9 And they said unto him, Stand back. And they were angry with him.**

**10 And they said among themselves, This one man came in to sojourn among us, and he will needs now make himself to be a judge; now we will deal worse with him than with them.**

**11 Wherefore they said unto the man, We will have the men, and thy daughters also; and we will do with them as seemeth us good.**

**12 Now this was after the wickedness of Sodom.**

**13 And Lot said, Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man; let me, I pray you, plead with my brethren that I may not bring them out**

7 And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly.

8 <sup>a</sup>Behold now, I have two <sup>b</sup>daughters which have not known man; 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 <sup>c</sup>came they under the shadow of my roof.

9 And they said, Stand back. And they said *again*, This one *fellow* came in to <sup>a</sup>sojourn, and he will needs be a judge: now will we deal worse with thee, than with them. And they pressed sore upon the man, *even* Lot, and came near to break the door.

10 But the men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door.

11 And they smote the men that *were* at the door of the house with <sup>a</sup>blindness, both small and great:

12 Now this was after the wickedness of Sodom.

13 And Lot said, Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man; let me, I pray you, plead with my brethren that I may not bring them out unto you; and ye shall not do unto them as seemeth good in your eyes;

14 For God will not justify his servant in this thing; wherefore, let me plead with my brethren, this once only, that unto these men ye do nothing, that they may have peace in my house; for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof.

15 And they were angry with Lot and came near to break the door, but the angels of God, which were holy men, put forth their hand and pulled Lot into the house unto them, and shut the door.

hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door.

11 And they smote the men that *were* at the door of the house with <sup>a</sup>blindness, both small and great: so that they wearied themselves to find the door.

12 ¶ And <sup>a</sup>the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, <sup>b</sup>bring *them* out of this place:

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

14 And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, <sup>a</sup>get you <sup>b</sup>out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that <sup>c</sup>mocked unto his sons in law.

15 ¶ And when the morning arose, then the <sup>a</sup>angels hastened <sup>b</sup>Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city.

16 And while **he lingered**, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being <sup>a</sup>merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city.

17 ¶ And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; <sup>a</sup>look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the <sup>b</sup>mountain, lest thou be consumed.

18 And Lot said unto them, Oh, not so, my Lord:

19 Behold now, thy servant hath found <sup>a</sup>grace in thy sight, and thou hast magnified thy mercy, which

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24 Then the LORD rained upon <sup>a</sup>Sodom and upon <sup>b</sup>Gomorrah <sup>c</sup>brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven;

25 And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

26 ¶ But his wife <sup>a</sup>looked back from behind him, and she became a <sup>b</sup>pillar of salt.

27 ¶ And Abraham gat up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the LORD:

28 And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the <sup>a</sup>smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace.

29 ¶ And it came to pass, when



**“Apparently what was wrong with Lot’s wife was that she wasn’t just looking back; in her heart she wanted to go back. ...**

**“It is possible that Lot’s wife looked back with resentment toward the Lord for what He was asking her to leave behind”**

**“I plead with you not to dwell on days now gone, nor to yearn vainly for yesterdays, however good those yesterdays may have been. The past is to be learned from but not lived in. We look back to claim the embers from glowing experiences but not the ashes. And when we have learned what we need to learn and have brought with us the best that we have experienced, then we look ahead, we remember that faith is always pointed toward the future. Faith always has to do with blessings and truths and events that will yet be efficacious in our lives. So a more theological way to talk about Lot’s wife is to say that she did not have faith. She doubted the Lord’s ability to give her something better than she already had. Apparently she thought—fatally, as it turned out—that nothing that lay ahead could possibly be as good as those moments she was leaving behind”**

*(Jeffrey R. Holland, “Remember Lot’s Wife” [Brigham Young University devotional, Jan. 13, 2009], 2, [speeches.byu.edu](https://speeches.byu.edu)).*

24 Then the LORD rained upon<sup>a</sup> Sodom and upon<sup>b</sup> Gomorrah<sup>c</sup> brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven;

25 And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

26 ¶ But his wife<sup>a</sup> looked back from behind him, and she became a<sup>b</sup> pillar of salt.

27 ¶ And Abraham gat up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the LORD:

28 And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the<sup>a</sup> smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace.

29 ¶ And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the



**Luke 17:28–32**

**“...let him likewise not return back.  
Remember Lot’s wife.”**

God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt.

30 ¶ And Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the <sup>a</sup>mountain, and his two daughters with him; for he feared to dwell in Zoar: and he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters.

31 And the <sup>a</sup>firstborn said unto the younger, Our father *is* old, and *there is* not a man in the earth to come in unto us after the manner of all the earth:

32 Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.

33 And they made their father drink wine that night: and the

**Lot's daughters devise a wicked plan**

firstborn went in, and lay with her father; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose.

34 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the firstborn said unto the younger, Behold, I lay yesternight with my father: let us make him drink wine this night also; and go thou in, *and* lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.

35 <sup>a</sup>And they made their father drink wine that night also: and the younger arose, and lay with him; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose.

36 Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father.

37 And the firstborn bare a son, and called his name <sup>a</sup>Moab: the same *is* the father of the <sup>b</sup>Moabites unto this day.

38 And the younger, she also bare a son, and called his name Ben-ammi: the same *is* the father of the children of <sup>a</sup>Ammon unto this day.

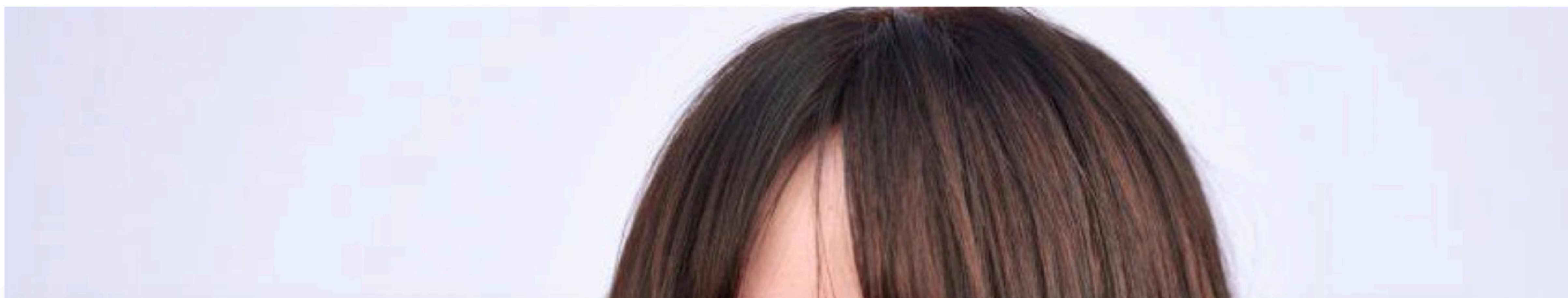
Gen. 13:10; 14:2 (2, 8).  
Gen. 13:10;  
Isa. 13:19.

Deut. 29:23;  
Ezek. 16:50 (48–50).  
26 <sup>a</sup> Gen. 19:17.

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# Billie Eilish says porn exposure while young caused nightmares

🕒 14 December 2021



**Singer Billie Eilish has described how she suffered nightmares after being exposed to "abusive" pornography from the age of 11.**

Speaking on SiriusXM, the 19-year-old said she is now "devastated" to reflect on her exposure to the content.

Eilish said the experience led her to "not say no to things that were not good" when she began having sex.

"It was because I thought that's what I was supposed to be attracted to," the Grammy Award-winner said.

Eilish, who is about to turn 20, has spent much of her teenage life in the public eye. She forged a reputation for wearing a baggy style of dress and has regularly spoken about body image and being sexualised while growing up.

The topic of pornography came up in the interview as it is referenced in a song, Male Fantasy, on her album Happier Than Ever.

certainly no champion of family values, having [recently offered](#) an obscene denunciation of the Texas abortion law in the name of women's rights, and Howard Stern—it seems safe to assume—is not about to turn into an anti-pornography crusader anytime soon. But this makes Eilish's interview that much more striking: the pandemic of pornography, especially among children, has reached such disastrous proportions that nearly everyone can see there's a problem—although few seem prepared to admit how deep the problem goes.

Eilish confessed that she had first been exposed to pornography at age 11, and, thinking she was supposed to like it and the acts it depicted, became hooked for a time. Now, she says, [“As a woman, I think porn is a disgrace. I think it really destroyed my brain and I feel incredibly devastated that I was exposed to so much porn.... I'm so angry that porn is so loved, and I'm so angry at myself for thinking that it was OK.”](#) She went on to lament the ways in which pornography gives viewers a fundamentally distorted perception of human sexuality, depicting as “normal” behaviors that are anything but, and leaving children—who have nothing else to go on—permanently confused about the purpose of sex.

Eilish is surely right in her diagnosis, but it is striking that in her remarks, and much of the reporting about them, the focus has revolved around issues of “consent.” The BBC, for instance, [admonishes](#) us that UNICEF warns “that pornography that portrays abusive and misogynistic acts can lead to

# COME FOLLOW ME: OLD TESTAMENT





firstborn went in, and lay with her father; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose.

34 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the firstborn said unto the younger, Behold, I lay yesternight with my father: let us make him drink wine this night also; and go thou in, *and* lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.

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36 Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father.

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CHAPTER 20

*Abimelech desires Sarah, who is preserved by the Lord—Abraham prays for Abimelech, and the Lord blesses him and his household.*

AND Abraham journeyed from thence toward the south country, and dwelled between Kadesh and <sup>a</sup>Shur, and sojourned in <sup>b</sup>Gerar.

2 And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, She *is* my sister: and <sup>a</sup>Abimelech king of Gerar sent, and took Sarah.

3 But <sup>a</sup>God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, Behold, thou *art but* a dead man, for the woman which thou hast taken; for she *is* a man's wife.

4 But Abimelech had not come

near her: and he said, Lord, wilt thou slay also <sup>a</sup>a righteous nation?

5 Said he not unto me, She *is* my <sup>a</sup>sister? and she, even she herself said, He *is* my <sup>b</sup>brother: in the <sup>c</sup>integrity of my heart and innocency of my hands have I done this.

6 And God said unto him in a dream, Yea, I know that thou didst this in the integrity of thy heart; for I also withheld thee from sinning against me: therefore suffered I thee not to touch her.

7 Now therefore restore the man *his* wife; for he *is* a prophet, and he shall <sup>a</sup>pray for thee, and thou shalt live: and if thou restore *her* not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that *are* thine.

8 Therefore Abimelech rose early in the morning, and called all his servants, and told all these things in their ears: and the men were sore afraid.

9 Then <sup>a</sup>Abimelech called Abraham, and said unto him, What hast thou <sup>b</sup>done unto us? and what have I offended thee, that thou hast brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? thou hast <sup>c</sup>done deeds unto me that ought not to be done.

10 And Abimelech said unto Abraham, What sawest thou, that thou hast done this thing?

11 And Abraham said, Because I thought, Surely the <sup>a</sup>fear of God *is* not in this place; and they will slay me for my wife's sake.

12 And yet indeed *she is* my <sup>a</sup>sister; she *is* the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife.

13 And it came to pass, when God caused me to <sup>a</sup>wander from my father's house, that I said unto her, This *is* thy <sup>b</sup>kindness which thou

shalt shew unto me; at every place whither we shall come, say of me, He *is* my brother.

14 And Abimelech took sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and womenservants, and gave *them* unto Abraham, and restored him Sarah his wife.

15 And Abimelech said, Behold, my <sup>a</sup>land *is* before thee: dwell where it pleaseth thee.

16 And unto Sarah he said, Behold, I have given thy <sup>a</sup>brother a thousand *pieces* of silver: behold, he *is* to thee a covering of the eyes, unto all that *are* with thee, and with all *other*: thus she was reprov'd.

17 ¶ So Abraham prayed unto God: and God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maidservants; and they bare *children*.

18 For the LORD had fast <sup>a</sup>closed up all the wombs of the house of Abimelech, because of Sarah Abraham's wife.

CHAPTER 21

*Sarah bears Isaac—He is circumcised—Hagar and her son are cast out of Abraham's household—The Lord saves Hagar and Ishmael—Abraham and Abimelech deal honorably with each other.*

AND the LORD <sup>a</sup>visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did unto <sup>b</sup>Sarah as he had spoken.

2 For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a <sup>a</sup>son in his <sup>b</sup>old age, at the set <sup>c</sup>time of which God had spoken to him.

3 And Abraham called the name of his <sup>a</sup>son that was born unto

him, whom Sarah bare to him, Isaac.

4 And Abraham <sup>a</sup>circumcised his son Isaac being eight days old, as God had commanded him.

5 And Abraham was an <sup>a</sup>hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him.

6 ¶ And Sarah said, God hath made me to <sup>a</sup>laugh, so *that* all that hear will laugh with me.

7 And she said, Who would have said unto Abraham, that Sarah should have given children suck? for I have born *him* a son in his <sup>a</sup>old age.

8 And the child grew, and was weaned: and Abraham made a great feast the *same* day that Isaac was weaned.

9 ¶ And Sarah saw the son of <sup>a</sup>Hagar the Egyptian, which she had <sup>b</sup>born unto Abraham, <sup>c</sup>mocking.

10 Wherefore she said unto Abraham, <sup>a</sup>Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be <sup>b</sup>heir with my son, *even* with Isaac.

11 And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight because of his <sup>a</sup>son.

12 ¶ And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in <sup>a</sup>Isaac shall thy <sup>b</sup>seed be called.

13 And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a <sup>a</sup>nation, because he *is* thy seed.

14 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread, and a bottle of water, and gave *it* unto

35a JST Gen. 19:39 And

3a Ps. 105:14.

W of M 1:8; Moro. 9:22.

15a Gen. 34:10.  
16a Gen. 20:5.  
18a Gen. 12:17.

21 1a Gen. 30:22 (22–23);  
1 Sam. 2:21.

4a TG Circumcision.  
5a Gen. 17:17.  
6a The Hebrew root

*tzachak* means both "to laugh" and "to rejoice"

b Gen. 16:15.  
c Gal. 4:29.  
10a Gal. 4:30.

b D&C 52:2.  
11a Gen. 17:18.

## English Standard Version

To Sarah he said, "Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver. It is a sign of your innocence in the eyes of all who are with you, and before everyone you are vindicated."

Abraham, and restored him Sarah his wife.

15 And Abimelech said, Behold, my <sup>a</sup>land is before thee: dwell where it pleaseth thee.

16 And unto Sarah he said, Behold, I have given thy <sup>a</sup>brother a thousand *pieces* of silver: behold, he *is* to thee a covering of the eyes, unto all that *are* with thee, and with all *other*: thus she was reproved.

17 ¶ So Abraham prayed unto God: and God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maidservants; and they bare *children*.

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# COME FOLLOW ME: OLD TESTAMENT





## **Thomas S. Monson**

**“The greatest lesson we can learn in mortality is that when God speaks and we obey, we will always be right”**

*(Thomas S. Monson, “They Marked the Path to Follow,” Ensign, Oct. 2007, 7).*

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30 And he said, For *these* seven ewe lambs shalt thou take of my hand, that they may be a witness unto me, that I have digged this <sup>a</sup>well.

31 Wherefore he called that place <sup>a</sup>Beer-sheba; because there they sware both of them.

32 Thus they made a covenant at Beer-sheba: <sup>a</sup>then Abimelech rose up, and Phichol the chief captain of his host, and they returned into the land of the Philistines.

33 ¶ And *Abraham* planted a <sup>a</sup>grove in Beer-sheba, and <sup>b</sup>called there on the name of the LORD, the <sup>c</sup>everlasting God.

34 And Abraham sojourned in the <sup>a</sup>'Philistines' land many days.

## CHAPTER 22

*Abraham is commanded to sacrifice Isaac, his son—Both father and son yield to the will of God—Abraham's seed will be as the stars and the sand in number—In his seed, all nations will be blessed—Rebekah is born to Bethuel.*

AND it came to pass after these

### A Treaty with Abimelech

### Abraham Commanded by God to Sacrifice Isaac

things, that God did <sup>a</sup>tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, *here I am*.

2 And he said, <sup>a</sup>Take now thy son, thine <sup>b</sup>only son Isaac, whom thou <sup>c</sup>lovest, and get thee into the land of <sup>a</sup>Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

3 ¶ And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the <sup>a</sup>wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.

4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.

5 And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and <sup>a</sup>worship, and come again to you.

6 And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and <sup>a</sup>laid *it* upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together.

7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, <sup>a</sup>Here *am* I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where *is* the lamb for a burnt offering?

8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a <sup>a</sup>lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and

<sup>a</sup>laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the <sup>b</sup>altar upon the wood.

10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

11 And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here *am* I.

12 And he said, <sup>a</sup>Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou <sup>b</sup>fearest God, seeing thou hast not <sup>c</sup>withheld thy son, thine only son from me.

13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind *him* a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

14 And Abraham called the name of that place <sup>a</sup>Jehovah-jireh: as it is said *to this day*, <sup>b</sup>In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

15 ¶ And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time,

16 And said, By myself have I <sup>a</sup>sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:

17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy <sup>a</sup>seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the <sup>b</sup>sand which *is* upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the <sup>c</sup>gate of his enemies;

18 And in thy <sup>a</sup>seed shall all the nations of the earth be <sup>b</sup>blessed;

14a Gen. 25:6.

b Gen. 26:26.

33: 46:1.

22 1a HEB test, or prove. D&C 136:31. TG Test.

2a D&C 132:36. b John 3:16 (16–21); Jacob 4:5.

D&C 76:85. TG Jesus Christ, Types of, in Anticipation; Passover.

9a James 2:21. b TG Sacrifice

16a Ex. 32:13; Deut. 1:11; Ps. 105:9.

17a Gen. 13:16 (14–16); Isa. 48:19 (18–22); 1 Ne. 20:19 (18–22).

TG Abrahamic Covenant

## Test or Prove



Abraham Commanded by God to Sacrifice Isaac

things, that God did <sup>a</sup>tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, *here I am*.

2 And he said, <sup>a</sup>Take now thy son, thine <sup>b</sup>only son Isaac, whom thou <sup>c</sup>lovest, and get thee into the land of <sup>d</sup>Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

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4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.

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9 And they came to the place

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by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

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16 And said, By myself have I <sup>a</sup>sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only *son*:

17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy <sup>a</sup>seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the <sup>b</sup>sand which *is* upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the <sup>c</sup>gate of his enemies;

18 And in thy <sup>a</sup>seed shall all the nations of the earth be <sup>b</sup>blessed;

<sup>a</sup>laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the <sup>b</sup>altar upon the wood.

10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

11 And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here *am* I.

12 And he said, <sup>a</sup>Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou <sup>b</sup>fearest God, seeing thou hast not <sup>c</sup>withheld thy son, thine only *son* from me.

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## Neal A. Maxwell

**“The submission of one’s will is really the only uniquely personal thing we have to place on God’s altar. The many other things we ‘give,’ brothers and sisters, are actually the things He has already given or loaned to us. However, when you and I finally submit ourselves, by letting our individual wills be swallowed up in God’s will, then we are really giving something to Him!”**

*(Neal A. Maxwell, “Swallowed Up in the Will of the Father,” Oct 1995 GC, Ensign, Nov. 1995, 24).*

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**What are you willing to put  
on the altar for God?**



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18 And in thy <sup>a</sup>seed shall all the nations of the earth be <sup>b</sup>blessed;

because thou hast <sup>c</sup>obeyed my voice.

19 So Abraham returned unto his young men, and they rose up and went together to Beer-sheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beer-sheba.

20 ¶ And it came to pass after these things, that it was told Abraham, saying, Behold, <sup>a</sup>Milcah, she hath also born children unto thy brother Nahor;

21 Huz his firstborn, and Buz his brother, and Kemuel the father of Aram,

22 And Chesed, and Hazo, and Pildash, and Jidlaph, and Bethuel.

23 And <sup>a</sup>Bethuel begat <sup>b</sup>Rebekah: these eight Milcah did bear to Nahor, Abraham's <sup>c</sup>brother.

24 And his concubine, whose name *was* Reumah, she bare also Tebah, and Gaham, and Thahash, and Maachah.

## CHAPTER 23

*Sarah dies and is buried in the cave of Machpelah, which Abraham buys from Ephron the Hittite.*

AND Sarah was an hundred and seven and twenty years old: *these were* the years of the life of Sarah.

2 And Sarah <sup>a</sup>died in Kirjath-arba; the same is <sup>b</sup>Hebron in the land of Canaan: and Abraham came to mourn for Sarah, and to weep for her.

3 ¶ And Abraham stood up from before his dead, and spake unto the sons of Heth, saying,

4 I *am* <sup>a</sup>a stranger and a sojourner with you: give me a possession of a buryingplace with you, that I may bury my <sup>b</sup>dead out of my sight.

5 And the children of Heth answered Abraham, saying unto him,

6 Hear us, my lord: thou *art* <sup>a</sup>a mighty prince among us: in the choice of our sepulchres bury thy

dead; none of us shall withhold from thee his sepulchre, but that thou mayest bury thy dead.

7 And Abraham stood up, and bowed himself to the people of the land, *even* to the children of Heth.

8 And he communed with them, saying, If it be your mind that I should bury my dead out of my sight; hear me, and entreat for me to Ephron the son of Zohar,

9 That he may give me the cave of <sup>a</sup>Machpelah, which he hath, which is in the end of his field; for as much money as it is worth he shall give it me for a possession of a burying-place amongst you.

10 And Ephron dwelt among the children of Heth: and Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the audience of the children of Heth, *even* of all that went in at the <sup>a</sup>gate of his city, saying,

11 Nay, my lord, hear me: the field give I thee, and the cave that is therein, I give it thee; in the presence of the sons of my people give I it thee: bury thy dead.

12 And Abraham bowed down himself before the people of the land.

13 And he spake unto Ephron in the audience of the people of the land, saying, But if thou *wilt give it*, I pray thee, hear me: I will give thee money for the field; take *it* of me, and I will bury my dead there.

14 And Ephron answered Abraham, saying unto him,

15 My lord, hearken unto me: the land is *worth* four hundred <sup>a</sup>shekels of silver; what is that betwixt me and thee? bury therefore thy dead.

16 And Abraham hearkened unto <sup>a</sup>Ephron; and Abraham <sup>b</sup>weighed to <sup>c</sup>Ephron the silver, which he had named in the audience of the sons of Heth, four hundred shekels of silver, current *money* with the merchant.

22 1a HEB test, or prove.

D&C 136:31.

TG Test.

2a D&C 132:36.

b John 3:16 (16, 21).

D&C 76:85.

TG Jesus Christ, Types of, in Anticipation;

Passover.

9a James 2:21

16a Ex. 32:13; Deut. 1:11;

Ps. 105:9.

17a Gen. 13:16 (14-16);

Isa. 48:19 (18-22);

1 Ne. 20:19 (18, 22)

18c TG Obedience.

23 2a Gen. 24:67.

10a Gen. 34:20; Ruth 4:1.

# COME FOLLOW ME: OLD TESTAMENT



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17 ¶ And the field of <sup>a</sup>Ephron, which *was* in Machpelah, which *was* before Mamre, the field, and the cave which *was* therein, and all the trees that *were* in the field, that *were* in all the borders round about, were made sure

18 Unto Abraham for a possession in the presence of the children of Heth, before all that went in at the gate of his city.

19 And after this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah before Mamre: the same *is* <sup>a</sup>Hebron in the land of Canaan.

20 And the field, and the cave that *is* therein, were made sure unto Abraham for a possession of a buryingplace by the sons of Heth.

#### CHAPTER 24

*Abraham commands that Isaac shall not marry a Canaanite—The Lord guides Abraham's servant in choosing Rebekah as a wife for Isaac—Rebekah is blessed to be the mother of thousands of millions—She marries Isaac.*

AND Abraham was old, *and* well <sup>a</sup>stricken in age: and the LORD had <sup>b</sup>blessed Abraham in all <sup>c</sup>things.

2 And Abraham said unto his eldest <sup>a</sup>servant of his house, that ruled over all that he had, Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my <sup>b</sup>thigh:

3 And I will make thee <sup>a</sup>swear by the LORD, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that thou shalt <sup>b</sup>not take a <sup>c</sup>wife unto my son of the daughters of the <sup>a</sup>Canaanites, among whom I dwell:

4 But thou shalt go unto my

<sup>a</sup>country, and to my <sup>b</sup>kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac.

5 And the servant said unto him, <sup>a</sup>Peradventure the woman will not be willing to follow me unto this land: must I needs bring thy son again unto the land from whence thou camest?

6 And Abraham said unto him, Beware thou that thou bring not my son thither again.

7 ¶ The <sup>a</sup>LORD God of heaven, which took me from my <sup>b</sup>father's house, and from the land of my kindred, and which spake unto me, and that sware unto me, saying, Unto thy seed will I give this <sup>c</sup>land; he shall send his <sup>a</sup>angel before thee, and thou shalt take a wife unto my son from thence.

8 And if the woman will not be willing to follow thee, then thou shalt be clear from this my oath: only bring not my son thither again.

9 And the servant put his hand under the <sup>a</sup>thigh of Abraham his master, and sware to him concerning that matter.

10 ¶ And the servant took ten camels of the camels of his master, and departed; for all the goods of his master *were* in his hand: and he arose, and went to <sup>a</sup>Mesopotamia, unto the city of <sup>b</sup>Nahor.

11 And he made his camels to kneel down without the city by a well of water at the time of the evening, *even* the time that women go out to draw *water*.

12 And he said, O <sup>a</sup>LORD God of my master Abraham, I pray thee, <sup>b</sup>send me good speed this day, and shew kindness unto my master Abraham.

### Sarah's Death and Burial

18c TG Obedience.

23 2a Gen. 24:67.

10a Gen. 34:20; Ruth 4:1.

17a Gen. 50:13;  
Acts 7:16.

19a Gen. 23:2.

24 1a IE advanced in age.

1 Ne. 18:17;  
Alma 1:9.

b Isa. 51:2.

Hel. 1:11;

3 Ne. 3:8;

Ether 8:14 (13–14).

TG Oath.

b Moses 7:8 (7–8);

Abr. 1:22 (21–24).

c TG Marriage, Interfaith.

7a Gen. 24:40.

b Gen. 12:1.

c TG Promised Lands.

d TG Angels.

9a JST Gen. 24:8 . . . *hand* . . .

10a HEB *Aram-naharaim*; i.e.,  
Aram of the two rivers.



**“Another Oriental [Eastern] custom is that of bargaining. One evening a good friend of mine, a Jerusalem shopkeeper, told me that he didn’t get a bit of fun out of charging Americans, unschooled in bargaining, many times more than an article was worth. He appreciated their money, but he would rather bargain with them.**

**“Westerners may be surprised to know that the account of Abraham’s purchase of the field of Ephron, with the cave in which to bury Sarah, is in reality a description of an ancient bargaining scene. When Abraham assured his Hittite friends that he would pay Ephron “as much money as it is worth,” Ephron stepped forward and said, “Nay, my lord, hear me: the field give I thee, and the cave that is therein, I give it thee; in the presence of the sons of my people give I it thee: bury thy dead.” (Gen. 23:9–11.)**

**“Most readers think that Ephron was a most kind and generous man in offering the field and cave to Abraham for nothing. Actually his words were nothing but a polite gesture to a customer. Observe that Abraham finally paid the four hundred shekels proposed by Ephron for his property. (See Gen. 23:13–16.)”**

*Sidney B. Sperry, “Hebrew Manners and Customs,” Ensign, May, 1972.*

and Maachah.

## CHAPTER 23

*Sarah dies and is buried in the cave of Machpelah, which Abraham buys from Ephron the Hittite.*

AND Sarah was an hundred and seven and twenty years old: *these were the years of the life of Sarah.*

2 And Sarah <sup>a</sup>died in Kirjath-arba; the same is <sup>b</sup>Hebron in the land of Canaan: and Abraham came to mourn for Sarah, and to weep for her.

3 ¶ And Abraham stood up from before his dead, and spake unto the sons of Heth, saying,

4 I *am* <sup>a</sup>a stranger and a sojourner with you: give me a possession of a buryingplace with you, that I may bury my <sup>b</sup>dead out of my sight.

5 And the children of Heth an-

of his city, saying,

11 Nay, my lord, hear me: the field give I thee, and the cave that is therein, I give it thee; in the presence of the sons of my people give I it thee: bury thy dead.

12 And Abraham bowed down himself before the people of the land.

13 And he spake unto Ephron in the audience of the people of the land, saying, But if thou *wilt give it*, I pray thee, hear me: I will give thee money for the field; take *it* of me, and I will bury my dead there.

14 And Ephron answered Abraham, saying unto him,

15 My lord, hearken unto me: the land *is worth* four hundred <sup>a</sup>shekels of silver; what *is that betwixt me and thee?* bury therefore thy dead.

16 And Abraham hearkened unto <sup>a</sup>Ephron; and Abraham <sup>b</sup>weighed to