

Jude 7- Sodom and Gomorrah as an Example of Judgment for False Teachers

^{NKJ} **Jude 1:6** And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; ⁷ **as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.**

- Jude continues the tradition of using Sodom as an example of those who were judged for their sin (Deut 29:23; Isa 1:9; **3:9**; 13:19; **Jer 23:14**; 49:18; 50:40; Lam 4:6; Amos 4:11; Zeph 2:9; Mat 10:15; 11:23-24; Luke 17:29). These are those “who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into **lewdness**” (Jude 4).
- Jude uses “as” to connect the type of sin of the angels with the sins at Sodom and Gomorrah.
- The sin of the angels is “similar” to the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah as involving sexual immorality (unnatural flesh)
- Both the fallen angels and Sodom are set forth as an example of suffering the vengeance of eternal fire (this is quality of the fire in that it includes a sense of finality).

Antiquities of the Jews 1:200 And when God had replied that there was no good man among the Sodomites, for if there were but ten such man among them, he would not punish any of them for their sins, Abraham held his peace. And the angels came to the city of the Sodomites, and Lot entreated them to accept lodging with him; for he was a very generous, and hospitable man, and one that had learned to imitate the goodness of Abraham. Now, when the Sodomites saw the young men to be of beautiful countenances, and this to an extraordinary degree, and that they took up their lodgings with Lot, they resolved themselves to **enjoy these beautiful boys by force and violence**; ²⁰¹ and when Lot exhorted them to sobriety, and not to offer anything immodest to the strangers, but to have regard to their lodging in his house; and promised, that if their **inclinations** could not be governed, he would expose his daughters to **their lust** instead of these strangers--neither thus were they made ashamed. (Josephus, Ant 1:200-201)

Testament of Naphtali 3:1-4 Therefore, do not be eager to corrupt your deeds through greediness or with empty words to deceive your souls; because if you keep silence in purity of heart, you will understand how to hold fast to the will of God, and to cast away the will of the devil. ² Sun and moon and stars do not **change their order**; so you also should not change the law of God in the **disorder** of your deeds. ³ The nations went astray, and abandoned the Lord, and **changed their order**, and obeyed trees and stones, following spirits of error. ⁴ But you will not be so, my children, recognizing in the firmament, in the earth, and in the sea, and in all created things, the Lord who made all things, that you not become like Sodom, which **changed the order of their nature**.

- The sin attributed to Sodom is that of going beyond the natural created order. The Greek word for “nature” in verse 4 is the same word that appears in Romans 1 in speaking of homosexual sins.
- More modern interpretations include the sin of not offering the expected cultural hospitality to strangers. See Ezekiel 16:49 for list of sins attributed to Sodom.
- The apostates and false teachers are sure to be judged just as others have been in the past for their sins.

The readers of Jude need to remember this, contend earnestly for the faith, and to not be connected with the false teachers.

Romans 1:26-27 For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the **natural** use for what is against **nature**. ²⁷ Likewise also the men, leaving the **natural** use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

- Is the Bible really unclear concerning God’s view of homosexuality?
- **Leviticus 18:22** 'You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination.'
- **Leviticus 20:13** If a man has sexual intercourse with a male as one has sexual intercourse with a woman, the two of them have committed an abomination. They must be put to death; their blood guilt is on themselves.

- **1 Corinthians 6:9** Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived! Fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, passive **homosexual partners, practicing homosexuals**,¹⁰ thieves, the greedy, drunkards, the verbally abusive, and swindlers will not inherit the kingdom of God.
- **1 Timothy 1:9** realizing that law is not intended for a righteous person, but for lawless and rebellious people, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers,¹⁰ sexually immoral people, **practicing homosexuals**, kidnappers, liars, perjurers— in fact, for any who live contrary to sound teaching.

What should the Biblical response be to the sin of homosexuality and our culture's increasing acceptance and tolerance?

- It is sin, but not the unpardonable sin. According to 1 Cor 6:10 there are those who *were* previous practicing this and are now washed clean and forgiven.
- It is true that for some it is a deliberate choice and others are born with a propensity towards these temptations.

¹⁸"But the things that come out of the mouth come from the **heart**, and these things defile a person. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil ideas, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. ²⁰ These are the things that defile a person" (Matthew 15:18-20)

"The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?" (Jeremiah 17:9)

Luke 17:20-37- Jesus' application and warning of the Days of Noah and Sodom and Gomorrah

²⁰ Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation;

²¹ "nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."

²² Then He said to the disciples, "The days will come when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see *it*."

²³ "And they will say to you, 'Look here!' or 'Look there!' Do not go after *them* or follow *them*."

²⁴ "For as the lightning that flashes out of one *part* under heaven shines to the other *part* under heaven, so also the Son of Man will be in His day."

²⁵ "But first He must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation."

²⁶ "And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man:

²⁷ "They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all."

²⁸ "Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built;

²⁹ "but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed *them* all."

³⁰ "Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed."

³¹ "In that day, he who is on the housetop, and his goods *are* in the house, let him not come down to take them away. And likewise the one who is in the field, let him not turn back."

³² "Remember Lot's wife."

³³ "Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it."

³⁴ "I tell you, in that night there will be two *men* in one bed: the one will be taken and the other will be left."

³⁵ "Two *women* will be grinding together: the one will be taken and the other left."

³⁶ "Two *men* will be in the field: the one will be taken and the other left."

³⁷ And they answered and said to Him, "Where, Lord?" So He said to them, "Wherever the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together."