

**A Study of The Epistle of 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter**  
**Theme: "Grow in Grace and Knowledge"**

Trinity Lutheran Church - Norman, OK.

Pastor David R. Nehrenz – [www.tlcnorman.org](http://www.tlcnorman.org)

**Lesson: 12 Chapter 2:6-11 Date: 10-17-21**



**BIBLE TEXT and STUDY NOTES**

*(4) For if **God** did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment; (5) if **he did not spare the ancient world**, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly;*

(6) if by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes **he condemned them** to extinction, making them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; (7) and if **he rescued righteous Lot**, greatly distressed by the sensual conduct of the wicked (8) (for as that righteous man lived among them day after day, he was tormenting his righteous soul over their lawless deeds that he saw and heard);

**(Genesis 18:16 – 19:29; Job 22:16; Num 26:10;**

**Ps 119:136,158; Ezek 9:4;**

**Mt 10:15; 11:23,24; 25:41; Rom 9:29;**

**1 Tim 3:6; Heb 11:4-7; Jude 6,7,15; Rev 20:1,2,3,11-15)**

(9) then **the Lord** knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until **the day of judgment**, (10) and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority. Bold and willful, they do not tremble as they blaspheme the glorious ones, (11) whereas angels, though greater in might and power, do not pronounce a blasphemous judgment against them before **the Lord**.

**(Ex 22:28; Ps 37:33; Rom 15:31; 1 Cor 10:13;**

**Heb 13:17; Jude 8-9, 16-18; Rev 3:10)**

6. *If by turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes He condemned them to extinction.*

This is the third example, how the five cities were destroyed, as is told in Gen. 19:24–25. The prophet Ezekiel also speaks about this to the city of Jerusalem in chapter 16:49–50: “Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had pride, surfeit of food, and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy. They were haughty, and did abominable things before Me; therefore I removed them when I saw it.” Moses says that Sodom was “like the **garden of the Lord**” (Gen. 13:10), a fruitful land dripping with precious oil and wine and everything, so that everyone thought that God dwelt there.

Therefore the inhabitants were smug and led the kind of shameful life Moses describes. No particular person introduced this sin; it was prevalent because of the pert manner in which the people prided themselves on having an abundance of food and drink. Besides, they were lazy. As we still see, the richer cities are, the more shameful is the life that is lived there. But where hunger and sorrow reign, there sins are fewer. Therefore **God** lets those who are His work hard for a living in order that they may remain pious as they do so.

These are the three terrible examples with which St. Peter threatens the ungodly. Now since he impresses this on them, we must conclude that the same conditions prevail here. And this really applies to the spiritual estate: the pope, the cardinals, the bishops, the priests, the monks, the nuns, and all who adhere to them. Like the angels in the stead of the apostles, these are appointed to preach and proclaim **God’s Word**; for an *angelus* is a messenger or an ambassador who brings his message orally.

Therefore **Scripture** calls preachers *angeli*, that is, **messengers of God**. Our clergy should be such angels. But just as those angels fell away **from God**, exalted themselves above **God**, and wanted to be their own lords, so these do the same thing and retain no more than the name “messengers,” as those alone are called angels. Thus these, too, since they have fallen away from **God**, are now held in bonds of darkness and kept for damnation. St. Peter said above (v. 3) that “their condemnation has not been idle, and their destruction has not been asleep,” even though the punishment has not yet come upon them.

**NOTE:** The area of Sodom and Gomorrah is now where the DEAD SEA is located which is 15 times saltier than the ocean.

**See this webste:**

<https://answersingenesis.org/archaeology/destruction-sodom-future-judgment/>

### **LIFE APPLICATION**

How can we be the righteous ones who will be rescued from the final judgment?