

## **End-Time Babylon Rising; Abraham's Hospitality vs. the Sins of Sodom**

Our Father in heaven, we commit ourselves into your hands in the name of Yeshua Ha Meshiach. We ask you to open our minds and hearts to the true understanding of your word as we study together and continue to learn how to apply your instructions in our life according to your purpose and plan.

Brethren, welcome to Bible study. Autumn is such a beautiful time of the year. The air is crisp and the leaves on the trees are turning vivid colors of gold and red with contrasting green on the hillsides. Our yard is covered with a blanket of thick golden yellow leaves with more joining them daily. The compost pile is growing taller and looks promising for enriching next year's garden plot as we continue raking up the abundance of leaves. Despite the intense heat of the recent fire the volunteer pumpkin plants and cherry tomato plant have produced bountifully.

Tonight, is the time when many children in this world love to follow the custom of Halloween of dressing up in costumes and going house-to-house in their neighborhood "trick or treating" to gather goodies—collecting food, mostly various sweets and candies (in some cultures, money) with the phrase "Trick or treat". This custom has been around since the late 1920's in North America, and in Britain as far back as the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The "trick" is a threat (usually idle) to perform mischief on the homeowners or their property if no treat is given to them. The premise is about self and getting. When I was a boy sometimes a trash can was turned over, or windows were marked with soap and then the boys quickly ran away.

This festival comes down from the ancient Druids, a pagan cult, and is the Celtic festival of the dead (*Samhain*: Celtic Lord of the Dead in reference to Satan the devil) including witches, hobgoblins, and ghosts. In the ninth century, the Roman Catholic Church adopted this pagan holiday and shifted the date of All Saints' Day to November 1 and called it Christian. Later, November 2 became *All Souls' Day*. *Samhain* and All Saints'/All Souls' merged to create the modern Halloween. (For more information, read our article on Halloween).

Increasing degeneration seems to be what is happening in the world today and is highlighted by television programs. Movie channels and cable TV offer all kinds of stories on the supernatural esoteric adventures of zombies, vampires (number one in popularity just a few years ago), wizards, witches, warlocks, walking dead, plus occult specials and sorcery which people are choosing to feed their minds upon. Where is the good in that? Basically, the world has deviated from righteousness into a cesspool of wickedness. You can tell, just by watching television, although I don't recommend it.

Noah prophesied the flood was going to come upon the world and it did. Christ said in **Matthew 24:37-39** —“As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.” Various stories documenting the great flood of Noah have come from around the world and from many different ancient cultures including the western hemisphere (Incans, Mayan, and Toltec). Soon after the flood, Noah’s sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth repopulated the earth after leaving the ark. Within a few generations, Abraham was born.

**Genesis 12:1-5** — “The Lord said to Abram, ‘Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you.’” “Abram at 75 years of age departed as the Lord had spoken to him, taking Sarai his wife and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people whom they had acquired in Haran and they departed to go to the land of Canaan”. **Genesis 17:9** —“As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations.” So they came to the land of Canaan which God later promised to give him as an inheritance to him and his children forever. The land of Canaan included the entire region of the Middle East – from Egypt to the Euphrates River which is called the navel of the world. This was about the time of 2000 BC. Today, we are living in 2000 AD — 4,000 years later and the world has only become worse.

Michael Snyder (Economic Blog:10/30/15) —“In his most recent book, Jonathan Cahn has demonstrated that almost all of the major financial crashes in U.S. history are very closely tied to a seven year pattern that we find in the Bible known as the Shemitah.” Have you noticed that things are pretty quiet in October 2015, after all the hoopla about the Shemitah year when many anticipated that we would be dealing with a crisis—a full-blown financial collapse at this time? Instead, it appears that we are dealing with a rather dead calm. The saying “a calm before the storm,” typically refers to a period of relative quiet or relaxation prior to a time of intense activity or uproar. It may be true in this case with just a prelude before the real storm ahead.

The economic collapse did not occur, and we did not enter a global depression. But we have entered a global recession and that rarely makes headline news. Economic slow-down signs are emerging all around us indicating a global economic melt-down which is quietly spreading. It actually began in China who suffered a 40% collapse in its stock market this past summer. World economists and politicians are very worried about what lies ahead. Michael Savage, a conservative news commentator who hosts his own talk show, the *Savage Nation*, has been attacking the “black lives matter” movement in the U.S. and compares it to Hitler’s ‘brown shirts’ movement in Germany prior to WW II. Known as the **SA** (Hitler's Private Army), this was essentially a group of thugs that marched thorough the streets of Germany who were used to eliminate any opposing parties of Hitler by using violence and intimidation—threats and brutal beatings with clubs.

Michael Savage, states he is calling the *black lives matter movement* against policemen in American cities today, like it is —“President Obama’s private army *shock troops* who helped bring him to power, are now being used like the “brown shirts” Hitler used in Germany. Never forget what Hitler did in the beginning, as he was rising up to power, that resulted in the final take-over of several societies. Make no mistake about it. This is the private army that President Obama has been talking about and building in plain sight.” Savage says our nation’s future is threatened by these progressives and radical Islamists that he calls *dark forces* who are working independently to transform our once great nation and Republic into a Socialist Third World Dictatorship ruled over by *government zero*. It means that the government is absolute government control (totality) and the people are zero (no freedom or liberty). *Government Zero* is the title of Michael Savages’ new book.

*The Savage Nation* (10-29-15)—talk show host Michael Savage. “A major battle of war for the future of Western Civilization is occurring as millions of migrants from the Middle-East who largely oppose Judeo-Christian values and have no intention of assimilating are flooding the United States, Europe, France, Germany and other nations. The immigrants are winning the battle already. German Chancellor Angela Merkel is causing the undoing of Germany while the same wreckage is occurring in England and in France and President Obama is doing it to America as well. The millions of Muslims flooding into our country will render America as non-existent in less than 50 years. ‘Change is coming to America,’ Obama promised, but we didn’t know what kind of change it was.” He is instigating the invasion and changing America and Europe into a Muslim dominated world and dictatorship. According to Rush Limbaugh, it would also appear, that the Republican Party doesn’t want a conservative, nor any of their party contenders as president, but would rather see Hillary Clinton become our next president.

We need to realize that the hope for our future lies not in the politicians, but in Almighty God and Jesus Christ our Savior. A change in behavior as a nation—repentance is necessary for this nation, or become a slave. In Hebrew *gematria* (numerical values for the letters of the Hebrew alphabet), the name Hillary Rodham Clinton adds up to the numerical value of 666 as does the name, William Jefferson Clinton. Where have we seen that number before?

**Revelation 13:11-18**—John writes: “I saw another beast (coming up out of the earth...deceives those who dwell on the earth.” It uses signs...granted to do in the sight of the beast, tells those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast wounded by the sword and lived. This beast was granted *power* to give breath to the image of the beast (from the sea), that the image speak(s) and he causes as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.” He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads...No one may buy or sell except one who has the mark, the name or the number of his name. Causes all—small/great, rich / poor, free/slave—to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads. Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.”

*Article: (Menafn-Gulf Times–10.28.15) “Indonesia to join Trans Pacific Partnership.”* JokoWidodo's endorsement is a political victory for Obama, who aims to make TPP one of his signature achievements. Indonesia is the largest economy in Southeast Asia with the 257million population and the fourth largest open economy in the pact. Indonesia is the most populous Muslim majority nation in the world. The US-led initiative would encompass nearly 40% of the world's economy. Earlier this month, 12 Pacific Rim countries including Australia, Canada, Japan, Mexico, Vietnam and the United States created the world's largest free trade area and reached an agreement on the trade pact that will lift most duties on trade and investment, set new business standards and protect intellectual property rights, but President Obama is steering the already completed pact without the full backing of his Democratic party and the final text of the agreement or his side agreements have not yet been released to Congress or the American public.

China— now the top trade partner for Japan, Singapore, Australia and Korea—dominates East Asian trade with growing economic clout in the region and has an intensifying web of ‘free trade’ agreements throughout the region. Singapore and Australia have long been important American trade partners. But no partner of the TPP group is even in the top 10 of US export markets. As a group the TPP merchandise trade with the United States last year accounted for just 4.2 per cent of America’s trade. This is just another proof that America and the world are moving toward a *New World Order*.

With the series of interlocking international treaties and agreements being made between the governments of nations today, the world is becoming increasingly *globalized* and centralized as prophesied in the book of Revelation. A significant step was taken this year on September 25-27 at the UN conference when the United Nations launched Agenda 2030 for humanity and every UN member nation formally approved that the entire planet is voluntarily committed to work together toward 17 sustainable development goals and 169 specific sustainable development targets “ending poverty” and “fighting climate change” to bring peace and prosperity for the whole world. We are no longer a sovereign nation with constitutional rights and freedom, but have come under the dictatorial power and authority of the United Nations.

**2 Corinthians 6:14-18** —“Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said, I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God and they shall be my people. Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.”

Pope Francis expressed his sentiments and prayers for “my Muslim brothers and sisters” at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City (9.27.15) as they celebrated the Muslim Feast of Sacrifice in his efforts to unite Muslims and Christians marching toward a one world religion (*Chrislam*) under the New World Order. What if people won’t go along with that plan and refuse to give up their faith and refuse to unite or keep Sunday instead of the

seventh day Sabbath (Saturday) as do the Jews and others of us? The Muslims keep Friday each week. God says, “Keep the seventh day (Sabbath) holy,” not Friday the sixth day of the week and not Sunday the first day of the week. **Deuteronomy 5:13** and **Exodus 20:8-11** —“Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work:” Pope Francis has jumped on board the fast track heading toward the New World Order with President Obama and a one-world government. The United Nations 2030 Agenda endorsed by President Obama, Pope Francis and the U.N. General Assembly brings the world one giant step closer to true global governance. “Transforming Our World: The **2030 Agenda** for Sustainable Development,” the U.N. document approved Sunday in New York, includes in its preamble the call for a “new universal agenda” for all of humanity. The U.N. document focuses on ending poverty and gender inequality, combating climate change and opening up borders to migrants and refugees.

“But, remember, the elite who are behind this are experts at manufactured crisis and their motto is *ordo ab chaos*, which means ‘order out of chaos.’ This was a term coined by the Masonic leader Albert Pike. A New World Order will be birthed either by a financial crisis, the prospect of WW III involving Islam, Russia, NATO, Iran, Syria and Israel, or a manufactured climate change crisis. The only thing they are lacking right now is a sufficient crisis big enough to win enthusiastic public support in America and other nations in the world for full-on global governance,” says Paul McGuire, a Fox News and History Channel contributor and co-author of the new release, “Babylon Code: Solving the Bible’s Greatest End Time Mystery.”

The UN has stamped their approval on a 15 year plan, called 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The real agenda of the globalist elite through all these ‘sustainable development’ and ‘social justice’ programs are to create a “new global state.” This global *superstate* will be a cashless society and in order to buy and sell one will have to have the mark of the beast (**Rev.13**)—the mark of the New World Order system. McGuire says this whole sustainable program of the United Nations is really a ploy to replace capitalism and free enterprise with a global-socialist economic system, based on a resource allocation and energy usage. Our freedoms will be stripped away and people will be forced into economic bondage and slavery. According to McGuire this transformation of the world’s current economic system is completely untried and untested and dangerously absurd.

This is going to bring the collapse of modern society and WW III—**Revelation 18** and the fall of Babylon the Great. Author of The Babylon Code, McGuire, says that all the secret trade treaties being signed by our government with the other governments is really all about circumventing the *U.S. Constitution* and the Bill of Rights and placing the United States and its citizens under the rule of the United Nations’ rule of law. American citizens are asleep while the sovereignty of our country and its freedoms are being removed. McGuire says, “This is what happened when the planner of the European Union, Gene Monet, destroyed the national sovereignties of the European nations. They created ‘simple written trade treaties’ regarding coal and steel and would bury hidden legal language in those treaties regarding coal and steel. That began the process of the eroding and ending the legal rights and basic freedom of European nations in trade

treaties and literally forced them to give up their national sovereignty to the European Union—all done by stealth.” Now this stealth process is being repeated around the world.

**2 Thessalonians 2:6-8**—“And now ye know what withholds that he might be revealed in his time. For the *mystery of iniquity* doth already work: only he who now restrains it will do so until he be taken out of the way.” Christ shall destroy with the brightness of his coming, even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders. **Verses 9-11**—“Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause, God shall send them strong delusion, that they should *believe a lie* so that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Obama is not alone when he said at the United Nations —“Unless we work with other nations under the mantle of international norms and principles and law that offer legitimacy to our efforts, we will not succeed. (speech to the UN 9/28/15).” Obama, the Republicans and Democrats are moving away from the authority of US constitutional law and they are placing us under the authority of international law through a series of secret trade treaties that are not allowed to be read because they are top secret like the mysteries of the Masons. This agenda promises to radically affect the individual lives of ordinary Americans, yet they are being kept in the dark about its details. Just as Nancy Pelosi said to Congress about Obama Care, “Just sign it, you can read it later!”

Walter Cronkite, newsman anchor of CBS evening TV and American Journalist, known as “the most trusted man in America,” said before he died (7.7.09) that the U.S. must give the United Nations the full power of a world government and both a police and military to enforce its international laws. A New World Order will most likely include, a revamping which will change the global power balance. The Security Council, the most powerful U.N. body, has 15 members, five of them permanent. It has the ability to issue legally binding resolutions imposing sanctions or authorizing military action to enforce its decisions. At present there are five elected permanent United Nations’ Security Council members — China, France, Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States. As a permanent member, each nation has one vote and veto power on resolutions made by the United Nations Security Council. The 10 temporary members are elected for two-year terms by the General Assembly.

The call for reform was given a boost by German Chancellor Angela Merkel who called for UN Security Council reforms this week. “It is high time the United Nations Security Council is reformed to reflect the real distribution of power across the world in the 21st century. We need a new method of work to solve problems,” Merkel said. “That makes reform of the Security Council necessary, reform which reflects the real power in the world better than the situation today.” The appeal was in a summary of Merkel's opening remarks that included her counterparts from *Brazil, India and Japan. Germany*, plus *South Africa* who is pushing hard for permanent membership. Five more permanent members would make a total of ten. Does the number ten ring a bell, or sound familiar? **Revelation 13:1**—“I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the

sea, having seven heads and **ten horns**, and upon his horns **ten crowns**, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.”

This week’s Torah portion (Genesis 18-22): Vayira 5776. The actions of our forefathers Abraham (Avraham), Isaac (Yitzchak) and Jacob (Ya'akov) are signs for us. They are our role models. Avraham was the paradigm for *hachansas orchim*, hospitality. As a rule, the Torah is extremely concise, but in this section the Torah describes the small details of Avraham's behavior with his guests. Abraham (Avraham), Isaac (Yitzchak) and Jacob (Ya'akov) are our role models.

**Genesis 17**—When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, “I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.” “As for me, this is *my covenant with you*: You will be the father of many nations. No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. You will be very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.”

“As for you, *you must keep my covenant*—you and your descendants after you for the generations to come. Every male among you who is eight days old must be circumcised including those born in your household or bought with money from a foreigner. You are to undergo circumcision—those who are not your offspring. *My covenant in your flesh is to be an everlasting covenant*. Your wife’s name will no longer be Sara, but Sarah. She shall bear you a son. Call him; Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him. That very day Abraham did exactly as God had said to him. .”

Abraham had just undergone a painful circumcision as well as all the men of his house. Although he was suffering from his recent circumcision, he nevertheless sat by the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day, hoping to see a sojourner whom he could invite to his home. Nonetheless, he exerted himself to fulfill the *mitzvah* (good deed) of serving guests. When he saw the three strangers (angels), he ran to meet them despite his difficulty and cheerfully greeted them showing honor (bowed himself to the ground). Abraham was sensitive to his guests’ needs in offering water to wash their feet and a place to rest themselves under the tree. **Gen.18:4-5**—“And I will fetch a morsel of bread and refresh your heart.”

There is more to this lesson in **Genesis 18**—“My Lord, if now I have found favor in your sight, pass not away, I pray you, from your servant.” **Genesis 18:6-8**—“Very well,” they answered, “do as you say.” So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. “Quick,” he said, “get three seahs of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread. Avraham ran to the herd, and fetched a tender and good calf and gave it to the lad Ishmael (13 years old), who hastened to roast it. (Avraham also trained his child in acts of kindness). First he offered his guests some light refreshment. Once they agreed to stay, he prepared an

elaborate feast and stood by them while they ate. Sarah was listening from inside the tent and heard the statement made to her husband, "I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life (nine months); **Sarah your wife shall have a son.**" Abraham and Sarah were greatly advanced in age and Sarah was well past child-bearing age. Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, thinking, can this human impossibility really be possible? The Lord asked Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old? Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the time appointed I will return to you, according to the time of life and Sarah shall have a son." Sarah may not have laughed out loud, but she thought it in her mind and was afraid and denied it, saying, "I did not laugh," and he said, No; but you did laugh!" The Lord knew her thoughts.

**Genesis 18:16-**—"Then the men rose from there and looked toward Sodom, and Abraham went with them to send them on the way. The Lord said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing, since Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I have known him, in order that he will command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the Lord to do righteousness and justice, that the Lord may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him." The Lord said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grave, I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry against it that has come to Me; and if not, I will know."

**Genesis 18:22**—"the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. And Abraham came near and said, "Would you also destroy the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there were **fifty** righteous within the city? Would you also destroy the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous that were in it?"

"Far be it from you to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" So the Lord said, "**If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.**" Abraham interceded for Sodom: "I who am but dust and ashes have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord: *Suppose* there's only 45 righteous? For the sake of 40? Let not the Lord be angry and I will speak – suppose only 30? I have taken it upon myself to speak – suppose 20 were found? Suppose 10 should be found there?" The Lord said "I will not destroy it if there are only 10 righteous. Then the Lord went on his way and Abraham returned to his place."

**Genesis 19:1**—"the two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot, Abraham's nephew, was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them, and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground saying, please turn in to your servant's house and spend the night, and wash your feet; then you may rise early and go on your way. He insisted strongly they not spend the night in the open square as planned, so they turned in to him and entered his house. Then he made them a feast, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate. Before they lay down, the men of Sodom, both old and young, all the people from every quarter, surrounded the house pressing hard against Lot to break the door down and calling out to Lot, 'Where are the two men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may know them carnally.' But the men reached out their

hands and pulled Lot into the house with them, and shut the door. And they struck the men who were at the doorway of the house with blindness, both small and great, so that they became weary trying to find the door.” The two angels told Lot, “Get whoever you have in this city. We are going to destroy this place because the outcry against them has grown great before the face of the Lord and the Lord has sent us to destroy it.” Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who had married his daughters, but they thought he was joking. At dawn while Lot still lingered, the angels, the Lord being merciful to him took hold of his hand, his wife’s hand, and the hand of his two unmarried daughters and brought him outside the city. The Lord rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah from the Lord out of heaven destroying everything. You can pick up the story of Sodom and Gomorrah in the book of Jasher.

Abraham did not compromise with sin and was faithful to his covenant with God and his word. He was very hospitable and loving toward his neighbors and took care of their needs. Remember the two great commandments.

In Matthew 22:36-40, New King James Version (NKJV), we read where Jesus Christ was asked, “ ‘Teacher, which *is* the great commandment in the law?’ Jesus said to him, ‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is *the* first and great commandment. And *the* second *is* like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Love of God and love of neighbor. These are the two great commandments. And the apostle Paul adds, in Hebrews 13:1-3—“Let brotherly love continue. Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so *doing* some have unwittingly entertained angels. Remember the prisoners as if chained with them—those who are mistreated—since you yourselves are in the body also.”

Amen!

## **Book of Jasher, Chapter 18**

**Sodom and Gomorrah were notorious for how they treated strangers. Their lack of loving hospitality and goodness was appalling to God. The book of Jasher gives us insight into the story:**

1 And Abraham rose and did all that God had ordered him, and he took the men of his household and those bought with his money, and he circumcised them as the Lord had commanded him.

2 And there was not one left whom he did not circumcise, and Abraham and his son Ishmael were circumcised in the flesh of their foreskin; thirteen years old was Ishmael when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

3 And in the third day Abraham went out of his tent and sat at the door to enjoy the heat of the sun, during the pain of his flesh.

4 And the Lord appeared to him in the plain of Mamre, and sent three of his ministering angels to visit him, and he was sitting at the door of the tent, and he lifted his eyes and saw, and lo three men were coming from a distance, and he rose up and ran to meet them, and he bowed down to them and brought them into his house.

5 And he said to them, If now I have found favor in your sight, turn in and eat a morsel of bread; and he pressed them, and they turned in and he gave them water and they washed their feet, and he placed them under a tree at the door of the tent.

6 And Abraham ran and took a calf, tender and good, and he hastened to kill it, and gave it to his servant Eliezer to dress.

7 And Abraham came to Sarah into the tent, and he said to her, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it and make cakes to cover the pot containing the meat, and she did so.

8 And Abraham hastened and brought before them butter and milk, beef and mutton, and gave it before them to eat before the flesh of the calf was sufficiently done, and they did eat.

9 And when they had done eating one of them said to him, I will return to thee according to the time of life, and Sarah thy wife shall have a son.

10 And the men afterward departed and went their ways, to the places to which they were sent.

11 In those days all the people of Sodom and Gomorrah, and of the whole five cities, were exceedingly wicked and sinful against the Lord and they provoked the Lord with their abominations, and they strengthened in aging abominably and scornfully before the Lord, and their wickedness and crimes were in those days 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 neighbor's 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 Also when a stranger came into their cities and brought goods which he had purchased with a view to dispose of 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.

17 And if the owner of the goods quarreled with them, saying, What is this work which you have done to me, then they would approach to him one by one, and each would show him the little which he took and taunt him, saying, I only took that little which thou didst give me; and when he heard this from them all, he would arise and go from them in sorrow and bitterness of soul, when they would all arise and go after him, and drive him out of the city with great noise and tumult.

18 And there was a man from the country of Elam who was leisurely going on the road, seated upon his ass, which carried a fine mantle of divers colors, and the mantle was bound with a cord upon the ass.

19 And the man was on his journey passing through the street of Sodom when the sun set in the evening, and he remained there in order to abide during the night, but no one would let him into his house; and at that time there was in Sodom a wicked and mischievous man, one skillful to do evil, and his name was Hedad.

20 And he lifted up his eyes and saw the traveler in the street of the city, and he came to him and said, Whence comest thou and whither dost thou go?

21 And the man said to him, I am traveling from Hebron to Elam where I belong, and as I passed the sun set and no one would suffer me to enter his house, though I had bread and water and also straw and provender for my ass, and am short of nothing.

22 And Hedad answered and said to him, All that thou shalt want shall be supplied by me, but in the street thou shalt not abide all night.

23 And Hedad brought him to his house, and he took off the mantle from the ass with the cord, and brought them to his house, and he gave the ass straw and provender whilst the traveler ate and drank in Hedad's house, and he abode there that night.

24 And in the morning the traveler rose up early to continue his journey, when Hedad said to him, Wait, comfort thy heart with a morsel of bread and then go, and the man did so; and he remained with him, and they both ate and drank together during the day, when the man rose up to go.

25 And Hedad said to him, Behold now the day is declining, thou hadst better remain all night that thy heart may be comforted; and he pressed him so that he tarried there all

night, and on the second day he rose up early to go away, when Hedad pressed him, saying, Comfort thy heart with a morsel of bread and then go, and he remained and ate with him also the second day, and then the man rose up to continue his journey.

26 And Hedad said to him, Behold now the day is declining, remain with me to comfort thy heart and in the morning rise up early and go thy way.

27 And the man would not remain, but rose and saddled his ass, and whilst he was saddling his ass the wife of Hedad said to her husband, Behold this man has remained with us for two days eating and drinking and he has given us nothing, and now shall he go away from us without giving anything? and Hedad said to her, Be silent.

28 And the man saddled his ass to go, and he asked Hedad to give him the cord and mantle to tie it upon the ass.

29 And Hedad said to him, What sayest thou? And he said to him, That thou my lord shalt give me the cord and the mantle made with divers colors which thou didst conceal with thee in thy house to take care of it.

30 And Hedad answered the man, saying, This is the interpretation of thy dream, the cord which thou didst see, means that thy life will be lengthened out like a cord, and having seen the mantle colored with all sorts of colors, means that thou shalt have a vineyard in which thou wilt plant trees of all fruits.

31 And the traveler answered, saying, Not so my lord, for I was awake when I gave thee the cord and also a mantle woven with different colors, which thou didst take off the ass to put them by for me; and Hedad answered and said, Surely I have told thee the interpretation of thy dream and it is a good dream, and this is the interpretation thereof.

32 Now the sons of men give me four pieces of silver, which is my charge for interpreting dreams, and of thee only I require three pieces of silver.

33 And the man was provoked at the words of Hedad, and he cried bitterly, and he brought Hedad to Serak judge of Sodom.

34 And the man laid his cause before Serak the judge, when Hedad replied, saying, It is not so, but thus the matter stands; and the judge said to the traveler, This man Hedad telleth thee truth, for he is famed in the cities for the accurate interpretation of dreams.

35 And the man cried at the word of the judge, and he said, Not so my Lord, for it was in the day that I gave him the cord and mantle which was upon the ass, in order to put them by in his house; and they both disputed before the judge, the one saying, Thus the matter was, and the other declaring otherwise.

36 And Hedad said to the man, Give me four pieces of silver that I charge for my interpretations of dreams; I will not make any allowance; and give me the expense of the four meals that thou didst eat in my house.

37 And the man said to Hedad, Truly I will pay thee for what I ate in thy house, only give me the cord and mantle which thou didst conceal in thy house.

38 And Hedad replied before the judge and said to the man, Did I not tell thee the interpretation of thy dream? the cord means that thy days shall be prolonged like a cord, and the mantle, that thou wilt have a vineyard in which thou wilt plant all kinds of fruit trees.

39 This is the proper interpretation of thy dream, now give me the four pieces of silver that I require as a compensation, for I will make thee no allowance.

40 And the man cried at the words of Hedad and they both quarreled before the judge, and the judge gave orders to his servants, who drove them rashly from the house.

41 And they went away quarreling from the judge, when the people of Sodom heard them, and they gathered about them and they exclaimed against the stranger, and they drove him rashly from the city.

42 And the man continued his journey upon his ass with bitterness of soul, lamenting and weeping.

43 And whilst he was going along he wept at what had happened to him in the corrupt city of Sodom.