

## Lessons from the story of Sodom

"Similarly, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which in the same way as they fully fell into fornication and went after another flesh, are set forth as an example, bearing the punishment of eternal fire."

(Jude 1,7-8)

Recently, the topic of the attitude towards same-sex couples has been discussed on social networks and at higher levels of power. This is not a new and surprising phenomenon. The support of same-sex couples, the effort to legalize their sexual orientation, which was unthinkable just a few decades ago, has been going on openly in many countries with a Christian past for many years and has been going on secretly for much longer. Unfortunately, it turns out that even in Christian congregations it is not completely clear about the attitude towards monogamous couples. Politicians are mostly not Christian believers, so it is not possible to expect from them an attitude that would be in accordance with God's standards. Many may not even know that they should have respect and reverence for the Creator and Ruler of Heaven and Earth. And so, when discussing the legalization of same-sex couples and the legalization of the adoption of unsuspecting children by such couples, some politicians just cross off the mandatory item as a task accomplished. They do not feel responsible before God - The Creator for his actions. Church authorities should acquaint rulers and governments with the book of the prophet Daniel (mainly chapters 2, 4, 5 and 6), where it is described how the God of Heaven gives people the right and time to create their own worldwide government, but under the condition, that they will respect him, for it is God who gives power and rule to whomever He wills. However, the churches mostly long ago resigned from their mission, to spread the good news, i.e. the gospel about the hope redeemed by the blood of Christ, about the coming of the Kingdom of God, and the task of making disciples of our Lord and being a light that illuminates what is bad and what is good. Unfortunately, the churches as a whole not only carry out their mission sometimes negligently, but even in questions concerning God's moral and ethical standards, they sometimes even openly side with the opponents of God's natural order.

Even at lower levels, there is a debate between supporters and opponents of the legalization of same-sex marriage and the possibility of adoption of

children by these couples. People who do not know God's Word and their Creator naturally follow their own standards and principles. It is not surprising that their thinking reflects the inclinations of their own hearts, which often lead to futility (R 1:23-27<sup>1</sup>). It is not about judging them or even condemning them because judgment belongs to God. But as the aggressiveness of the supporters of the legalization of sexual deviations, which according to the Word of God are clearly bad, dangerous for a healthy society and defiling the work of the Creator (those people defile their bodies with unnatural sexual behavior), a Christian who is not indifferent to God's Word and God's will needs to know, what God has told us about such behavior. To be able to respond to those who approve of such behavior. Supporters of the legalization of the above-mentioned unnatural sexual relations appear even among Christians. So let's look for answers on this topic. Here we present the following for consideration.

### God's Commandments in the Law of Moses (Torah)

*"You shall not lie with a man as you lie with a woman; it is an abomination. You shall not have intercourse with any animal to defile yourself with it; neither shall a woman stand before an animal to have intercourse with it; it is perversion. You shall not defile yourselves with any of these things, for the nations that I am driving out before you have defiled themselves with all these things." (Lev. 18:22-24)*

God's commands in the 18th chapter of the 3rd book of Moses are unambiguous and direct. So that no one doubts this, Moses writes in verse 25: *"Because the land was defiled, I visited it with punishment for its*

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<sup>1</sup> *"Though they knew God, they did not glorify him as God, nor show him gratitude, but fell into vanity in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were in darkness. They claim to be wise, but they have become fools. They exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for the image of corruptible man, birds, quadrupeds, and creeping things. Therefore God, through the desires of their hearts, gave them up to impurity, to dishonor one another's bodies; they have exchanged the truth of God for a lie, they have corrupted themselves and served the creation more than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. That is why God gave them over to shameful passions. Their women have exchanged natural intercourse for unnatural, and likewise the men have left natural intercourse with women, and in their lust they are inflamed with one another, men with men commit iniquity, and receive upon themselves the deserved recompense of their infatuation."*

*transgressions, and the land threw out its inhabitants."* and at the end of the chapter God commands:

*"For whoever commits any of these abominations, all those who commit them, may they be cut off from among my people. Keep my order, that you do not commit any of these abominable practices that were committed before you, and do not defile yourselves with them. I, the Lord, am your God."* (Leviticus 18:29-30)

Regarding all the laws that God gave to the Israelites in the form of commandments, He said: *"For this order that I command you today is not incomprehensible or remote to you. Is it not in the heavens that you can say: Who among us will ascend to the heavens to take it for us, to announce it to us, and we to fulfill it? Nor is it beyond the sea, so that you can say: Who among us will go over to the other side of the sea to take it for us, to make it known to us, and we will fulfill it? For the word is very close to you, in your mouth and in your heart, to fulfill it. Look, I have set before you today life and good and death and evil."* (Deuteronomy 30:11-15)

In other words, God's word is about choosing between what is good and what is bad. If his command about sexual life is clearly formulated and understandable, then in the context of God's word *"Behold, I have set before you today life and good and death and evil"* the debate about the legalization of unnatural sexual relations is literally a debate about life and death. Who realizes this?

The Law of Moses was written during the wanderings in the desert in about the 13th or 14th century BC, and evidently even then, in some nations, such depravity was tolerated in the eyes of God. Therefore, we cannot be surprised that nations have the same problems today. God's position expressed in these verses is clear and unequivocal. Yet Jesus said: *"And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted up to heaven? You will be taken down to the underworld! For if the mighty works which have been done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I tell you that it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom on the day of judgment than for you."*

(Mt 11:23-24) What does this mean? That the behavior of the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah, which God later described as depravity, is not so dangerous? Jesus' words "But I say to you that it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom on the day of judgment than for you" do not mean that the behavior of the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah was praiseworthy and good. All that is said in them is that their judgment will be lighter and their punishment milder, because they would still show repentance at that time.

### God's Attitude in the Christian Scriptures.

"Though they knew God, they did not glorify him as God, nor show him gratitude, but fell into vanity in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were in darkness. They claim to be wise, but they have become fools. They exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for the image of corruptible man, birds, quadrupeds, and creeping things. Therefore God, through the desires of their hearts, gave them up to impurity, to dishonor one another's bodies; they have exchanged the truth of God for a lie, they have corrupted themselves and served the creation more than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. That is why God gave them over to shameful passions. Their women exchanged natural intercourse for unnatural intercourse, and in the same way the men left natural intercourse with women and in their desire became enflamed with one another, men commit infamy with men, and they themselves receive the deserved retribution for their infatuation."  
(Romans 1:21-27 )

Here are several answers at once. God says that the people who did not accept God and show gratitude and glorify Him, they fell into vanity in their thoughts and their hearts were in darkness. This is the answer to the question: How is it possible for people to fall into perversion.

Another reason is that they are wise in their own eyes, though their foolish hearts are in darkness. They are unable to self-reflect or receive admonitions through God's word that would convert and save them.

Because they *"exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for the image of corruptible man, birds, quadrupeds, and creeping things,"* God, through the

desires of their hearts, caused them to fall into impurity of soul to dishonor one another's bodies and exchange God's truth for a lie.

That is why they all receive their reward on their own. The authors of the Czech Bible from Kralice translated it quite succinctly: *"And similarly the male sex, having abandoned the natural use of the woman, became inflamed in their desire for one another, the male sex with the male sex the malice of the shepherd, and the just wages that suited their delusion, themselves introducing themselves."* (Romans 1:27)

The apostle Paul describes the causes of this human behavior, but unlike the laws of Moses, he does not write about punishment. Why? Because judgment belongs to God (Deuteronomy 1:17). We have to remember that. That is why it is written in the letter to the Jews (Hebrews): *"Let marriage be honorable among all and the marriage bed undefiled, for God will judge fornicators and adulterers"* (Hebrews 13:4). It is not our place to judge anyone, but on the other hand, that does not mean that we are to tolerate or even condone wrongdoing. On the contrary, we are to admonish the perpetrators of such perversions and avoid the unclean: *"Therefore, 'come out from among them and be separate,' says the Lord, 'and do not touch the unclean; and I will receive you'"* (2 Corinthians 6:17; Is 52:11).

### Let us not be like the people of Sodom and Gomorrah.

The inhabitants of both cities were not only sexually perverted, but their depravity was much greater: *"Behold, this was the perversity of your sister Sodom: Exaltedness, satiety of bread, and comforted carelessness, these she and her daughters had, but she did not strengthen the hand of the poor and needy."* So the warning, which God - the Creator sent to all people when he destroyed the two cities with fire from heaven, does not only concern moral perversion, but also warns us against pride, hardness of heart, self-confident carelessness.

A person who takes God's word seriously and keeps what is written in it knows that unnatural sexual behavior is impure, defiling, and perverted before God. The advocates of legalizing such behavior are blind, have darkened minds and hearts and do not see that everything will be judged in the end. As King David said: *"To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. The fool has said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that does good. The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand,*

*and seek God. They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that does good, no, not one."* (Psalm 14:1-3)

Does it remind you of today? It's not a coincidence. Many psalms are prophetic. Like the Psalms for example.

*„Blessed is the man that walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law does he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he does shall prosper. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind drives away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the LORD knows the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish."* (Psalm 1,1-6)

*"Why do the nations rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sits in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and distress them in his great displeasure. Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the LORD has said unto me, You are my Son; this day have I begotten you. Ask of me, and I shall give you the nations for your inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron; you shall dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. Be wise now therefore, O you kings: be instructed, you judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him."* (Psalm 2,1-12)

The cities of Sodom and Gomorrah are not only perceived as a symbol of moral corruption, but also, according to God's Word, as: "... The look on their countenance does witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have brought evil unto themselves.... Behold, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom, pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.." (Is 3:9; Ez 16:49). This is exactly what is happening today. Mankind did not learn from the warning that



God gave to people when He burned the corrupt cities like those infected with the plague.

## Shepherds of the End of Ages

It is not easy to be a shepherd and a teacher at a time when many tests of our faith, of its purity, come from the world from all sides. Shepherds have a very important and demanding job and the responsibility that comes with it. They must not only themselves resist the influence of the spirit of the world and its desires, often primitive and instinctive, which it incites in men and encourages by promoting and legalizing such inclinations as are contrary to God's natural order. The apostle James (Jk 3:1) wrote: *"Do not be many teachers, my brothers; you know that we will be judged more severely."* The closer we get to the end of this age, the more difficult the service to our Lord will be. Paul writes to Timothy in the instructions for his ministry: *"I adjure you before God and Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and at his revelation and his reign: Preach the word, come with it for good or bad, convict, negotiate, admonish with all patience and teaching. For the time will come when men will not endure sound teaching, but will gather together teachers according to their own desires, to tell them what pleases them; they turn their ears away from the truth and turn to fables."* (2Tim 4,1-4)

Pastoral letters that obscure God's office in any way and try to give the impression that God's word on moral and ethical standards is relative and ambiguous are doing great damage to God's work. What Jesus said about the Pharisees applies to them: *„Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you are like unto whitewashed sepulchers, which indeed appear beautiful outwardly but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. Even so you also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity."* (Matthew 23,27-28) *Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you travel on sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, you make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves. "* (Matthew 23,15) *"... you serpents, you generation of vipers, how can you escape the judgment of hell? "* (Matthew 23,33).

Until now, God and the Lamb have been patient, giving everyone an opportunity to be converted and receive the hope of salvation and eternal life. The shepherds of the end times will have to demonstrate not only faith, but also bravery, wisdom and make great efforts to keep the sheep in the

fold. Otherwise wolves will come in sheep's clothing and kill some sheep and drive others into darkness.

The world is changing literally before our eyes. The sons of the Evil One are preparing the world for the coming of their lord and father, Satan, the Devil, the dragon, and that serpent of old. That is why such an effort is being made to erase from human hearts the remnants of moral and ethical values given to our hearts by our Creator, the Father of our Lord Jesus.

Unfortunately, some blind shepherds join the sons of the Evil One in blessing same-sex couples and supporting and blessing with their authority the legalization of marriages of such couples and the adoption of children by such couples. What else do such shepherds agree to? That the Lord Jesus did not come in the flesh? Or that pedophilia is illegal only when it is practiced without the child's consent? And will anyone still ask for your approval when you so willingly sweep the way to enforce the will of the villains who are preparing a rebellion against God? Remember that the back always bends when sweeping. What if the next time you are faced with a choice, either you go with us against God and his Anointed or we throw you away like used toilet paper?

Therefore, I strongly ask you pastors who publicly agree and support actions contrary to God's natural order, not to disparage and distort the word of God. You have too great a responsibility and thus face greater consequences for the unfaithfulness of anyone who does so to God and our Lord.

[Let us not judge, but let us not condone any wickedness and perversion.](#)

In both of David's psalms, the condition of mankind is described prophetically mainly in the future. At the time of King David (around 1000 BC) people and their rulers still had respect for God and gods in general. That's why they voluntarily offered sacrifices to win them over. They did not think about how to break the ropes that restrain them from respect for God and Jesus Christ. Understand, it binds them in the realization of bad intentions towards God, by which they rebel against God's natural order and



God's authority. God and his order, which humans have largely followed for centuries, promotes life and goodness. The sons of the evil one act against God's order and their intentions consciously go against the intentions of God. People who do not know God and do not even want to know him, do not realize this, they are like blind people, they are and will be even more aggressive until the wrath of God and the Lamb falls on them (Revelation 6:12-17). They do not heed the warning of the prophet Ezekiel in chapter 16, verse 50: *„And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw fit.“*

God's word is for those who hear his voice when they read it. In it we find everything we need to be able to answer those who ask us about His will. Therefore, let us not be misled by nothing and blind leaders, whether they are priests, pastors, elders or preachers in churches or politicians, intellectuals or experts on related topics. **Let us not even get carried away by judging others, but let us always be careful about our own actions and motives, to show the effort to follow God's word and faith in the hope redeemed for us by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. At the same time, we will be a light for those who are not yet completely blind.**