

Jesus Said ...

"Remember Lot's Wife"

Luke 17:32

Her name is not given, but to all who have heard of her, she is known for the failure she made of her life. The Bible refers to her merely as "Lot's wife."

When Jesus was talking to a group of Pharisees, as recorded in Luke 17, He told them of world conditions which would exist before He comes again. Among other things He said was, "Remember Lot's wife."

Abraham, the uncle of Lot, once had some visitors. They told him they were on their way to destroy the city of Sodom. It had become very wicked and the people were known for their great sin (Genesis 13:13). Two of Abraham's visitors went on toward Sodom, but Abraham stood before the Lord and out of his heart of love and pity pled that Sodom be spared if only 10 faithful worshippers of God could be found there. The Lord agreed not to destroy the city if there were 10 righteous people.

As the two angels came to the city where Lot, his wife, and two daughters and their husbands

toward destruction. But because some leaders were faithful in the past, people may follow them regardless of where they are today. If you are a leader, make sure you know you are scripturally leading your followers. If you are a follower, be sure you know where your leader is going.

Many are still in danger of destruction because they have not confessed and repented of their sins and allowed Jesus to be their Saviour. These people are like the people of Sodom who didn't move out when the city was going to be destroyed. If this is referring to you, pray to God now, admitting your sin problem and allow Jesus to take control of your life. The Holy Spirit will come in and guide you in your new life. John 16:13.

When you confess your sins and take Jesus as Lord of your life, never, never look back toward your old sinful life again. Remember, returning to sin is like a dog returning to his vomit. The way to keep from being attracted to the things we left behind is to keep full of the good things Jesus offers. When we are tempted to sin, tell the devil, "I'm full!" Ephesians 4:27: "Neither give place to the devil."

—Raymond P. Brunk

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Let's remember Jesus' words, "Remember Lot's wife."

Another reason is outright disobedience to Jesus' teachings. Many people have returned to a life of disobedience from a life of Christian victory, and then started questioning the inspiration and authority of the Bible. When this happens, there is no basis for holy living. This is a dangerous position. The writer of Hebrews, quoting from the Old Testament prophet Habakkuk, says, "Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition, but of them that believe to the saving of the soul" (Hebrews 10:38, 39).

Unfaithful church leaders are also a reason for Christians cooling off and looking back toward the things they had left. God places great responsibility on the leaders of His people. The Old Testament prophet Isaiah writes in Isaiah 9:16, "For the leaders of this people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed." Jesus warned His followers about false leaders, too. In Matthew 15:14 he says, "They be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch."

We naturally expect faithfulness of church leaders. But in our day many leaders are looking back toward destruction as Lot's wife did. You may know some leaders who are changing their position on issues such as divorce and remarriage, abortion, separation of church and state and many others. If their former convictions were Bible based, why the change now? You may know of other truths which some leaders once stood for but are now "looking back" and changing their minds upon. Some leaders are not only "looking back" toward destruction but have turned around and are leading their followers toward sure destruction. Any thinking person would not follow someone