

COMPASSION

Pastor Othniel James

Main Scriptures: Genesis 18: 1-15

Supportive Scriptures: Genesis 17:7; Genesis 13: 12-13; Jeremiah 23: 14; Ezekiel 16:49; 2 Peter 3: 9 - 10; Matthew 9: 36; Matthew 5: 1-2; Genesis 19: 24-25, 27; Matthew 11: 20

Notes:

A special welcome to all our visiting friends.

In Genesis 17 God appeared to Abram as the mighty God and confirmed his covenant with Abram and wanted him to know to establish his covenant. Abram and his wife SARI did not yet have a child and having received this word from the Lord and still not seeing this come to pass, the concern about age, the Lord confirmed his word to Abram.

In Chapter 18 the LORD (this is LORD is used interchangeably with the name of the Lord which would not be repeated) appeared to him at Mamre.

Abram considered himself a servant to strangers. Abram took out the finest meal (an example of how we entertain strangers)

A moment with God

Two barren individuals beyond what is considered the normal period for them to be fruitful, the Lord appeared to them and told them they would have a son. It is a pleasant moment with the dressed calf and milk and cakes so it is a very pleasant setting and very comfortable and the Lord is saying next year this time Sari will have a child. The word I gave you will come to pass. How many of us had ever had a moment with God in prayer and in worship and you just feel the flow of the anointing. You open up before God and you are enjoying that moment and all you can think about is your life and God. A special moment.

It's the Lord that is speaking and now the conversation is now ended concerning the birth of the promised son. And now there is a secret thing that God wants Him to know. The bible comes to teach us the way of God. Right now at 7:56 pm, August 3rd, 2021 there is an unknown that God wants to make known to his servants. There is always an unknown that God wants to make known. He takes no pleasure in hiding it from his servants.

Have we considered that perhaps there is something that God wants to share, something he wants to be made known that perhaps we have not given much interest in it?

Let's look at Jeremiah 23: 14; Ezekiel 16:49 the lowest state of the human condition is to have no concern for others. "Fullness of bread" = Greed.

Sodom and Gomorrah's sins

- Greed
- Idle
- No concern for the poor
- Increased in wickedness
- Pride

What if I am a servant of God, sent by God into this world not to be like the world but I am sent as a sheep among wolves. What if there is something that is leaving, a cry that is leaving our city into the ears of God and he is seeing the wickedness and the grievous sins and he looks down and listens and there is no cry from the church concerning the attitude of the city. God is raising up one man to carry the monotheism doctrine and out of him is the coming messiah. What if we who are considered the body of Christ in the midst of a crooked generation, a cry is going up to the heavens, and we stand still. He hears the wickedness but hears nothing from the church concerning the state of society.

"I will go down now and see...;" - God is going to investigate. If God goes down to investigate is the God of mercy and the God of glory - does this mean his presence will sit over the land of Sodom and Gomorrah?

What state was Lot in for him not to recognize that the presence of the Lord was there? Or was it that bad that God refuses to show his presence?

Genesis 18: 24 - Abram is standing boldly before the Lord. This information is shared with Abram to teach him intercessory prayer but also to test him if he is concerned about others.

The beauty of having a concern for others and intercessory prayer is that God opens up to have a dialog with us. Prayer does not become boring as some may say or just one person speaking and leaving without communication taking place.

Brothers and Sisters in this kind of prayer concerning the interest of others, one has to be sensitive while in the presence of the Lord.

Concern for fellow humans will allow us to persevere in prayer. Staying there until God closes the dialogue.

The Lord wants us to have an interest in the souls of Men. The ministry of Jesus is a ministry of compassion.

2 Peter 3: 9

Matthew 5: 1-2 - it was the crowd that was coming after Jesus knowing that he came to give eternal life that he prepared the hearts of His disciples in order to meet the needs of the people. God is always interested in the people.

Prayer is not mere words that are uttered but a passion formulated in words and groaning leaving the heart of an individual into the ears of an eternal God and the mind of the individual is convinced that God had heard.

Many don't think like this but I use to have prayer; specific places where I have a special moment with God and every now and then I would drive back to those places and park my car and wave my hands before the Lord and there I feel the presence of the Lord. when the Lord appeared to Abram he would build an altar to the Lord.

Abraham had stopped in his bargaining with the Lord at the number ten. He stopped at ten but when God acted out his justice the wrath of the Lord was poured out in the act God remembered Abraham. You don't know the value of your prayer. The value of standing before God crying for souls for the city and for this terrible country where evil and wickedness are increasing daily. A country where the hands of the wicked are being strengthened but the hands of the poor are overlooked. Stand and ask God for a burden for our city. Abram recognized something affected the very presence of the Lord and Abram begin to barter with the Lord. We can stay in our sealed houses, our fancy churches, and padded pews, and don't cry for people who don't share the good news with people. we will be in trouble. We who have seen the Lord. Matthew 11: 20

The church must become so active that people must recognize that there is something happening in the Land. There is a set of people who is nothing like the world but has an interest in the world. Let it not be that the Church has rejected/become silent to the world. There has to be a cry that is coming from this assembly before we reach Brampton. we cant step into Brampton without the spirit of compassion. It is birthed in prayer and fasting where our concern for an individual becomes part of our purpose for life.

"Lord you can use me" Give eyes that when I look on people who have no knowledge of the truth that Lord I can have that kind of compassion where I begin to cry for them. Lord Jesus Birth it in me, Lord. Open up my appetite for my brothers and sisters.