

# Increasing Vexation

- The wicked are becoming more militant
- Headlines this week alone:
- Gay Men's Chorus – Video: “We are coming for your children”
- Prep School in NY teaching class on porn
- Commercial ... *“for her, him & them”*
- Murders up 50 to 100% ... Road rage killings ↑
- Shoplifting justified – they must have needed it.
- These are no longer isolated... day after day...
- On and on and on...

# Not New ... Except to us

- There is nothing new under the sun
- *That which has been is what will be, That which is done is what will be done, And there is nothing new under the sun. 10 Is there anything of which it may be said, "See, this is new"? It has already been in ancient times before us. Eccl 1:9-10*
- Nothing to become hysterical over... We just have to realize that what we read in Romans is now occurring.
- We have simply reached a critical point in our nation's and all of Western Civilization's history and we need to acknowledge and prepare for it.

# Witnessing What Always Happens...

- *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ... 23 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, 23 and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image 26 For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. 27 Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman,*

# Where We are Heading as a Nation

• *And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, 30 backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; 32 who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.*

*Rom 1:28-32*

# When the World Becomes Loud

- Does our response mirror God's
- *Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Isa 5:20*
- When a nation reaches this level, they are becoming ripe for God's intervention.
- We must adapt to the new environment in the right and scriptural way.

# Where Lot Stood ...

- Since Lot is set forth as one whom God would deliver from such a nation, we need to imitate him.
- *and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked 8 (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds) — 9 then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, 2 Peter 2:6-9*
- Lot did not remain passive ... First his spiritual, moral and ethical sensibilities were vexed and disgusted. It is torment, vexation.

# Why Lot Felt Like This

- *Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. Jas. 4:4*
- We have to choose sides. If we want to be God's friend then we have to be enemies of the wickedness of this world.
- If we are not vexed and disgusted, it impugns our friendship with God.
- It has to matter to us. If we are not emotionally impacted, our light can't shine.

# Those in Sodom Knew How Lot Felt

- *And they said, "Stand back!" Then they said, "This one came in to stay here, and he keeps acting as a judge; now we will deal worse with you than with them." So they pressed hard against the man Lot, and came near to break down the door. Gen 19:9-10*
- Why did they feel judged?
- Lot had made his frustrations known. Maybe just with a sigh or other signs of his frustration.
- Maybe by reproof and rebuke as it was done here.

# God Expects Loyalty and Holiness

- *Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? 15 And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? 16 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." 2 Cor 6:14-16*

# God Expects Loyalty and Holiness

- *17 Therefore "Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you." 18 'I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the Lord Almighty.'" 2Cor 6:17-18*
- *Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God 2Cor. 7:1*

# A Critical Vision for Today

- *Then He called out in my hearing with a loud voice, saying, "Let those who have charge over the city draw near, each with a deadly weapon in his hand." 2 And suddenly six men came from the direction of the upper gate, which faces north, each with his battle-ax in his hand. One man among them was clothed with linen and had a writer's inkhorn at his side. They went in and stood beside the bronze altar. Ezek 9:1-2*

# A Critical Vision for Today

- *3 Now the glory of the God of Israel had gone up from the cherub, where it had been, to the threshold of the temple. And He called to the man clothed with linen, who had the writer's inkhorn at his side; 4 and the Lord said to him, "Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it." Ezek 9:3-4*

# A Critical Vision for Today

- *To the others He said in my hearing, "Go after him through the city and kill; do not let your eye spare, nor have any pity. 6 Utterly slay old and young men, maidens and little children and women; but do not come near anyone on whom is the mark; and begin at My sanctuary." So they began with the elders who were before the temple. Ezek 9:5-7*