

האהל והמערה (בראשית יח-יט)

From Tent to Cave (Gen. 18-19)

(א) וַיֵּרָא אֵלָיו ה' בְּאֵלָנֵי מַמְרָא וְהוּא יֹשֵׁב פֶּתַח-הָאֵהָל כַּחַם הַיּוֹם: (ב) וַיִּשָּׂא עֵינָיו וַיֵּרָא וְהִנֵּה שְׁלֹשָׁה אַנְשִׁים נֹצְעִים עָלָיו וַיֵּרָא וַיֵּרָץ לְקִרְאתָם מִפֶּתַח הָאֵהָל וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ אַרְצָה: (ג) וַיֹּאמֶר אֲדֹנָי אֲסֹנָא מִצְּאֵתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ אֵל-נָא תַעֲבֹד מֵעַל עַבְדְּךָ: (ד) יִקַּח-נָא מֵעֵט-מִים וְרַחֲצוּ רַגְלֵיכֶם וְהִשְׁעֲנוּ תַּחַת הָעֵץ: (ה) וְאָקַחְהָ פֶתַח-לֶחֶם וְסַעֲדוּ לְבַבְכֶם אַחֵר תַּעֲבְרוּ בִי-עַל-כֵּן עֲבַרְתֶּם עַל-עַבְדְּכֶם וַיֹּאמְרוּ בֵּן תַּעֲשֶׂה כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ: (ו) וַיִּמְהַר אַבְרָהָם הָאֵהָלָה אֶל-שָׂרָה וַיֹּאמֶר מִהֲרִי שְׁלֹשׁ סָאִים קָמַח סֹלֶת לוֹשִׁי וְעֵשִׂי עֲגוֹת: (ז) וְאֶל-הַבָּקָר רֵץ אַבְרָהָם וַיִּקַּח בֶּן-בָּקָר רֶךָ וְטוֹב וַיִּתֵּן אֶל-הַנֶּזֶר וַיִּמְהַר לַעֲשׂוֹת אֹתוֹ: (ח) וַיִּקַּח חֲמֹאָה וְחֹלֶב וּבֶן-הַבָּקָר אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה וַיִּתֵּן לַפְּנִיָּהם וְהוּא-עֹמֵד עֲלֵיהֶם תַּחַת הָעֵץ וַיֹּאכְלוּ: (ט) וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֵלָיו אִיֵּה שָׂרָה אֲשֶׁרְךָ וַיֹּאמֶר הִנֵּה בְּאֵהָל: (י) וַיֹּאמֶר שׁוּב אֲשׁוּב אֵלֶיךָ כְּעַתְּ חַיָּה וְהִנֵּה-בֵּן לְשָׂרָה אֲשֶׁרְךָ וְשָׂרָה שִׂמְעַת פֶּתַח הָאֵהָל וְהוּא אַחֲרָיו: (יא) וַאֲבָרְהָם וְשָׂרָה זָקְנִים בָּאִים בַּיָּמִים חַדְלָה לְהִיּוֹת לְשָׂרָה אֵרַח כְּנָשִׁים: (יב) וַתִּצְחַק שָׂרָה בְּקִרְבָּהּ לֵאמֹר אַחֲרֵי בְלַתִּי הִיִּתְהַלִּי עֲדָנָה וְאֲדֹנָי זָקֵן: (יג) וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֶל-אַבְרָהָם לְמָה זֶה צִחְקֶךָ שָׂרָה לֵאמֹר הָאֵף אֲמַנְסֵם אֵלַד וְאֲנִי זָקְנָתִי: (יד) הִיפְלֵא מִה' דְּבַר לְמוֹעֵד אֲשׁוּב אֵלֶיךָ כְּעַתְּ חַיָּה וְלִשְׂרָה בֵּן: (טו) וַתִּכְחַשׁ שָׂרָה לֵאמֹר לֹא צִחְקִיתִי בְּנִי יִרְאֶה וַיֹּאמְרוּ לֹא בִי צִחְקֶךָ: (טז) וַיִּקְמוּ מִשֵּׁם הָאֲנָשִׁים וַיִּשְׁקְפוּ עַל-פְּנֵי סָדָם וְאַבְרָהָם הֵלֵךְ עִמָּם לְשַׁלְּחָם: (יז) וְה' אָמַר הַמְכַסֶּה אֲנִי מֵאַבְרָהָם אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי עֹשֶׂה: (יח) וְאַבְרָהָם הָיָה יָהִי לְגֹזֵל גְּדוֹל וְעֵצוֹם וְנִבְרָכוּ-בּוֹ כָּל-גּוֹי הָאָרֶץ: (יט) בִּי יָדַעְתִּיו לְמַעַן אֲשֶׁר יַצִּיָּה אֶת-בְּנֵיו וְאֶת-בֵּיתוֹ אַחֲרָיו וְשָׂמְרוּ דְרָךְ ה' לַעֲשׂוֹת צְדָקָה וּמִשְׁפָּט לְמַעַן הִבִּיא ה' עַל-אַבְרָהָם אֶת אֲשֶׁר-דִּבַּר עָלָיו: (כ) וַיֹּאמֶר ה' וְעַתָּה סָדָם וְעַמּוֹרָה בִּידְבָרָהּ וְחַטָּאתָם בִּי כְּבֹדָה מְאֹד: (כא) אֲרַדְדֶנָּא וְאַרְאֶה הַכְּצַעְקוֹתָהּ הַבָּאָה אֵלַי עֲשׂוּ כְלָה וְאִם-לֹא אֲדַעָה: (כב) וַיִּפְנוּ מִשֵּׁם הָאֲנָשִׁים וַיֵּלְכוּ סְדָמָה וְאַבְרָהָם עֹדְנֵו עֹמֵד לַפְּנֵי ה': (כג) וַיִּגַּשׁ אַבְרָהָם וַיֹּאמֶר הָאֵף תְּסַפֶּה צְדִיק עִם-רָשָׁע: (כד) אוֹלֵי יֵשׁ חֲמִשִּׁים צְדִיקִים בְּתוֹךְ הָעִיר הָאֵף תְּסַפֶּה וְלֹא-תִשָּׂא לְמַקּוֹם לְמַעַן חֲמִשִּׁים הַצְדִיקִים אֲשֶׁר בְּקִרְבָּהּ: (כה) חַלְלָה לְךָ מַעֲשֵׂתוֹ בְּדַבְרִי הַזֶּה לְהַמִּית צְדִיק עִם-רָשָׁע וְהִיָּה כַצְדִיק כְּרָשָׁע חַלְלָה לְךָ הַשֹּׁפֵט כֹּל-הָאָרֶץ לֹא יַעֲשֶׂה מִשְׁפָּט: (כו) וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֶם-אֲמַצָּא בְּסָדָם חֲמִשִּׁים צְדִיקִים בְּתוֹךְ הָעִיר וְנִשְׁאָתִי לְכָל-הַמְּקוֹם בְּעִבּוֹרָם: (כז) וַיַּעַן אַבְרָהָם וַיֹּאמֶר הִנֵּה-נָא הוֹאֵלֵתִי לְדַבֵּר אֶל-אֲדֹנָי וְאֲנֹכִי עֹפֵר וְאַפְר: (כח) אוֹלֵי יַחֲסֹדָן חֲמִשִּׁים הַצְדִיקִים חֲמִשָּׁה הַתְּשֻׁחִית בַּחֲמִשָּׁה אֶת-כָּל-הָעִיר וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא אֲשַׁחִית אֶם-אֲמַצָּא שָׁם אַרְבָּעִים וְחֲמִשָּׁה: (כט) וַיִּסֹּף עוֹד לְדַבֵּר אֵלָיו וַיֹּאמֶר אוֹלֵי יִמְצְאוּן שָׁם אַרְבָּעִים וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא אֲעֹשֶׂה בְּעִבּוֹר הָאַרְבָּעִים: (ל) וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-נָא יַחַד לְאֲדֹנָי וְאֲדַבְּרָה אוֹלֵי יִמְצְאוּן שָׁם שְׁלֹשִׁים וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא אֲעֹשֶׂה אֶם-אֲמַצָּא שָׁם שְׁלֹשִׁים: (לא) וַיֹּאמֶר הִנֵּה-נָא הוֹאֵלֵתִי לְדַבֵּר אֶל-אֲדֹנָי אוֹלֵי יִמְצְאוּן שָׁם עֶשְׂרִים וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא אֲשַׁחִית בְּעִבּוֹר הָעֶשְׂרִים: (לב) וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-נָא יַחַד לְאֲדֹנָי וְאֲדַבְּרָה אֶת-הַפְּעַם אוֹלֵי יִמְצְאוּן שָׁם עֶשְׂרָה וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא אֲשַׁחִית בְּעִבּוֹר הָעֶשְׂרָה: (לג) וַיֵּלֶךְ ה' כַּאֲשֶׁר כָּלָה לְדַבֵּר אֶל-אַבְרָהָם וְאַבְרָהָם שָׁב לְמַקְמוֹ: (א) וַיָּבֹאוּ שְׁנֵי הַמַּלְאָכִים סְדָמָה בְּעֶרֶב וְלוֹט יֹשֵׁב בְּשַׁעַר-סָדָם וַיֵּרָא-לוֹט וַיִּקַּם לְקִרְאתָם וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ אִפְסִים אַרְצָה: (ב) וַיֹּאמֶר הִנֵּה נָא-אֲדֹנָי סוּרוּ נָא אֶל-בֵּית עַבְדְּכֶם וְלִינוּ וְרַחֲצוּ רַגְלֵיכֶם וְהִשְׁכַּמְתֶּם וְהִלְכַתֶּם לְדַרְכְּכֶם וַיֹּאמְרוּ לֹא בִי בְּרָחוּב נְלִין: (ג) וַיִּפְצַר-בָּם מְאֹד וַיִּסְרוּ אֵלָיו וַיָּבֹאוּ אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ וַיַּעַשׂ לָהֶם מִשְׁתֶּה וּמִצּוֹת אָפֶה וַיֹּאכְלוּ: (ד) טָרֶם יִשְׁכְּבוּ וְאֲנִשִּׁי הָעִיר אֲנִשִּׁי סָדָם נִסְבּוּ עַל-הַבַּיִת מִנֶּזֶר וְעַד-זָקֵן כָּל-הָעָם מִקְצֵה: (ה) וַיִּקְרָאוּ אֶל-לוֹט וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ אִיֵּה הָאֲנָשִׁים אֲשֶׁר-בָּאוּ אֵלֶיךָ הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלֵינוּ וְנִדְעָה אֹתָם: (ו) וַיִּצְא אֱלֹהִים לֹט הַפֶּתַח וְהִדְלֵת סָגַר אַחֲרָיו: (ז) וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-נָא אַחִי תִרְעוּ: (ח) הִנֵּה-נָא לִי שְׁתֵּי בָנוֹת אֲשֶׁר לֹא יָדְעוּ אִישׁ אוֹצִיאָהּ-נָא אֶתְהֵן אֵלֵיכֶם וַעֲשׂוּ לָהֶן כְּטוֹב בְּעֵינֵיכֶם רַק לְאֲנָשִׁים הָאֵל אֶל-תַּעֲשׂוּ דְבַר בִּי-עַל-כֵּן בָּאוּ בְּצַל קִרְיָתִי: (ט) וַיֹּאמְרוּ גֹשׁ-

הָלָאָה וַיֹּאמְרוּ הָאֶחָד בְּאֶלְגֹּר וַיִּשְׁפֹּט שְׁפוֹט עֵתָה נָרַע לָךְ מֵהֶם וַיַּפְעִירוּ בְּאִישׁ בְּלוֹט מְאֹד וַיִּגְשׁוּ לְשִׁבְרֵי הַדָּלָת: (י)
וַיִּשְׁלְחוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים אֶת־יָדָם וַיָּבִיאוּ אֶת־לוֹט אֲלֵיהֶם הַבֵּיתָה וְאֶת־הַדָּלָת סָגְרוּ: (יא) וְאֶת־הָאֲנָשִׁים אֲשֶׁר־פָּתַח הַבַּיִת
הַכּוּ בַסְּנוּדִים מִקִּטְן וְעַד־גָּדוֹל וַיִּלְאוּ לְמִצָּא הַפֶּתַח: (יב) וַיֹּאמְרוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים אֶל־לוֹט עַד מִי־לָךְ פֹּה חֲתָן וּבְנֵיךָ וּבְנֵי־כֶךְ
וְכָל אֲשֶׁר־לָךְ בְּעִיר הוּצֵא מִן הַמָּקוֹם: (יג) כִּי־מִשְׁחַתֵּתִים אֲנַחְנוּ אֶת־הַמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה כִּי־גִדְלָה צַעֲקַתְּם אֶת־פָּנַי ה' וַיִּשְׁלַחְנוּ ה'
לְשַׁחֲתָהּ: (יד) וַיֵּצֵא לוֹט וַיְדַבְּרוּ אֶל־חֲתָנָיו לִקְחֵי בְנֹתָיו וַיֹּאמְרוּ קוּמוּ צֵאוּ מִן־הַמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה כִּי־מִשְׁחַתֵּת ה' אֶת־
הָעִיר וַיְהִי כַמִּצְחָק בְּעֵינֵי חֲתָנָיו: (טו) וַכְּמוֹ הַשְּׁחָר עָלָה וַיֹּאצִּיעוּ הַמַּלְאָכִים בְּלוֹט לֵאמֹר קוּם לָךְ אֶת־אִשְׁתְּךָ וְאֶת־
שְׁתֵּי בְנֹתֶיךָ הַנִּמְצָאֹת פְּרֹת־סֶפֶה בַּעֲוֹן הָעִיר: (טז) וַיִּתְּנֵהֶם וַיַּחֲזִיקוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים בְּיָדוֹ וּבִידֵי־אִשְׁתּוֹ וּבִידֵי שְׁתֵּי בְנֹתָיו
בַּחֲמֹלֶת ה' עָלָיו וַיִּצְאֵהוּ וַיִּנְחָהוּ מִחוּץ לָעִיר: (יז) וַיְהִי כַהוֹצֵאֵם אֹתָם הַחוּצָה וַיֹּאמְרוּ הַמַּלְטָה עַל־נַפְשְׁךָ אֶל־תִּבְטִי
אֲחֵרֶיךָ וְאֶל־תַּעֲמֹד בְּכָל־הַכֹּפֵר הַהֵרָה הַמַּלְטָה פְּרֹת־סֶפֶה: (יח) וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹט אֱלֹהִים אֵל־נָא אֲדֹנָי: (יט) הִנֵּה־נָא מִצָּא
עַבְדְּךָ חָן בְּעֵינֶיךָ וַתִּגְדַּל חֶסְדְּךָ אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתָ עִמָּדִי לְהַחֲיוֹת אֶת־נַפְשִׁי וְאֲנֹכִי לֹא אוֹכַל לְהַמְלִיט הַהֵרָה פְּרֹת־דְּבָקָנִי
הָרָעָה וּמָתִי: (כ) הִנֵּה־נָא הָעִיר קָרְבָּה לְנוֹס שְׁמָה וְהוּא מִצְעֵר אֲמַלְטָה נָא שְׁמָה הֲלֹא מִצְעֵר הוּא וַתְּחִי נַפְשִׁי:
(כא) וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֵלָיו הִנֵּה נִשְׁאֲתֵי פָנֶיךָ גַם לְדַבֵּר הַזֶּה לְבַלְתִּי הַפְּנִי אֶת־הָעִיר אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ: (כב) מִהֵרָה הַמַּלְטָה שְׁמָה כִּי לֹא
אוֹכַל לַעֲשׂוֹת דְּבַר עַד־בֹּאֵךְ שְׁמָה עַל־פִּן קִרְא שְׁם־הָעִיר צוּעֵר: (כג) הַשֵּׁמֶשׁ יֵצֵא עַל־הָאָרֶץ וְלוֹט בָּא צֹעֵרָה: (כד) וְה'
הַמְטִיר עַל־סֹדֶם וְעַל־עַמּוּדָה גְּפְרִית וְאֵשׁ מֵאֵת ה' מִן־הַשָּׁמַיִם: (כה) וַיַּהֲפֹךְ אֶת־הָעָרִים הָאֵל וְאֶת כָּל־הַכֹּפֵר וְאֶת כָּל־
יֹשְׁבֵי הָעָרִים וְצִמְח הָאֲדָמָה: (כו) וַתִּבְטַט אִשְׁתּוֹ מֵאֲחֵרָיו וַתְּהִי נֹצֵיב מֵלַח: (כז) וַיִּשְׁכַּם אַבְרָהָם בְּבֶקֶר אֶל־הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר־
עָמַד שָׁם אֶת־פָּנָיו ה': (כח) וַיִּשְׁקֹף עַל־פָּנָיו סֹדֶם וְעַמּוּדָה וְעַל־כָּל־פָּנָיו אֶרֶץ הַכֹּפֵר וַיֵּרָא וַהֲנֵה עָלָה קִיטֹר הָאָרֶץ כְּקִיטֹר
הַכֹּבֶשֶׂן: (כט) וַיְהִי בִשְׁחַת אֱלֹהִים אֶת־עָרֵי הַכֹּפֵר וַיִּזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים אֶת־אַבְרָהָם וַיִּשְׁלַח אֶת־לוֹט מִתּוֹךְ הַהִפְכָּה בַּהֲפֹךְ
אֶת־הָעָרִים אֲשֶׁר־יָשָׁב בָּהֶן לוֹט: (ל) וַיַּעַל לוֹט מִצְעוּר וַיִּשָּׁב בְּהָר וּשְׁתֵּי בְנֹתָיו עִמּוֹ כִּי יָרָא לְשִׁבְתָּ בְּצוּעֵר וַיִּשָּׁב בְּמַעְרָה
הוּא וּשְׁתֵּי בְנֹתָיו: (לא) וַתֹּאמֶר הַבְּכִירָה אֶל־הַצְעִירָה אֲבִינוּ זָקֵן וְאִישׁ אֵין בְּאָרֶץ לְבוֹא עָלֵינוּ בְּדַרְךְ כָּל־הָאָרֶץ: (לב)
לָכֵה נִשְׁקָה אֶת־אַבְיָנוּ יִין וְנִשְׁכַּבָּה עִמּוֹ וְנַחֲיָה מֵאַבְיָנוּ זָרַע: (לג) וַתִּשְׁקִין אֶת־אַבְיָהֶן יִין בְּלִילָה הוּא וַתִּבְנֵא הַבְּכִירָה
וַתִּשְׁכַּב אֶת־אַבְיָהּ וְלֹא־יָדַע בְּשִׁכְבָּהּ וּבְקוּמָהּ: (לד) וַיְהִי מִמּוֹחֲרֹת וַתֹּאמֶר הַבְּכִירָה אֶל־הַצְעִירָה הִן־שִׁכַּבְתִּי אִמָּשׁ אֶת־
אַבִּי נִשְׁקָנוּ יִין גַּם־הַלִּילָה וּבֹאִי שִׁכְבִּי עִמּוֹ וְנַחֲיָה מֵאַבְיָנוּ זָרַע: (לה) וַתִּשְׁקִין גַּם בְּלִילָה הוּא אֶת־אַבְיָהֶן יִין וַתִּקְרַם
הַצְעִירָה וַתִּשְׁכַּב עִמּוֹ וְלֹא־יָדַע בְּשִׁכְבָּהּ וּבְקוּמָהּ: (לו) וַתַּהַרְיֵן שְׁתֵּי בְנוֹת־לוֹט מֵאַבְיָהֶן: (לז) וַתִּלְד הַבְּכִירָה בֶן וַתִּקְרָא
שְׁמוֹ מוֹאָב הוּא אֲבִי־מוֹאָב עַד־הַיּוֹם: (לח) וְהַצְעִירָה גַם־הוּא יָלְדָה בֶן וַתִּקְרָא שְׁמוֹ בְּנֵי־עַמִּי הוּא אֲבִי בְנֵי־עַמּוֹן עַד־
הַיּוֹם:

1 And the LORD appeared unto him by the terebinths of Mamre, as he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; 2 and he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood over against him; and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed down to the earth, 3 and said: 'My lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant. 4 Let now a little water be fetched, and wash your feet, and recline yourselves under the tree. 5 And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and stay ye your heart; after that ye shall pass on; forasmuch as ye are come to your servant.' And they said: 'So do, as thou hast said.' 6 And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said: 'Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes.' 7 And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetched a calf tender and good, and gave it unto the servant; and he hastened to dress it. 8 And he took curd, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat. 9 And they said unto him: 'Where is Sarah thy wife?' And he said: 'Behold, in the tent.' 10 And He said: 'I will certainly return unto thee when the season cometh round; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son.' And Sarah heard in the tent door, which was behind him.-- 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, and well stricken in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.-- 12 And Sarah laughed within herself, saying: 'After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?' 13 And the LORD said unto Abraham: 'Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying: Shall I of a surety bear a child, who am old? 14 Is any thing too hard for the LORD. At the set time I will return unto thee, when the season cometh round, and Sarah shall have a son.' 15 Then Sarah denied, saying: 'I laughed not'; for she was afraid. And He said: 'Nay; but thou didst laugh.' 16 And the men rose up from thence, and looked out toward Sodom; and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way. 17 And the LORD said: 'Shall I hide from Abraham that which I am doing; 18 seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? 19 For I have known him, to the end that he may command his children and his household after him, that they may keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice; to the end that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which He hath spoken of him.' 20 And the LORD said: 'Verily, the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and, verily, their sin is exceeding grievous. 21 I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto Me; and if not, I will know.' 22 And the men turned from thence, and went toward Sodom; but Abraham stood yet before the LORD. 23 And Abraham drew near, and said: 'Wilt Thou indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? 24 Peradventure there are fifty righteous within the city; wilt Thou indeed sweep away and not forgive the place for the fifty righteous that are therein? 25 That be far from Thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked, that so the righteous should be as the wicked; that be far from Thee; shall not the Judge of all the earth do justly?' 26 And the LORD said: 'If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will forgive all the place for their sake.' 27 And Abraham answered and said: 'Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the LORD, who am but dust and ashes. 28 Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous; wilt Thou destroy all the city for lack of five?' And He said: 'I will not destroy it, if I find there forty and five.' 29 And he spoke unto Him yet again, and said: 'Peradventure there shall be forty found there.' And He said: 'I will not do it for the forty's sake.' 30 And he said: 'Oh, let not the LORD be angry, and I will speak. Peradventure there shall thirty be found there.' And He said: 'I will not do it, if I find thirty there.' 31 And he said: 'Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the LORD. Peradventure there shall be twenty found there.' And He said: 'I will not destroy it for the twenty's sake.' 32 And he said: 'Oh, let not the LORD be angry, and I will speak yet but this once. Peradventure ten shall be found there.' And He said: 'I will not destroy it for the ten's sake.' 33 And the LORD went His way, as soon as He had left off speaking to Abraham; and Abraham returned unto his place. 1 And the two angels came to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom; and Lot saw them, and rose up to meet them; and he fell down on his face to the earth; 2 and he said: 'Behold now, my lords, turn aside, I pray you, into your servant's house, and tarry all night, and wash your feet, and ye shall rise up early, and go on your way.' And they said: 'Nay; but we will abide in the broad place all night.' 3 And he urged them greatly; and they turned in unto him, and entered into his house; and he made them a feast, and did bake unleavened bread, and they did eat. 4 But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both young and old, all the people from every quarter. 5 And they called unto Lot, and said unto him: 'Where are the men that came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.' 6 And Lot went out unto them to the door, and shut the door after him. 7 And he said: 'I pray you, my brethren, do not so wickedly. 8 Behold now, I have two daughters that have not

known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes; only unto these men do nothing; forasmuch as they are come under the shadow of my roof.' 9 And they said: 'Stand back.' And they said: 'This one fellow came in to sojourn, and he will needs play the judge; now will we deal worse with thee, than with them.' And they pressed sore upon the man, even Lot, and drew near to break the door. 10 But the men put forth their hand, and brought Lot into the house to them, and the door they shut. 11 And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great; so that they wearied themselves to find the door. 12 And the men said unto Lot: 'Hast thou here any besides? son-in-law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whomsoever thou hast in the city; bring them out of the place; 13 for we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxed great before the LORD; and the LORD hath sent us to destroy it.' 14 And Lot went out, and spoke unto his sons-in-law, who married his daughters, and said: 'Up, get you out of this place; for the LORD will destroy the city.' But he seemed unto his sons-in-law as one that jested. 15 And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying: 'Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters that are here; lest thou be swept away in the iniquity of the city.' 16 But he lingered; and the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being merciful unto him. And they brought him forth, and set him without the city. 17 And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said: 'Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the Plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be swept away.' 18 And Lot said unto them: 'Oh, not so, my lord; 19 behold now, thy servant hath found grace in thy sight, and thou hast magnified thy mercy, which thou hast shown unto me in saving my life; and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest the evil overtake me, and I die. 20 Behold now, this city is near to flee unto, and it is a little one; oh, let me escape thither--is it not a little one?--and my soul shall live.' 21 And he said unto him: 'See, I have accepted thee concerning this thing also, that I will not overthrow the city of which thou hast spoken. 22 Hasten thou, escape thither; for I cannot do any thing till thou be come thither.'--Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.-- 23 The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot came unto Zoar. 24 Then the LORD caused to rain upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; 25 and He overthrow those cities, and all the Plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground. 26 But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt. 27 And Abraham got up early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the LORD. 28 And he looked out toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the Plain, and beheld, and, lo, the smoke of the land went up as the smoke of a furnace. 29 And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the Plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when He overthrew the cities in which Lot dwelt. 30 And Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the mountain, and his two daughters with him; for he feared to dwell in Zoar; and he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters. 31 And the first-born said unto the younger: 'Our father is old, and there is not a man in the earth to come in unto us after the manner of all the earth. 32 Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.' 33 And they made their father drink wine that night. And the first-born went in, and lay with her father; and he knew not when she lay down, nor when she arose. 34 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the first-born said unto the younger: 'Behold, I lay yesternight with my father. Let us make him drink wine this night also; and go thou in, and lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.' 35 And they made their father drink wine that night also. And the younger arose, and lay with him; and he knew not when she lay down, nor when she arose. 36 Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father. 37 And the first-born bore a son, and called his name Moab--the same is the father of the Moabites unto this day. 38 And the younger, she also bore a son, and called his name Ben-ammi--the same is the father of the children of Ammon unto this day.