

# Cities - Get Out

*Here are a few verses from the Old Testament. There are 1318 times the word city(ies) is used. I've skipped MOST of the verses, so please study this subject more for yourselves.*

## Babel

**Genesis 11:4-5** And they said, Go to, let us build us a **city** and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, **lest** we be **scattered abroad** upon the face of the whole earth. <sup>5</sup> And the LORD came down to see the **city** and the tower, which the children of men builded.

**Genesis 11:8** So the **LORD scattered them** abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the **city**.

## Sodom

**Genesis 13:12** Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and **Lot dwelled in the cities** of the plain, and **pitched his tent toward Sodom**.

**Genesis 18:24-33** Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the **city**: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein? <sup>25</sup> That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right? <sup>26</sup> And the LORD said, If I find in Sodom **fifty** righteous within the **city**, then I will spare all the place for their sakes. <sup>27</sup> And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which am but dust and ashes: <sup>28</sup> Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the **city** for lack of five? And he said, If I find there **forty and five**, I will not destroy it. <sup>29</sup> And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be **forty** found there. And he said, I will not do it for forty's sake. <sup>30</sup> And he said unto him, 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. <sup>31</sup> 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 twenty's sake. <sup>32</sup> 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 ten's sake**. <sup>33</sup> And the LORD went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.

**Genesis 19:4** But before they lay down, **the men of the city**, even the men of Sodom, **compassed the house** round, both old and young, **all the people** from every quarter:

**Genesis 19:12** And the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and **whatsoever thou hast in the city, bring them out** of this place:

**Genesis 19:14-16** And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, **Up, get you out** of this place; for **the LORD will destroy this city**. But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law. <sup>15</sup> And when the morning arose, then the **angels hastened Lot**, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; **lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city**. <sup>16</sup> And while he lingered, 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.

**Genesis 19:20-22** 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**. <sup>21</sup> And he said unto him, See, **I have accepted thee** concerning this thing also, that **I will not overthrow this city**, for the which thou hast spoken. <sup>22</sup> **Haste thee, escape thither**; for I cannot do any thing till thou be come thither. Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

**Genesis 19:25** And he **overthrew those cities**, and all the **plain**, and all the **inhabitants** of the cities, and that which **grew** upon the ground.

**Genesis 19:29** 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 the which Lot dwelt.

**Luke 17:28-29** Likewise also **as it was in the days of Lot**; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; <sup>29</sup> But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it **rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all**.

## Goshen

- **Genesis 45** and onward tells of a famine in Egypt. Today there is “a **famine** in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of **hearing the words of the LORD**” (**Amos 8:11**). Where did God providentially place His people during that (famine) epidemic?

**Genesis 47:27** Israel dwelt in the land of Egypt, in the **country of Goshen**; and they had possessions therein, and **grew**, and multiplied exceedingly.

- Gardening was likely part of their experience. Later, after a long time of servitude, God protected His people in that same setting:

**Exodus 8:22** And I will sever in that day the **land of Goshen**, in which my people dwell, that **no swarms of flies** shall be there; to the end thou mayest know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth.

**Exodus 9:26** Only in the **land of Goshen**, where the children of Israel were, was there **no hail**.

**Exodus 9:29** And Moses said unto him, **As soon as I am gone out of the city**, I will spread abroad my hands unto the LORD; and **the thunder shall cease**, neither shall there be **any more hail**; that thou mayest know how that the earth is the LORD'S.

**Exodus 9:33** And **Moses went out of the city** from Pharaoh, and spread abroad his hands unto the LORD: and the **thunders and hail ceased**, and the **rain was not poured** upon the earth.

## Healing from Leprosy

**Leviticus 14:53** But he shall **let go the living bird out of the city into the open fields**, and make an atonement for the house: and it shall be clean.

## The Curses

**Leviticus 26:25** And I will **bring a sword** upon you, that shall avenge the quarrel of my covenant: and when **ye are gathered together within your cities**, I will send the **pestilence** among you; and ye shall be **delivered into the hand of the enemy**.

**Leviticus 26:31** And I will **make your cities waste**, and bring your **sanctuaries unto desolation**, and I will not smell the savour of your sweet odours.

**Leviticus 26:33** And I will **scatter you among the heathen**, and will **draw out a sword** after you: and your **land shall be desolate**, and your **cities waste**.

**Deuteronomy 28:15-16** But it shall come to pass, **if thou wilt not hearken** unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to **observe to do** all his **commandments** and his **statutes** which I command thee this day; that all these **curses shall come** upon thee, and **overtake** thee: <sup>16</sup> Cursed shalt thou be **in the city**, and cursed shalt thou be **in the field**.

**Psalms 55:9** Destroy, O Lord, and divide their tongues: for I have **seen violence and strife in the city**.

## The Blessings

**Deuteronomy 28:2-6** And **all these blessings shall come** on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt **hearken** unto the voice of the LORD thy God. <sup>3</sup> **Blessed** shalt thou be **in the city**, and blessed shalt thou be **in the field**. <sup>4</sup> Blessed shall be the **fruit of thy body**, and the fruit of thy **ground**, and the fruit of thy **cattle**, the increase of thy **kine**, and the flocks of thy **sheep**. <sup>5</sup> Blessed shall be thy **basket** and thy **store**. <sup>6</sup> Blessed shalt thou be when thou **comest in**, and blessed shalt thou be when thou **goest out**.

## Canaanites

Numbers 13:19 And what **the land** is that they dwell in, whether it be **good or bad**; and what **cities they be that they dwell in**, whether in **tents**, or in **strong holds**;

Numbers 13:28 Nevertheless the people be **strong** that **dwell in the land**, and the **cities are walled**, and **very great**: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there.

- All through the Old Testament we read of God's people destroying and or overtaking cities to rebuild or dwell in them. BUT, the focus of living for God's people was not to establish sky scrapers with the purpose of making money, establishing houses for prostitution, gambling, bars and a thousand other ways to waste time, talents, and money. God's moral and civil laws along with the ordinances are blessings to a small city, not a curse as are human laws, practices, and enforcements.

**Isaiah 5:8** Woe unto them that **join house to house**, that lay **field to field**, till there be **no place**, that they may be **placed alone** in the midst of the earth!

## Doglike

**Psalms 59:6** [Enemies] return at **evening**: they make a **noise like a dog**, and go **round about the city**.

**Psalms 59:14** And at **evening** let them return; and let them make a **noise like a dog**, and go **round about the city**.

## The City of God

**Psalms 46:4** There is a river, the streams whereof shall **make glad the city of God**, the **holy place of the tabernacles** of the most High.

**Psalms 48:1-2** Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the **city of our God**, in the **mountain of his holiness**. <sup>2</sup> Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the **city of the great King**.

**Psalms 48:8** As we have heard, so have we seen in the **city of the LORD of hosts**, in the **city of our God**: God will establish it for ever. Selah.

**Psalms 69:35** For **God will save Zion**, and will **build the cities** of Judah: that they may dwell there, and have it in possession.

**Psalms 87:3** **Glorious things are spoken** of thee, O **city of God**. Selah.

**Psalms 101:8** I will early **destroy all the wicked** of the land; that I may **cut off all wicked doers** from the **city of the LORD**.

**Psalms 127:1** Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: **except the LORD keep the city**, the watchman waketh but in **vain**.

**Proverbs 11:11** By the **blessing of the upright the city is exalted**: but it is **overthrown** by the **mouth** of the **wicked**.

**Proverbs 29:8** **Scornful** men bring a **city** into a **snare**: but **wise** men **turn away wrath**.

## A Poor Wise Man

**Ecclesiastes 9:14-15** There was a **little city**, and **few men within** it; and there came a **great king against it**, and **besieged it**, and built **great bulwarks** against it: <sup>15</sup> Now there was found in it a **poor wise man**, and he **by his wisdom delivered the city**; yet **no man remembered** that same poor man.

**Ecclesiastes 7:19** **Wisdom strengtheneth the wise** more than **ten mighty men** which are in the **city**.

Why does all of this matter right now? Have you heard of the *The Stanford Prison Experiment*? You can find information online here: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stanford\\_prison\\_experiment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stanford_prison_experiment). It matters because people all around the world have been given authority (as governors, police officers, the national guard, statesmen, presidents, and a slew of other titles). They are all under pressure to keep their jobs, stay away from insurance claims, and keep away from a (highly suspicious) global pandemic, COVID-19. They are currently flexing their authoritative muscles and the cities will prove to be the worst places to be! How long should people wait? Get out of the cities as soon as you can!

Revelation 13:15-17 says, "Revelation 13:15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. <sup>16</sup> And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: <sup>17</sup> And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." The cities will be very difficult places when this all goes down.

"It is no time now for God's people to be fixing their affections or laying up their treasure in the world. The time is not far distant, when, like the early disciples, we shall be forced to seek a refuge in desolate and solitary places. As the siege of Jerusalem by the Roman armies was the signal for flight to the Judean Christians, so the assumption of power on the part of our nation in the decree enforcing the papal sabbath will be a warning to us. It will then be time to leave the large cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains. And now, instead of seeking expensive dwellings here, we should be preparing to move to a better country, even a heavenly." 5T 464.3

As is famously said by John the Baptist and Evangelist to Christian in *Pilgrim's Progress*, "*Flee from the wrath to come!*" (Matthew 3:7)