

CHRISTIANS OF THE BORDERLAND

Gen. 19:16.

(Read Numbers 32:6-18.)

I want to talk to you today about Borderland Christians. The text is Gen. 19:16 and a companion passage is Numbers 32:6-18.

There are two scenes that we want to look at for a better understanding of this subject.

1. Lott living in a wicked city. He had lived with the bad until they had lost respect for him. We should never forget that such a thing may happen to any of us who live with the bad too long. *Light or not - Fall receive - pitiable*
He let his children live amongst the bad until the children laughed at his advice.

There Lott stands under the fire up in the sky, Lott a father, a nephew of Abraham, the one who had the opportunity of the open country. He was warned... But he lingered. Just a type of you and me today... knowing what to do but disregarding our knowledge. *wisdom is appointed brought*

Had it not been for the special providence of God he would have been ashes... the angels forced him out. **THIS MY FRIENDS IS DIFFERENT FROM YOURS AND MINE...** In spirit it is left up to us to shun evil or overcome it.

2. The other scene is near Jordan. The Israelites were just ready to go over and possess the land the Rubenites and Gadites came to Moses and said, "Let us stay over on this side of the river." In other words, we find good grazing over here... we do not care much about fighting any how and you just go on and let the other tribes fight and we will back you up from here... at times I have talked to people able bodied people about coming to church and they would say, "I will be with you in spirit if not in body." I have always been just a little afraid of spirits... especially that kind.

There was negro soldier in France running from the battle front... when he had run some distance a voice called.. "Where are going?" The negro asked "Mister is you an officer?" "Yes I am a Colonel" The negro replied, "My lord boss is I done run dis far from de fighting?"

So when people say, "Go on brother we will be with you in spirit, or we will help you from our position over here at home" you may know that they are going to stay a long way from the fighting....

It was dangerous for Lott to stay in the city for he was about to lose his life

It was dangerous for the two tribes to stay on that side of Jordan...Moses explained that just 40 years before at Kadesh the Israelites were ready to enter Canaan and a few spies discouraged them. Consequence was that they wandered in wilderness till all that generation died. *So not the courage people*

The same thing is about to happen because some want to graze while others fight...If I may say so, that is why the church is wandering so far away from its great goal and opportunity...too many are just grazing...satisfied where they are and thereby influencing others to do the same.

Classes of church members.....

a. " Well I am enjoying the church...I go to Ch school and church about once a quarter...I go just when it suits me...I do not want to be tied down with it...I to graze just like a cow...get full and lie down in the shade." This pictures..."**BE TO BE SATISFIED CLASS**" They influence others to do the same etc.

b. People satisfied with little giving...A man boasted that he gave his dollar to the church every year...I go to church school and put in a nicle and if I should go on to church just likely as not I will throw in another one.He knows about as much about church finance as an old cow does about deferred dividends or preferred stock.

c. People satisfied if the home program is carried out... Canaan may remain in the hands of the enemy...I care nothing about crossing for the grazing is fine over here *The way to get some people into heaven is to pitch their purses over the* Crossing over may typify full surrender to God...taking the world view of Christ...The Reubenites and Gidites said well we will go if you will let our families stay at home and keep up the dairy...that is better than lots of people do. *they have many descendants*

The Israelites did not drive out all the enemy and possess all the land...even so we saunter around and do not possess all that Christ has for us...Let's be 100% for Christ.. not linger but go forward.....

*almost than persuaded just - and trying than
be that - He that is faithful to the end + Amen*