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"It was general wickedness not gay sex alone which killed off Sodom city"

This was the title of a letter that appeared in today's 'Belfast Newsletter' from one, 'Colin Nevin'. Read it [here](#).

I felt compelled to write a reply to what he said for he seemed to be suggesting that perhaps 'sodomy' is not the awful sin that some make it out to be! Below is my submitted response.

Sir,

In today's edition, your correspondent Colin Nevin, who (I presume it was he who added the addendum) informs your readers that having lived in Israel he had a knowledge of Hebrew.

A knowledge of the Bible is the first essential in these matters!

Sodom was an exceedingly sinful city as we are told in Genesis 13:13. "But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the LORD exceedingly." Of course it was not just the men but the whole population that was given over to wickedness. "And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous," Genesis 18:20.

Such a state of rebellion was manifested in Israel on occasions, though not to the same degree. "I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem an horrible thing: they commit adultery, and walk in lies: they strengthen also the hands of evildoers, that none doth return from his wickedness: they are all of them unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah," Jeremiah 23:14. This what God says of the deceitful spiritual leaders in Jeremiah's day

However, we are expressly told that the sin of sodomy, the abandoning of the natural order of human relationship that God has ordained for procreation, was the final act of rebellion which provoked the intervention of God in judgment in Sodom.

It would be wrong to see sodomy as just another 'sin' amongst the many mankind has indulged in. That is NOT how the Bible depicts it! The destruction of Sodom was meant as an example, warning those who would engage in such an evil practice of the retribution that awaits them! "And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly," 2 Peter 2:6. "Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire," Jude 7.

Paul the Apostle tells us, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that the descent of mankind into sin ends in that ultimate of all defiances of God's natural order, sodomy.

"For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: and likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient," Romans 1:26-28.

Sodomy, that leaving of the natural order by both men and women, is what precipitated judgment upon the cities. Note what verse 26 says: "For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections . . ."

That is, sodomy was the result of God giving them up to their depravity and thereafter the judgment which



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followed. Continued and persistent rebellion against God results in God giving up (delivering unto the power of their sins) those guilty of such. Such abandonment will swiftly reap an awful judgment.

However, there is a sin which will bring an eternal judgment worse than that faced by Sodom. It is that of rejecting the gospel of Christ and casting it aside as a light thing!! Sodomy brought swift judgment upon the cities of the plain but rejection of the gospel, though often long tolerated by the Lord, will bring a greater ETERNAL punishment upon those guilty of it.

“And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee,”
Matthew 11:23-24.

Sincerely,

Rev. Ivan Foster (Retired)

Thursday 23rd May, 2019.