

A	<p><u>“Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening”</u></p> <p>(Introduction of related scriptural passages)</p>	<p>1Sam 3:9</p> <p>Gen 18-19</p>
B	<p><u>The Three Visitors</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Does this event prefigure the Holy Trinity? Are they God and His two Angels? ▪ Abraham had some idea of who the visitors might be; that they were the messengers of God. Therefore, he received them respectfully and enthusiastically. 	<p>Gen 18: 1-15 HA p 46, NJBC 2:29, Heb 13:2</p> <p>Fathers p 105</p>
C	<p><u>The Plead of Abraham</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ God does not wish to hide the truth from Abraham because he was the Father of the chosen people. He and his nation should understand God’s justice in Sodom so that they would teach others. According to the custom of the ancient Middle East, servants and their master are friends and have the right to the knowledge of their master’s plan. ▪ “so that the LORD may bring about for Abraham what he has promised him” (Gen 18:19) = The promise described in Gen. 12:3 “I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed”. Israel is the first born of all nations: The responsibility of Adam, the first born of all humanity, must be fulfilled by the second born, New Israel, that is, the Church, and the second born of humanity, the New Adam, that is, Jesus. ▪ The power of intercession through the Saints. ▪ Abraham’s plead reflects his trust in God’s justice; we must learn how to pray from him: courage, humility, respect, and trust. ▪ The bottom line of Abraham’s plead was 10 righteous people; however, the actual number of people was less. The city of Sodom was destroyed and only Lot and his family were saved. ▪ According to the popular understanding of justice, “a tooth for a tooth, an eye for an eye”, God’s decision of not punishing the sinners of a whole city due to the righteousness of a few righteous men seems unjust. On the contrary, mercy always triumphs over justice. The fact that the righteousness of merely 10 people can erase the sins of the whole city foreshadows that due to one person’s righteousness, Jesus, the sins of humanity can be erased. All these happen because of God’s mercy. ▪ The way of forgiveness. 	<p>Gen 18:16-33</p> <p>Gen 17:19, NJBC</p> <p>S. Hahn, Catholic for a Reason, p 82</p> <p>Gen 18:23 Footnote in the Chin. Bible HA p 146</p> <p>NJBC</p> <p>Rm 5:18-19 JP II, <u>Mercy of God</u>, HO (A)</p> <p>Mt 18:21-25, Lk 15:11-32</p>

<p>D</p>	<p><u>The Sins of Sodom</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ According to the teachings of scriptures, the act of homosexuality seriously corrupts human nature and against the natural law. It eliminates the procreation of life and violates the true meaning of sex. It is forbidden under all circumstances. ▪ Lot's proposal to offer his daughters to the mob in place for the visitors seems outrageous now; however, according to the custom of the time, the host must take priority to protect his guests seriously. Lot believed he had this responsibility but he appears to be weak and scared. ▪ "Stand back!" And they said, "This fellow came here as an alien, and he would play the judge!" Sinners fail to recognize their own sins due to their pride; they become angry after their sins are pointed out. Pride is worse than passion of the flesh: pride turns humanity against God's truth and misinterprets it as unreasonable restrictions. ▪ God sent sulphur and fire to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah – surfaces similar to the moon is found in the southern tip of the Dead Sea. It seems that the land had been demolished by an act of God. 	<p>Gen 19</p> <p>CCC 2357 Rm 1:24-27, 1Cor 6:10 Lev 18:22</p> <p>Gen 19:8, NJBC Judges 19:24</p> <p>HA p 146</p> <p>Gen 19:9, NJBC</p> <p>Mt. 24:25 CCC 2094 HA p 146</p> <p>NJBC</p>
<p>E</p>	<p><u>Abraham and Lot</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Both Abraham and Lot have been saved by God; however, Lot seems to be impetuous (Gen 19:8,16), lacking in faith and foolish (Gen 19:16, 20, 30-38). On the contrary, Abraham has shown great trust in the Lord; he is decisive (Gen 12:5, 14:14) and patient. He is the role model for the Covenant keepers and thus, becomes the Father of the Chosen People. ▪ According to secular viewpoint, such important role should not be played by an old and weak senior, Abraham, but a younger person such as Lot. ▪ The distrust of the 2 sons-in-law resulted in the birth of the two tribes, Moab and Ammonites (the enemies of Israel), descended from the incestuous acts between Lot and his two daughters. Is this historical or or just the author's way to ridicule Israel's enemies? However, this is unimportant as this has nothing to do with revelation itself. 	<p>HA p 147</p> <p>NJBC, 1Sam 16:6-7 2Cor 12:8-10</p> <p>NJBC</p>