



[Genesis 19:26](#)

(26) But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.
King James Version

Lot's wife did not merely look back—she dragged her heels from Sodom to Zoar, dawdling and wasting time. By conducting herself in this way, she gave unmistakable evidence that her heart did not believe what the angel had said to her—[God](#) would not really destroy all of their possessions. So she reluctantly left Sodom because she loved [the world](#), not having the faith.

This has two direct applications to our lives. In [Luke 17:32](#), [Jesus](#) said, "Remember Lot's wife." He says that she sought to save her life but lost it. The first lesson is that when the time comes to flee, flee! Do not look back. This is corroborated by [Matthew 24:17](#) and [Mark 13:15](#), in Jesus' Olivet prophecy. He said, "Let him who is on the housetop not come down." Jesus meant, "Get out of the city. Flee. Do not look back. Do not get any of your possessions. Leave!"

This is not to minimize the gut-wrenching choices that this requires of us. Scripture implies that when this occurs, our family might be spread all over the city, county, state, nation, or globe. Will we have the [faith](#) to leave the city, not just without our material possessions, but without our children? Are we going to trust God that He will protect them and get them out, too? Though this is not easy, the word of our Lord says, "Remember Lot's wife."

The second lesson is that saving one's life also pertains to one's way of life and manner of living. It includes one's hopes, dreams, aspirations, traditions, attitudes, and relationships. All of these have come from this world, which forms and makes us what we are, often in opposition to God ([Romans 8:7](#)). This is why John warns in [1 John 2:15](#) to "[love](#) not the world." The world is cosmos, a system apart from God, being organized and regulated upon false principles and false values. It has made us what we are before God calls us, requiring our [repentance](#) and conversion.

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Like science, [conversion](#) tells us there cannot be a vacuum in life. When we are swept clean by God's [forgiveness](#) and His [Holy Spirit](#), something must be done to keep it clean, holy, and separated from the world. No man can serve two masters ([Matthew 6:24](#)), and therefore, loyalty cannot be given with neutrality. It will either be God or the world.

The way to God was open to Lot's wife because of her husband's conversion ([I Corinthians 7:13-14](#)). The problem was that she failed to take advantage of all the privileges that were given to her. She dropped the ball. The lesson is to whom much is given, much is required.

We must remember Lot's wife, for never has so much opportunity been given to really know God through His Word than has been given to the end-time church. Yet, when Christ asked, "When the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth?" ([Luke 18:8](#)). The question requires each of us to answer individually. Will He find faith in us?

He will find faith if we take seriously His admonition to remember Lot's wife, who was totally unprepared because she had no faith. We need to be working diligently to build our faith in God by yielding to Him in loyalty in every opportunity life presents.

Remember Lot's wife.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[Faith \(Part 4\)](#)



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