

On The Road To

SODOM

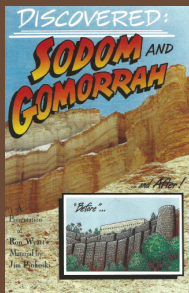
הר סדום
جبل أسدوم
Mt Sodom



A Prophetic & Historic Look

In This Issue

- 2 Road to Sodom
- 3 Garden of the Lord
- 4 A Barren Wasteland
- 5 Turning Cities into Ash
- 6 Sulfur Balls
- 8 Slime and Saltpits
- 9 Mt. Sodom
- 12 Tribute to Ron Wyatt
- 13 USA Surpasses Sodom
- 16 Whosoever ...
- 19 For Such a Time ...
- 21 Interview...Wayne B.
- 24 Vale of Siddim



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On the Prophetic and Historical Road to Sodom

Located on the western shore of the southern part of the Dead Sea is a road that will lead you to Mt. Sodom. Route 91 runs right through the middle of the Judean desert and will bring you very close, give or take a few miles, to the location where the famous Biblical city of Sodom once stood. Given the fact that the entire Dead Sea stretches only 37 miles north and south, there is no question that from the summit of the present-day Mt. Sodom, one can actually see the "Vale of Siddim" and the "plain of Jordan" which the ancient prophets described in detail as the location for the ancient city of Sodom.

Today you don't see any of the ancient debauchery which the Bible describes taking place at this location. This place is eerily quiet. The landscape can cause you to start having feelings of depression and anguish. Life is gone. Not even a blade of grass grows in this place. There is no wildlife, not even a fly.



Route 91, the Sodom-Arad Road,
in the Judean Desert in Israel.

Sodom truly became a place of “perpetual desolation,” as described in Zephaniah 2:9 in the Old Testament.

Mt. Sodom is a present-day monument and a reminder that something cataclysmic took place there. The Biblical cities that were destroyed in Genesis 19 were not mythical cities, as the evidence will clearly show. And the destruction which took place was far from being a simple allegory. Every skeptic and scoffer ought to take some time to visit the ruins found at Mt. Sodom and the surrounding areas. You can see for yourself the lifeless landscape of salt and ashes—the very descriptions given to us in the Holy Scriptures. There is no other place like it in all the world.



The Garden of the Lord

Sodom was not a parched, lifeless landscape, at least not at the beginning of this story. Before its destruction, Sodom was a beautiful, rich and prosperous city. The Bible describes the scenery of Sodom and the whole Jordan Valley as “the garden of the Lord,” which is another name for the Garden of Eden.

“And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, **even as the garden of the LORD**, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar...and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom” Genesis 13:10-12.

Lot saw the goodness of the land; the fruitfulness, the water and all the riches of Sodom. When Abraham and Lot were trying to decide how best to divide their flocks, Abraham allowed Lot to have the first choice as to which area of land he wanted to graze his flocks and his herds and build his house. Lot chose the best looking land available and decided to pitch his tent towards Sodom.

Scripture indicates that this region was very prosperous. It was like the “Garden of the Lord” and like the “land of Egypt.” The plain was very well



watered; consequently, the region was lush, with plenty of vegetation for grazing animals and very rich soil for growing crops. It was like river-bottom land we have today. Farmers know how rich that kind of soil is.

The area was so prosperous it attracted the attention of the northern kingdoms who invaded, forcing the King of Sodom to pay tribute (Genesis 14:1-4). This eventually led to the War of the Kings in which Sodom was plundered of its wealth and Lot was taken captive (Genesis 14:5-9) along with all the other residents.



We see that the land of Sodom was a place to be desired by kings and princes, by those who coveted wealth, prosperity and ease.

Now, A Barren Wasteland

This description is at odds with the current state of the Dead Sea region. The whole area as it stands today is a barren wasteland. The land around the Dead Sea rests over 1,300 feet below sea level, and is literally the lowest point of land area on our earth. The sea itself supports no aquatic life; hence its name, **Dead Sea**. Rainfall in the region is less than 3 inches per year. The average temperature in the summer is between 90 and 102 degrees Fahrenheit, and temperatures above 105 are not uncommon.

Yes, Sodom is a barren wilderness, consisting of minimal rainfall with no fresh water. The only water in the entire region is the extremely salty Dead Sea. This lack of fresh water and the very high temperatures make it impossible to sustain life. As mentioned, nothing grows there, and the absence of all wildlife is noticeable. Even bugs cannot be found crawling on the ground.

The entire place is nothing but ash, salt and sulfur (brimstone). Deer do make brief visits to lick the salt that is found in abundance.

This is what the Bible said would become of Sodom. God's word says this lush paradise would not have any more life. It was to be a perpetual memorial where people could not live nor plant.

"The whole land thereof is brimstone, and salt, and burning, that it is not sown, nor beareth, nor any grass groweth therein, like **the overthrow** of Sodom, and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboim, **which the LORD overthrew in His anger, and in His wrath**" Deuteronomy 29:23.

"As in the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah and the neighbor cities thereof, saith the LORD, **no man shall abide there, neither shall a son of man dwell in it**" Jeremiah 49:18.

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

Turning Cities into Ash

"Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded" Luke 17:28.

The Bible tells that the inhabitants were known for their buildings. These buildings were turned into piles and piles of ash.



“And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into **ashes** condemned them with an overthrow, **making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly**” 2 Peter 2:6.

The pictures here and on the previous pages come from the western side of the Southern Dead Sea and appear to be the ashen remains of a previous civilization. These formations are made of a stone-like powder, layers of ash, dust and sulfur. It is packed so densely that rain does not wash it away.

“Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone [sulfur] and fire from the LORD out of heaven” Genesis 19:24.

The scale of the catastrophe was such that where Abraham dwelt, which was 20 to 40 miles away, he could plainly see the plumes of smoke rising up from the plain.

“And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace” Genesis 19:28.

People of distant areas for miles around must have been in shock and fear as they witnessed the descent of fire and brimstone from the heavens.

Sulfur Balls

The Bible says the Lord rained “brimstone” upon Sodom and upon the cities of the plain. According to Merriam





-Webster's dictionary, the word brimstone literally means sulfur. Throughout the ashen remains surrounding Mt. Sodom in Israel are millions of sulfur balls. They are encrusted within the layers of ash. These brimstone balls have been tested and are composed of 96% to 98% pure sulfur. What is uniquely interesting is that these sulfur balls are not found anywhere else in our world. The only place on earth where you can find sulfur in the form of these balls is in the "plain of Jordan" where the ancient cities of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboim once stood.

All other sulfur found in this earth is in rock, crystal or powder form. These layers of ash encrusted with these millions of sulfur balls are evidence that the layers of earth found in this area were actually burned with extreme heat.

God preserved these ruins as an example for us today of His future judgments coming upon the wicked.





“Look at what happened to Sodom and Gomorrah. Evil became so rampant and entrenched in people’s hearts that their behavior became irreversible. The destruction of their cities is an example of what will happen to all the ungodly. But God delivered Lot, a good man who was distressed by the immorality and filthy lives around him. Day after day that good man’s heart was hurt by all the lawlessness and wickedness which he saw and heard.

“From Lot’s experience you can see that the Lord knows how to rescue His people, but bring the wicked to judgment to face what they have done” 2 Peter 2:6-9, Clear Word edition.

Slime and Saltpits

There are several references in the Bible of huge holes and craters around the areas of Sodom.

“And the vale of Siddim was full of slimepits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and fell there; and they that remained fled to the mountain” Genesis 14:10.

The kings in the vale of Siddim actually fell into the **slime-pits** during the wars against the northern kings. That fact which the Bible highlights is a clue as to the true location of Sodom.

The Bible gives a second



description of the huge craters in Sodom and calls them **saltpits**.

“Therefore as I live, saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, Surely Moab shall be as Sodom, and the children of Ammon as Gomorrah, even the breeding of nettles, and

saltpits, and a perpetual desolation” Zephaniah 2:9.

This is an accurate description of the area where Sodom has been discovered. There are about 4,000 sinkholes around the Dead Sea, and most



of them are on the western side where Mt. Sodom is located. New sink holes are forming every year at an alarming rate, and there's no stopping them. [\[1\]](#)

Sinkholes have been opening without warning and are a danger to visitors and tourists. Falling into one of them is always a risk, which isn't new

to the region of Sodom. Just ask the king of Sodom. He had a first-hand experience.

Mt. Sodom

Mt. Sodom is one of the world's strangest geological formations. It is a massive block of salt that rises 750 feet above the Dead Sea. It is five miles



long and three miles wide. Because Mt. Sodom is made entirely of rock salt, it could not exist anywhere else in the world. Salt can be dissolved quickly in water, so this kind





of formation would melt away in any other climate where there is a lot of rain. This particular area of the Judean desert receives an average rainfall of two inches per year. [2]

On top of one of the cliffs of Mt. Sodom overlooking the Jordan valley, where the city of Sodom was located, stands a pillar of salt. This famous salt pillar is a landmark and has been given the name “Lot’s wife” in reference to the Biblical account of the destruction of Sodom.

“But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt” Genesis 19:26.

Patriarchs and Prophets gives us the reason why Lot’s wife looked back. “If Lot himself had manifested no hesitancy to obey the angels’ warning, but had earnestly fled toward the mountains, without one word of pleading or remonstrance, his wife also would have made her escape. The influence of his example would have saved her from the sin that sealed her doom. But



Sink Holes in the Jordan Valley

Aerial view of Mt. Sodom by the Dead Sea



An aerial view of Mt. Sodom by the Dead Sea. "Bera, king of Sodom ... all these were joined together in the vale of Siddim, which is the salt sea [the Dead Sea]" Genesis 14:2, 3.

his hesitancy and delay caused her to lightly regard the divine warning. While her body was upon the plain, her heart clung to Sodom, and she perished with it. She rebelled against God because His judgments involved her possessions and her children in the ruin. Although so greatly favored in being called out from the wicked city, she felt that she was severely dealt with, because the wealth that it had taken years to accumulate must be left to destruction." [3] She disobeyed the explicit instruction of God, "Escape for thy life; **look not behind thee**, neither stay thou in all the plain; **escape to the mountain**, lest thou be consumed" Genesis 19:17.

God's command was not arbitrary. He was trying to save them from the very result which Mrs. Lot experienced. Because she did not obey the words of the angel, she turned into a pillar of salt. Whether it was the formation pictured in the center of this page or not, we may never know until we are in heaven and able to check God's record book. But we can trust the Bible narrative and know it occurred. It is also of interest that the angel instructed Lot and his family to es-



Left: A pillar of salt on Mt. Sodom—Today, guides will point to different salt formations and claim they are the wife of Lot. In all probability, this is simply one of many salt formations in the area.



cape to the mountain. Though we are not told which mountain they were instructed to flee to, many believe it could have been a part of Mt. Sodom that would have been as far-removed from the destruction as possible. We have further warning in Jude 7: **“Even as Sodom and Gomorrah 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.”**

Tribute to Ron Wyatt, Amateur Archaeologist

It was in the early 1980s that Ron began to pay attention to the ashen remains along the west bank of the Dead Sea, never intending to search for the lost cities in the Jordan Valley destroyed by God nearly 4000 years before (1897 BC). In fact, Ron made many trips back and forth (120 times altogether, spending over \$1,000,000 of his own hard-earned money) travelling to various sites before finally stopping to examine these ashen remains. He had been struck by the strange appearance of the formations. They suddenly took on the appearance of city walls and buildings. For years he had done nothing about his suspicions but in 1989 he decided to take a closer look. Ron and his crew drove into one of the whitish areas and discovered the formations were not just geological but of heavily layered ash. He found an organized layout of streets common to cities today. He concluded these ashen remains must be Sodom and Gomorrah but knew that further testing was required. Numerous tests of materials found at the different sites and thorough research proved that these were the lost cities of the Jordan Valley that God had destroyed in Genesis 19.

Today tourist guides include these cities in their itinerary for places to see in the “Archeological Tours

“And afterward were the families of the Canaanites spread abroad. And the border of the Canaanites was from Sidon, as thou comest to Gerar, unto Gaza; as thou goest, unto Sodom, and Gomorrah, and Admah, and Zeboim, even unto Lasha [Zoar]. These are the sons of Ham, after their families, after their tongues, in their countries, and in their nations” Genesis 10:18-20.



of the Bible lands.”

There are numerous presentations on YouTube of Ron's discoveries. **His main goal was to prove the Bible true.** Here is a link to a presentation on Sodom. [4] Here is another link by Michael Rood, a Jewish rabbi. [5]

[1] <https://www.livescience.com/50379-dead-sea-sinkholes.html>

[2] https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dead_Sea

[3] Patriarchs and Prophets, 161.

[4] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZKBHyIBrHA>

[5] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fHQEcqwrYxc>

USA Surpasses Sodom

The declining morality seen in parts of the United States today would make the festivities in Sodom look like an afternoon church potluck. Our nation is not just giving the ancient city of Sodom a run for its money; we've surpassed this city known for its wickedness. In fact, if the men of Sodom could only look at our generation, they would hide their faces in shame. If Jesus doesn't come soon and bring an end to what we see today, God is going to have to apologize to the people of Sodom for destroying their city, because our generation is doing much worse.

Today a godless, immoral, sexual revolution is taking the world by storm, and where are the pastors and watchmen who are supposed to be lifting their voices like a trumpet against these things?

Sadly, churches are either joining the world in forbidden pleasures or they have become silent.

In 2015 the Supreme Court of the United States ruled (Obergefell v. Hodges) there is a "fundamental right" for same sex couples to get married.

[1] In 2015 our nation took a catastrophic moral fall by trying to legitimize something that God says He can't legitimize (Matthew 19:4, 5). Where were the pastors of our nation in 2015? Where were the faithful watchmen who were supposed to be speaking out for God?

Later, in 2017, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled (Pavan v. Smith) that a child can have two biological mothers, and that legal documents, such as birth certificates, must acknowledge this truth. [2] Our society cares more about equality than biology and truth. Our nation is taking a moral beating as the enemies of God continue their immoral onslaught upon the land. Where were the pastors who were supposed to be standing in defense of God's truth in 2017? Many of them remained silent when they



“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 1:7.



The Joyful Cry of Sodom

“The shew of their countenance doth witness against them; and **they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not**. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves” Isaiah 3:9.



The Woeful Cry of Sodom

“Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous” Genesis 18:20. This was the “cry” that ultimately led to the destruction of Sodom.

should have been defending the law of God.

"It is time for thee, LORD, to work: for they have made void Thy law. Therefore I love Thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold" Psalm 119:126, 127.

"His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber. Yea, they are greedy dogs which can never have enough, and they are shepherds that cannot understand: they all look to their own way, every one for his gain, from his quarter. Come ye, say they, I will fetch wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink; and to morrow shall be as this day and much more abundant" Isaiah 56:10-12.

America is one of the last strongholds of Christianity, but it is falling as the latest victim to the spoils of the ever-raging culture war. Thousands of gays and lesbians took to the streets to celebrate the U.S. Supreme Court's "Yes" decision to same-sex marriage. The new legislation now offers marriage equality and rights to the LGBTQ community. The vote should come as no surprise when you consider that prophecy predicted this would happen in the last days.

The Western Christian civilized nations have long ago declared war against the God of heaven. Europe, Australia, Canada, now America has rejected God's standard of truth and morality. They have accepted a post-Christian and godless view on marriage, gender identity and equality.

This means that those who still espouse the Christian world-view on marriage have now become the "minority." Sadly, we are traveling down the same moral decline as did the ancient cities on the plain of Jordan. These bygone civilizations adopted views on sexuality that were anti-Biblical and anti-God. They hated and rejected God's view of morality so much that they put many of God's faithful people to death because of their views. Abraham and Lot were both minorities in Sodom and Gomorrah. And so it is today; those who still believe and teach the truths of the Bible are in the minority and are becoming the new targets of persecution by today's immoral society.

"Jesus Himself never purchased peace by compromise. His heart overflowed with love for the whole human race, but He was never indulgent to their sins. He was too much their friend to remain silent while they were pursuing a course that would ruin the souls He had purchased with His own blood. He labored that man should be true to himself, true to his higher and eternal interest. The servants of Christ are called to the same work, and they should beware lest, in seeking to prevent discord, they surrender the truth. They are to 'follow after the things which make for peace' (Romans 14:19); but real peace can never be secured by compromising principle. And no man can be true to principle without exciting opposition. A Christianity that is spiritual **will be opposed by the children of disobedience**" (*The Desire of Ages*, 356).

[1] <https://www.oyez.org/cases/2014/14-556>

[2] <https://www.oyez.org/cases/2016/16-992>

Whosoever Meaneth Me – Changed by His Grace

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life” John 3:16.

“But, pastor, don’t you believe in victory over sin?!” Sue exclaimed into the phone.

“Of course I do,” replied the pastor. “But that kind can never change! Furthermore, I would advise you to keep your children away from him!”

As a new pastor myself, having previously left behind the gay lifestyle, I had been preparing Sue and her family for baptism into Jesus Christ. From my own perspective and experience



Ron Woolsey with his family.

I had taught them well that our God is the Almighty to save the whosoever from whatosoever, even to the uttermost; hence, her response to this skeptical pastor who had called to inform them of the past nature of this man (yours truly) who was studying with them. Though they may have been surprised to hear for the first time from prejudiced lips the story of my past, it only made them realize all the more the power of our Savior to save the “whosoever,” that even homosexuals might become overcomers and have a right to the tree of life.

One week later, I baptized this family, having gone to great lengths to support the husband who had a desperate struggle of his own with an addiction, **leading him to victory in Jesus.**

Yes, I had to admit to this family that up until my conversion one year earlier I had been a homosexual most of my life, though not the pedophile, as accused. They already knew that I had come to the Lord from a life of total degradation, but it had not been my practice to share openly the specifics of my past.

However, as more and more people became aware of my story, I should not have been surprised when someone walked up to me one day and said, “Pastor, if the Lord can save you, why, He can save anybody! I now understand and believe in His power to also give me victory in my life. Would you be willing to baptize me?”

The youngest of three boys, and with three sisters, I was one of those who grew up thinking myself to be unlike all the other boys, more inclined towards music and the gentler side of life than to the rough and tough

games and sports enjoyed by “all the other boys.” As I matured into a teenager, I was very aware of my sexual attractions to young men rather than to young women. As far back as I could remember my tendencies seemed to have leaned in that direction. So, of course, I was one of those who eventually accepted the “fact” that I had just been “born gay.” God must have made me that way.

In retrospect, I can now see various factors that helped shape and mold me into what would later blossom into an all-out, full-fledged homosexual, both in orientation and in behavior. At the age of 4, I was sexually molested by a young farm hand who worked for my father. (From that point on, it was like I had been cursed.) As is typical with most victims of sexual abuse, I felt guilty, dirty, as though I had done something terribly wrong. Therefore, the last thing I wanted to do was to go tell “Mommy” and “Daddy” what I had done with this man (rather than what this man had done to me).

To make a long story short, I kept this deep, dark secret tucked securely away for almost 25 years. As with an unattended splinter in the flesh, it festered all those years, producing wild imaginations and fantasies and perverted attractions until an eventual eruption occurred into overt homosexual behavior that left me in shock and my family devastated.

Having not dealt with this childhood incident properly by going to my parents where I could get sympathy, understanding and loving counsel, I began to regress emotionally and physically. I lapsed back into a bed-wetting problem that seemed beyond cure. Years later, I was taken for a medical exam only to be diagnosed with perfectly normal kidneys. Therefore, my problem must be one of “choice,” “laziness,” or “an unhealthy desire for attention,” etc.

Never dreaming that there could be an emotional problem, my father had been using very poor parenting methods to try to make a man child out of me, to the point of intentionally shaming me publicly in order to make me stop being so lazy about going to the toilet and to toughen me up as a boy. Of course, that only exacerbated the problem, leaving me to deal with a sense of rejection. It was not until I left home at the age of 15 that I stopped bed-wetting, and then almost immediately.

By this time, however, I had such low self-esteem that I actually craved the attention, acceptance, love and physical demonstration of that love from men. Still, I tried desperately to be “normal,” having girlfriends, eventually marrying, then fathering two beautiful children. But marriage did not fill the void in my life as I had expected. After all, how could the love, devotion and attention of a doting wife possibly satisfy the craving for attention, acceptance and love from men? What a tragic situation in which to put an unsuspecting young woman! So, now I had guilt piled on top of guilt, creating a burden under which I eventually collapsed.

Losing my family, I turned my back upon God and everything and everyone I knew, then fled into the unexplored world of homosexuality. What followed was years of night clubs and bar rooms and resorts of ill repute; Eleven years in long term relationships, five years of tricking, highs and

lows, ecstasies and agonies, high hopes and dashed dreams, heartache, heartbreak, frustration, depression and finally, despair.

Through the interceding prayers of my family, the Lord allowed me to be brought down to the lowest depths of degradation to where the only way to look was up. From there, once I stopped blaming God and everyone else for my situation, He began to reveal to me, through His word and through my own honest examination and evaluation of my life, how and where I had been derailed – where I had gone wrong.

Eventually, acknowledging homosexuality to be a sin issue, and assuming responsibility for my own present and future, I turned to God in desperation, with an honest desire to be set free from my life of bondage. I submitted to His divine plan of restoration, therapy and re-creation. With simple, childlike trust, I committed myself to a life of obedience to His will and His way, regardless of my existing tendencies, attractions, feelings and emotions. In thus starving out “the old man” and feeding “the new man,” I eventually came to realize that in Christ, I had become a new creature: “old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” 2 Corinthians 5:17. I learned that the new birth consists of new motives, new tastes and new tendencies; and that a genuine conversion changes both hereditary and cultivated tendencies to wrong.

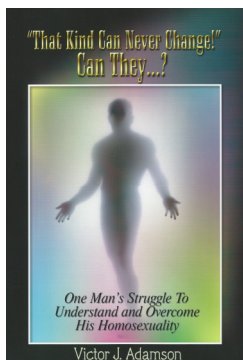
I prayed earnestly that God would give me a second chance in life and a double portion of His Spirit that I might redeem the time squandered through my many years in such a destructive lifestyle. The night of my baptism, 22 years ago, he launched me into full-time ministry (that has now grown into pastoring, writing, radio evangelism, musical concerts and international speaking). One year later He brought my present wife into my life. In the subsequent years He blessed us with two beautiful children. “It’s time to stop praying for those second chances and double portions,” my wife pleaded in good humor upon hearing that we were going to have twins.

The good book says, “Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him” 1 Corinthians 2:9. This promise is for the homosexual, too; sin-sick and willing to submit to the will of our loving heavenly Father, who truly does know best for His created children.

It took nine years for me to get to the point where I could write and speak

openly about my testimony. Such is the result of the guilt and shame associated with homosexuality. However, David wrote, “Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy” Psalm 107:2. So I have now come forward to boldly declare **Jesus Christ who can and will save His people personally, not in their sins, but from their sins, including even the sin of homosexuality.**

In publishing my story as a book on how to understand and overcome, as well as an autobiography, I chose a pen name—Victor J. Adamson—a new name



that might in itself reflect my experience through Jesus. For he says, “To him that overcometh will I give a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it” Revelation 3:17. Now, I look forward to someday receiving the new name that God has chosen for me.

John 3:16 tells us, “God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him [homosexuals included], should not perish, but have everlasting life.” “Whosoever surely meaneth me!”

By Ron Woolsey, as published in the *Southwestern Union Record*, March 2014. Used by Permission. Ron is a concert artist with a multi-faith ministry called **The Narrow Way**, which can be found at www.thenarrowwayministry.com. Ron’s pen name, Victor J. Adamson, reflects his victorious experience: Victory in Jesus by a son of Adam.



For Such a Time as This

In Hosea 4:6 we read the warning from God, “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee...”

For generations those struggling with Same Sex Attractions (SSA) growing up in the church have primarily had to struggle alone and in silence, because within the church there were virtually no resources, no conversations about this taboo issue, and no one approachable for counsel. At least, that was the perception of those caught in the struggle, such as myself.

However, those promoting the normalization of homosexuality over these same generations have not been silent, but have aggressively promoted the LGBTQ agenda through propaganda, resources, campaigns, the media, education, legislation and even the church. Campaigning for tolerance, they became tolerated. From tolerance, the LGBTQ community has advanced to being accepted, celebrated, promoted, legislated and glorified.

Not satisfied, the campaign then moved towards obtaining special privilege as a legal minority status through the civil rights laws of the U.S. This status must meet three criteria: 1) Suffering a long history of discrimination, 2) Powerless to help themselves as a community, and 3) Born that way. The “Born that way” propaganda campaign then launched around 1985, was headed by gay psychology major, Marshall Kirk and gay professor, Dr. Hunter Madsen (PhD Politics). The idea was to repeat the concept loudly enough, long enough and frequently enough for it to become believable.

Without a thorough examination of this propaganda, the “Born Gay Hoax” has now been accepted by society at large, and sadly, even by the



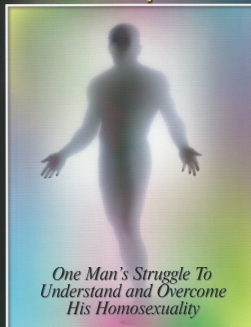
The Coming Out Ministry Team

church. God warns, “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge...” But the more fearful part of His warning is: “because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee...”

Eight years ago, there were several individuals who had been redeemed by the gospel from their own lives in the LGBTQ culture, and who were individually sharing “the word of their testimonies.” These individuals came together and formed **Coming Out Ministries** with the threefold approach of 1) Inspiring the church through their testimonies of the love and power of God to redeem – yes, even homosexuals from their lives of sin; 2) Enlightening the church on the LGBTQ issue through their testimonies, through true science, research and surveys, and 3) Equipping the church by producing Bible based, experience based and science-based resources for a loving and caring, yet non-compromising, redemptive approach to the LGBTQ issue.

Coming Out Ministries has been traveling the globe for the past eight years – all over the U.S., Canada, Europe, Central America, South America, Africa, the South Pacific, Asia, SE Asia, Australia and New Zealand. Sadly,

*“That Kind Can Never Change!”
Can They...?*



Victor J. Adamson

The true story of one man’s struggle with his own homosexuality—was he born this way, or was he conditioned by abuse, environment and circumstance? Could God love him in spite of his lifestyle? Was it possible for someone like him to change or to be changed?

The author’s path to victory is shared so that others may know that “nothing is impossible with God.”

“Your book has changed my life. I was surprised that another person could have gone through an experience as close to that of my own.” – Greetings from South Africa

Victor J. Adamson is a writer, pastor, concert musician, radio evangelist and international speaker.

while there is much wonderful reception and support from within our church, from the General Conference level to the local church level, the opposition we face is also primarily from within our own church. **For many have adopted the propaganda of the Gay Agenda and believe in salvation IN sin rather than FROM sin.** Exhibiting a form of godliness and denying the power thereof, “love and acceptance” resources from outside our faith are being adopted, while biblical, **redemptive and transformative resources from within our faith are being “rejected.”**

But this ministry believes it has truly been raised up for “such a time as this.” Jesus warned us that “As it was in the days of Noah...and Lot...even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed” Luke 17:26-30.

Within the message to the world of the last days is the call to “Come out of her my people” Revelation 18:4. We believe that God truly loves those within the LGBTQ community, not willing that any should perish. His call is to them as to everyone else, “Come out...” and “be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind” Romans 12:1,2.

Our prayer is that we, the church—God’s people, will not be guilty of “rejecting knowledge,” lest we be rejected by God in return.

In our love and compassion for those within the LGBTQ community from which we ourselves were delivered, we continue to give that call.

For more information visit:
www.ComingOutMinistries.org

Interview with Wayne Blakely on the LGBT+ Movement

Below is an interview we did with Wayne Blakely, founder and director of **Know His Love Ministries**, a ministry established ten years ago in an inspired effort to introduce much-needed biblical education to church leaders, pastors, educators and those who struggle with LGBT+ ideations.

NLM: Thank you for taking the time to do this interview. For those who may not know you, could you tell us about the work and burden that God has placed upon you?

Wayne: The work is both simple and complicated. As believers, we are not always satisfied with God’s clear directions. We often want different solutions than those that call for humility and denying self for Christ.

I grew up with same-sex attractions gnawing at me from my earliest memories. I could see that these “feelings” didn’t agree with God’s proposed and Holy scripted plans. I felt I was a blight on the face of humanity. What was I to do with “feelings” I did



not ask for? At that time in Adventist history, we rarely whispered the word “homosexual,” let alone claiming an antidote for the circumstances.

I felt awkward, afraid, unaccepted in the church and church school environment. Basically, it was as though the church paved the way and opened the doors to the gay community. Forty years later, I did a web search for an outreach to the LGBT+ community, administered by our denomination and found there was none. Yet, in spite of the prolonged oversight, God drew me nearer and revealed Himself and His solutions, building intimacy with Him and recognizing that God offered me a new identity.

As someone who lived in the LGBT+ community for the better part of forty years, it doesn't take me long to recognize when the wool is being pulled over the saints' eyes. We're late in ministering to the LGBT+ culture. Some don't want to get near it. Others want to act as though there's nothing you can or should do about it. It's just who you are.

I believe the grave danger is in the lack of biblical education and reasoning we have long needed to establish; not just the Bible truths, but the compassion and love of Jesus which are critical in our surrender and obedience to Him. Today, most Adventists want to merge with cultural Christianity without admitting the obvious. When I left the LGBT+ culture for Jesus and found that the church was still not reaching out to those struggling with same-sex attractions or gender confusion, it was quite troubling. Within a year of my return to Christ, God led me to a handful of other former LGBT+ people whom God had rescued and who also agreed with God's clear teachings and scriptural solutions. Isn't that our only true safety?

NLM: Many play it safe by ignoring the militant homosexual movement. Some give in to the LGBT+ lobby, while others try to find a middle ground. Brother Blakely, in your experience, what is the best approach for the church to take as it navigates our ever-changing, broken society?

Wayne: The only way to approach the LGBT+ topic, as Christians, is from a position of safety. And that safety can only be applied from God's trusted Word. Here's where the problem comes, and from the most unlikely places. The obvious need is to **love**. However, how are we interpreting or defining **love**?

As a “gay man” living openly in the LGBT+ culture, I desperately needed God's answers, solutions and requests. So, finding the church compromising on that which is so necessary for my return to Jesus, brought sleepless wonderings of the church that has long claimed to have “the truth.”

There seems to be unending surprises of what Satan uses to try to bring about division among us. It's hard to observe trusted leaders shift their perspectives. Over the years of silence, nearly every family now finds they have a family member or close relative identifying as LGBT+. They almost immediately adapt to the concepts and demands of the LGBT+ community, which stipulate that if you don't approve of my behavior, you hate me.

In addition, we can't seem to figure out that desires, attractions and

temptations do not amount to an LGBT+ identity. If I'm longing for the LGBT+ culture or acting out with LGBT+ behaviors, that would be a different story. Adventists need to address sinful temptations and share God's solutions. Our identity, praise the Lord, is in who Jesus says we are.

My parents loved me through my perversity, as did Jesus. Neither one ever gave up on me. Neither one compromised. These both paid off in enabling the Holy Spirit to bring conviction to my heart.

NLM: Sin affects all of us. We all have temptations. What advice do you have for someone who is struggling with pornography, extramarital affairs, premarital sex, self-abuse or same-sex attraction?

"Many believers in Christ have suffered confusion in relation to their LGBT+ "feelings" and the choice God provides, relative to our identity in Him. He will not abandon us. Romans 5:8 tells us that He died for us while we were still sinners. God promises each of us hope and healing, regardless of what sinful inclinations Satan uses, in hopes of redirecting our focus." Wayne Blakely

Wayne: Engage in and develop intimacy with Jesus. This requires longing to be in His presence, spending time with Him, communing with Him and inviting Him to commune with us. When our focus is placed on heavenly things, the pitfalls that threaten us do not have nearly the pull that they used to. And know this: **God is so willing to forgive. He truly loves us!**

As a church body, we need to come along side one another on this rugged journey and encourage one another, offering support in prayer and right friendship and mentoring. However, we are largely silent, or we give folks the impression that we're all sinners and it really doesn't matter, because Jesus has paid it all. That's an easy way to continue engaging in dangerous, addictive behaviors.

NLM: There are not many resources available that address this modern phenomenon from a redemptive perspective. Can you share some?

Wayne: So true. It's amazing how many redemptive resources are available outside of our denomination. We're lacking to a large degree. There are a number of resources on ComingOutMinistries.org website and some on my personal website: KnowHisLove.org

NLM: Finally, we pray that God will continue to use you for His glory and honor. Thank you again for helping us address these important issues. It's unfortunate that church resources are not being dedicated for ministries like yours. What can people do to get involved?

Wayne: If after reviewing my website and YouTube videos, people are convicted of the need to advance the ministry with God's scriptural teachings and His trusted authority, donations can be made to the above named ministries. Thank you for recognizing the importance of this.

In the Vale of Siddim

By NLM Staff Writer

In the Vale of Siddim,
Beside the great Salt Sea,
Was a land so fair and fine,
With flowers, grass and trees.
Sodom was the city,
The center of this place;
Their sins were in abundance,
Their morals were debased.
Their sins did cry to heaven,
For they were very sore;
Strange flesh and deprivation,
The things which God abhors.
Abram interceded,
For love of God and man;
Their sinful hearts were hardened,
Rejecting Heaven's plan.
God sent His holy angels,
To warn them of their deeds,
To tell of a destruction;
The people paid no heed.
Great cities burned in flames,
One massive conflagration;
The valley fell in ruins,
Eternal desolation.
The plain where Sodom stood,
To us is an example,
For all who fear not God,
Whose Holy Law they trample.
Judgments soon will come again,
When Christ returns in glory;
Those who don't learn from the past,
Will echo Sodom's story.