

1. Bereishis 18: 16-23

**טז** וַיִּקְמוּ מִשָּׁם הָאֲנָשִׁים,  
וַיִּשְׁקְפוּ עַל-פְּנֵי סְדֹם;  
וַאֲבֹרָהֶם--הֵלִךְ עִמָּם, לְשַׁלְחָם.

**16** And the men rose up from thence, and looked out toward Sodom; and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way.

**יז** וַיהוָה, אָמַר: הַמְכַסֶּה אֲנִי  
מֵאֲבֹרָהֶם, אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי עֹשֶׂה.

**17** And the LORD said: 'Shall I hide from Abraham that which I am doing;

**יח** וַאֲבֹרָהֶם--הֵיוּ יְהִיָּה לְגוֹי  
גָּדוֹל, וְעָצוּם; וְנִבְרְכוּ-בּוֹ--כָּל,  
גּוֹיֵי הָאָרֶץ.

**18** seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

**יט** כִּי יָדַעְתִּיו, לְמַעַן אֲשֶׁר  
יַצְוֶה אֶת-בָּנָיו וְאֶת-בֵּיתוֹ  
אַחֲרָיו, וְשָׁמְרוּ דֶרֶךְ יְהוָה,  
לַעֲשׂוֹת צְדָקָה וּמִשְׁפָּט--לְמַעַן,  
הָבִיא יְהוָה עַל-אֲבֹרָהֶם, אֵת  
אֲשֶׁר-דִּבֶּר, עָלָיו.

**19** For I have known him, to the end that he may command his children and his household after him, that they may keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice; to the end that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which He hath spoken of him.'

**כ** וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה, וְעַקְתָּ סְדֹם  
וְעִמֹרָה כִּי-רָבָה; וְחַטָּאתָם--כִּי  
כְבֹדָה, מְאֹד.

**20** And the LORD said: 'Verily, the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and, verily, their sin is exceeding grievous.

**כא** אֵרְדֶּה-נָּא וְאֶרְאֶה,  
הַכְּצַעְקוֹתֶיהָ הַבָּאָה אֵלַי עָשׂוּ  
כָּלָה; וְאִם-לֹא, אֵדָעָה.

**21** I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto Me; and if not, I will know.'

**כב** וַיִּפְּנוּ מִשָּׁם הָאֲנָשִׁים, וַיֵּלְכוּ  
סְדֹמָה; וַאֲבֹרָהֶם--עֹדְדָנוּ עִמָּד,  
לְפָנֵי יְהוָה.

**22** And the men turned from thence, and went toward Sodom; but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.

**כג** וַיִּגַּשׁ אֲבֹרָהֶם,  
וַיֹּאמֶר: הֲאֵף תִּסְפָּה, צְדִיק  
עִם-רָשָׁע.

**23** And Abraham drew near, and said: 'Wilt Thou indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?

2. Bereishis 12:2, 3

**ב** וְאָעֲשֶׂהָ, לְגוֹי גָּדוֹל,  
וְאֶבְרַכְךָ, וְאֶגְדַּלְהָ שְׁמִי;  
וְהָיָה, בְּרַכָּה.

**2** And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and be thou a blessing.

**ג** וְאֶבְרַכְהָ, מְבָרְכֶיךָ,  
וּמְקַלְלֶךָ, אָאֵר; וְנִבְרַכּוּ בְּךָ,  
כָּל מִשְׁפַּחַת הָאָדָמָה.

**3** And I will bless them that bless thee, and him that curseth thee will I curse; and in thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed.'

3. Devarim 4:5, 6

**ה** רְאֵה לִמְדַתִּי אֶתְכֶם, חֻקִּים  
וּמִשְׁפָּטִים, כַּאֲשֶׁר צֻוֵּנִי, יְהוָה  
אֱלֹהֵי: לַעֲשׂוֹת כֵּן--בְּקֶרֶב  
הָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר אַתֶּם בָּאִים שָׁמָּה  
לְרִשְׁתָּהּ.

**5** Behold, I have taught you statutes and ordinances, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the midst of the land whither ye go in to possess it.

**ו** וּשְׁמַרְתֶּם, וַעֲשִׂיתֶם--כִּי הוּא  
חֻכְמַתְכֶם וּבִינְתְּכֶם, לְעֵינַי  
הָעַמִּים: אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁמְעוּן, אֵת כָּל-  
הַחֻקִּים הָאֵלֶּה, וְאָמְרוּ רַק עַם-  
חָכָם וְנָבוֹן, הִגּוֹי הַגָּדוֹל הַזֶּה.

**6** Observe therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, that, when they hear all these statutes, shall say: 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.'

4. Berieshis 13: 13

**יג** וְאֲנָשֵׁי סְדֹם, רָעִים  
וְחַטָּאִים, לִיהוָה, מְאֹד.

**13** Now the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners against the LORD exceedingly.

5. Bereishis 19: 5-9

**ה** וַיִּקְרְאוּ אֶל-לוֹט וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ,  
אֵיךְ הָאֲנָשִׁים אֲשֶׁר-בָּאוּ אֵלֶיךָ  
הַלַּיְלָה; הוֹצִיאֵם אֵלֵינוּ, וְנִדְעָה

**5** And they called unto Lot, and said unto him: 'Where are the men that came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.'

אתם.

ו וַיֵּצֵא אֱלֹהִם לוֹט, הַפֶּתַח; וַהֲדֹלֶת, סָגַר אַחֲרָיו. 6 And Lot went out unto them to the door, and shut the door after him.

ז וַיֹּאמֶר: אֶל-נָא אַחִי, תִּרְעֹנוּ. 7 And he said: 'I pray you, my brethren, do not so wickedly.

ח הִנֵּה-נָא לִי שְׁתֵּי בָנוֹת, אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יָדְעוּ אִישׁ--אוֹצִיָּאה-נָא אֶתְהֶן אֵלֵיכֶם, וַעֲשׂוּ לָהֶן כְּטוֹב בְּעֵינֵיכֶם; רַק לְאִנְשֵׁים הָאֵל, אַל-תַּעֲשׂוּ דָבָר, כִּי-עַל-כֵּן בָּאוּ, בְּצֵל קִרְתִּי. 8 Behold now, I have two daughters that have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes; only unto these men do nothing; forasmuch as they are come under the shadow of my roof.'

ט וַיֹּאמְרוּ גֵשׁ-הֲלָאָה, וַיֹּאמְרוּ הָאֶחָד בָּא-לְגוֹר וַיִּשְׁפֹּט שְׁפוֹט--עֵתָהּ, נִרְעֵ לָךְ מֵהֶם; וַיִּפְצְרוּ בְּאִישׁ בְּלוֹט מְאֹד, וַיִּגְשׁוּ לְשֹׁבֵר הַדֹּלֶת. 9 And they said: 'Stand back.' And they said: 'This one fellow came in to sojourn, and he will needs play the judge; now will we deal worse with thee, than with them.' And they pressed sore upon the man, even Lot, and drew near to break the door.

6. Rashi on Bereishis 19: 5

ונדעה אותם. במשכב זכר כמו אשר לא ידעו איש

7. Ramban on Bereishis 19:5

THAT WE MAY KNOW THEM. Their intention [in their immoral actions] was to stop guests from [coming] among them, like the rabbis say, for they thought that because the goodness of their land which was "like the garden of Hashem" many would come there [to settle and share their wealth] and they hated charity. However, Lot [was allowed to live there] for he came with wealth and money. Also: they accepted him out of honor for Avram (his uncle).

8. Sanhedrin 109a

אמרו וכי מאחר שארץ ממנה יצא לחם ועפרות זהב לו למה לנו עוברי דרכים שאין באים אלינו אלא לחסרינו [מממונו] בואו ונשכח תורת רגל מארצנו ו

The people of Sodom said: Since we live in a land from which bread comes and has the dust of gold, we have everything that we need. Why do we need travelers, as they come only to divest us of our property? Come, let us cause the proper treatment of travelers to be forgotten from our land

9. Pirkei Avos 5:10

הַאֹמֵר שְׁלִי שְׁלִי וְשִׁלְךָ שְׁלֶךָ, זֶה מִדָּה בִּינוּנִית. וַיֵּשׁ אֲמָרִים, זֶה מִדַּת סְדוֹם.

One that says: "mine is mine, and yours is yours": this is a commonplace type; and some say this is a sodom-type of character.

10. Yechezkel 16: 46-49

**מו** וַאֲחוֹתֶיךָ הַגְּדוֹלָה שְׁמֶרֶון  
הִיא וּבָנוֹתֶיהָ, הַיּוֹשֶׁבֶת עַל-  
שְׂמֹאלֶיךָ; וַאֲחוֹתֶיךָ הַקְּטָנָה  
מִמֶּנּוּ, הַיּוֹשֶׁבֶת מִימִינֶךָ--סְדוֹם,  
וּבָנוֹתֶיהָ.

46 And thine elder sister is Samaria, that dwelleth at thy left hand, she and her daughters; and thy younger sister, that dwelleth at thy right hand, is Sodom and her daughters.

**מז** וְלֹא בְּדַרְכֵיהֶן הִלַכְתָּ,  
וּכְתוֹעֲבוֹתֵיהֶן עָשִׂיתָ  
(עָשִׂיתָ): כְּמַעַט קָטַנְתָּ, וַתִּשְׁחָתֵי  
מֵהֶן בְּכָל-דֶּרֶכֶיךָ.

47 Yet hast thou not walked in their ways, nor done after their abominations; but in a very little while thou didst deal more corruptly than they in all thy ways.

**מח** חִי-אֲנִי, נְאֻם אֲדֹנָי יְהוֹה,  
אִם-עָשִׂיתָ סְדוֹם אֲחוֹתֶיךָ, הִיא  
וּבָנוֹתֶיהָ--כַּאֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתָ, אֵת  
וּבָנוֹתֶיךָ.

48 As I live, saith the Lord GOD, Sodom thy sister hath not done, she nor her daughters, as thou hast done, thou and thy daughters.

**מט** הִנֵּה-זֶה הָיָה, עוֹן סְדוֹם  
אֲחוֹתֶיךָ: גָּאוֹן שְׂבִיעַת-לֶחֶם  
וְשִׁלּוֹת הַשֶּׁקֶט, הָיָה לָהּ

49 Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom: pride, fulness of bread, and careless ease was in her and in her daughters; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy

וּלְבָנוֹתֶיהָ, וַיֵּד-עָנִי וְאֶבְיוֹן, לֹא  
הִחְזִיקָהּ.

#### 11. Yeshayahu 1

יְהוָה דְּבַר-יְהוָה, קָצִינִי 10 Hear the word of the LORD, ye rulers of  
סֹדִם; הִאֲזִינוּ תוֹרַת אֱלֹהֵינוּ, Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God,  
עִם עַמָּהּ. ye people of Gomorrah.

יֵא לָמָּה-לִּי רַב-זִבְחֵיכֶם 11 To what purpose is the multitude of your  
יֹאמֶר יְהוָה, שְׁבַעְתִּי עֹלוֹת sacrifices unto Me? saith the LORD; I am  
אֵילִים וְחֶלֶב מְרִיאִים; וַיִּדַּם full of the burnt-offerings of rams, and the  
פָּרִים וְכִבְשִׁים וְעִתוּדִים, לֹא blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he-  
חִפְצִתִּי. goats.

טו רַחֲצוּ, הִזְכּוּ--הִסִּירוּ רָע 16 Wash you, make you clean, put away the  
מַעַלְלֵיכֶם, מִנֶּגֶד עֵינַי: חֲדְלוּ, evil of your doings from before Mine eyes,  
הָרָע. cease to do evil;

יז לִמְדוּ הַיָּטִב דְּרָשׁוּ מִשְׁפָּט, 17 Learn to do well; seek justice, relieve  
אֲשֶׁרוֹ חֲמוּץ; שִׁפְטוּ יָתוֹם, the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead  
רִיבוֹ אֶלְמָנָה. {ס} for the widow.

#### 12. Yeshayahu 1

כו וְאֲשִׁיבָה שֹׁפְטֶיךָ 26 And I will restore thy judges as at the  
כְּבָרָאשְׁנָה, וַיַּעֲצִיךָ כְּבִתְחִלָּה; first, and thy counsellors as at the  
אַחֲרֵי-כֵן, וְקָרָא לָךְ עִיר beginning; afterward thou shalt be called  
הַצֶּדֶק--קִרְיָה, נְאֻמָּנָה. the city of righteousness, the faithful city.

כז צִיּוֹן, בְּמִשְׁפָּט תִּפְדָּה; 27 Zion shall be redeemed with justice, and  
וְשָׁבְתָהּ, בְּצֶדֶקָה. they that return of her with righteousness.

#### 13. Yirmiyahu 22

**א** כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה, רֵד בֵּית-מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה ; וְדַבֵּרְתָּ שָׁם, אֶת-הַדְּבָר הַזֶּה.

**1** Thus said the LORD: Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word,

**ב** וְאָמַרְתָּ, שְׁמַע דְּבַר-יְהוָה, מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה, הַיֹּשֵׁב עַל-כִּסֵּא דָוִד : אַתָּה וְעַבְדֶּיךָ וְעַמֶּךָ, הַבָּאִים בְּשַׁעְרֵי הָאֵלֶּה.

**2** and say: Hear the word of the LORD, O king of Judah, that sittest upon the throne of David, thou, and thy servants, and thy people that enter in by these gates.

**ג** כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה, עֲשׂוּ מִשְׁפָּט וְצִדְקָה, וְהַצִּילוּ גְזוּל, מִיַּד עָשׂוֹק ; וְגַר יְתוֹם וְאַלְמָנָה אַל-תִּגְנוּ, אַל-תַּחֲמִסוּ, וְדָם נָקִי, אַל-תִּשְׁפְּכוּ בַּמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה.

**3** Thus saith the LORD: Execute ye justice and righteousness, and deliver the spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor; and do no wrong, do no violence, to the stranger, the fatherless, nor the widow, neither shed innocent blood in this place.

Yirmiyahu 23

**ה** הִנֵּה יָמִים בָּאִים נֹאֲם-יְהוָה, וְהִקְמַתִּי לְדָוִד צֶמַח צַדִּיק ; וּמֶלֶךְ מֶלֶךְ וְהִשְׁכִּיל, וְעָשָׂה מִשְׁפָּט וְצִדְקָה בְּאֶרֶץ.

**5** Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous shoot, and he shall reign as king and prosper, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

**ו** בַּיָּמִיו תִּנָּשַׁע יְהוּדָה, וְיִשְׂרָאֵל יִשְׁכֹּן לְבֶטֶח ; וְזֶה-שְּׁמוֹ אֲשֶׁר-יִקְרָאוּ, יְהוָה צַדִּיקְנוּ. { פ }

**6** In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely; and this is his name whereby he shall be called, The LORD is our righteousness.

#### 14.Rambam Guide to the Perplexed

the perfection, in which man can truly glory, is attained by him when he has acquired--as far as this is possible for man--the knowledge of God, the knowledge of His Providence, and of the manner in which it influences His creatures in their production and continued existence. Having acquired this knowledge he will then be determined always to seek loving-kindness, judgment, and righteousness, and thus to imitate the ways of God.

15. Yeshayahu 42:6, 7

וְאֲנִי יְהוָה קָרָאתִיךָ 6 I the LORD have called thee in righteousness,  
בְּצִדְקָה, וְאַחֲזַק בְּיָדְךָ; and have taken hold of thy hand, and kept thee,  
וְאֶצְרְךָ, וְאֶתֶּנְךָ לְבְרִית and set thee for a covenant of the people, for a  
עַם--לְאֹר גוֹיִם. light of the nations;

ז לִפְקֹחַ, עֵינַיִם עֲוֵרוֹת; 7 To open the blind eyes, to bring out the  
לְהוֹצִיא מִמִּסְגֵּר אֲסִיר, prisoners from the dungeon, and them that sit in  
מִבֵּית כָּלָא יֹשְׁבֵי חֹשֶׁךְ. darkness out of the prison-house.