

Genesis 19:34-38

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The next day, the older sister convinced the younger sister to do what she had done the night before. Again, Lot was given too much wine and the younger daughter had sexual relations with him. Lot was unaware of this event also.

The two daughters became pregnant. The oldest daughter named her son Moab and he became the father of the Moabites. The younger daughter's son became the father of the Ammonites.

Here the *firstborn* daughter urged her *younger* sister to follow her scheme, to *make him drink wine tonight also; then you go in and lie with him, that we may preserve our family through our father*. So the younger daughter did the same, making her *father drink wine...and lay with him*. Lot *did not know when she lay down or when she arose*. Both of Lot's daughters were *with child by their father*.

The oldest bore a son and *called his name Moab*. The name Moab means "from my father." Moab was *the father of the Moabites*. The territory of Moab was east of the Dead Sea between the Zered River and the Arnon River. It was largely a mountainous terrain. The Moabites are mentioned over 190 times in the Bible. They usually had hostile relationships with the Israelites (Judges 3: 12-30; [2 Samuel 8:2-12](#); [2 Kings 4:3-27](#)).

Sometimes there were instances of influence on the Israelites. Moab Women seduced some Israelites during the wilderness wandering period at Baal of Peor ([Numbers 25:1-9](#)). However, the union of Ruth (a Moabitess) and Boaz reconciled the alienated families of Lot and Abraham, which provided Israel's greatest king, David ([Ruth 1:1-22, 4:13, 17-22](#)). The Moabites were defeated by the power of the Assyrians, Babylonians, and Persians.

The younger daughter also bore a son and *called his name Ben-ammi*. Ben-ammi means "son of my kinsmen." Ben-ammi was *the father of the sons of Ammon*. The Ammonites were part of the inhabitants of Canaan when Israel conquered the land. They lived east of the Jordan between the Arnon and Jabbok rivers. Their capital city was Rabbah. The Ammonites were hostile toward Israel ([Judges 3:13, 10:9-10, 11:4-36](#)). Interestingly, King Solomon submitted to the lure of Molech, the god of Ammon. He built a high place to burn incense and sacrifice to Molech to please his foreign wives ([1 Kings](#)

11:7-8; [Jeremiah 32:35](#)). The worship of Molech included sacrifice of babies, and was particularly loathed by God ([Leviticus 18:21](#); [20:2-5](#); [Jer 32:35](#)).

The fact that Lot's two daughters are not named gives us a clue that they were taken out of Sodom, but Sodom was not taken out of them. Their actions and attitudes seem to have laid a foundation for societies that produced substantial evil. However, God desires to redeem all of humanity. Rahab was a Canaanite and the mother of Boaz, and Ruth was a Moabitess and was the wife of Boaz and the grandmother of king David ([Matt 5:1](#)).

Both the Moabites and the Ammonites would become enemies of Abraham's descendants ([Genesis 36:35](#); [Judges 3:13,29](#); [Deuteronomy 2:37](#); [1 Samuel 11:2](#), [14:47](#); [2 Chronicles 20:1](#)).

Biblical Text:

³⁴ On the following day, the firstborn said to the younger, "Behold, I lay last night with my father; let us make him drink wine tonight also; then you go in and lie with him, that we may preserve our family through our father." ³⁵ So they made their father drink wine that night also, and the younger arose and lay with him; and he did not know when she lay down or when she arose. ³⁶ Thus both the daughters of Lot were with child by their father. ³⁷ The firstborn bore a son, and called his name Moab; he is the father of the Moabites to this day. ³⁸ As for the younger, she also bore a son, and called his name Ben-ammi; he is the father of the sons of Ammon to this day.