

Abram Defeats the Kings of the East

War Between Two Coalitions of Kings

Gn 14 ¹ And it came to pass in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of nations, ² that they made war with Bera king of Sodom, Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar). ³ All these joined together in the Valley of Siddim (that is, the Salt Sea). ⁴ Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth year they rebelled.

⁵ In the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer and the kings that were with him came and attacked the Rephaim in Ashteroth Karnaim, the Zuzim in Ham, the Emim in Shaveh Kiriathaim, ⁶ and the Horites in their mountain of Seir, as far as El Paran, which is by the wilderness. ⁷ Then they turned back and came to En Mishpat (that is, Kadesh), and attacked all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites who dwelt in Hazezon Tamar.

⁸ And the king of Sodom, the king of Gomorrah, the king of Admah, the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar) went out and joined together in battle in the Valley of Siddim ⁹ against Chedorlaomer king of Elam, Tidal king of nations, Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar—four kings against five. ¹⁰ Now the Valley of Siddim was full of asphalt pits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled; some fell there, and the remainder fled to the mountains. ¹¹ Then they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their provisions, and went their way. ¹² They also took Lot, Abram's brother's son who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

– **We have** previously seen that Shinar was where the _____ was built (11.2-4).

– **The coalition** of overlord kings lay to the _____ of Canaan.

– **The coalition** of vassal kings dwelt in the vicinity of the _____ Sea, also known as the _____ Sea.

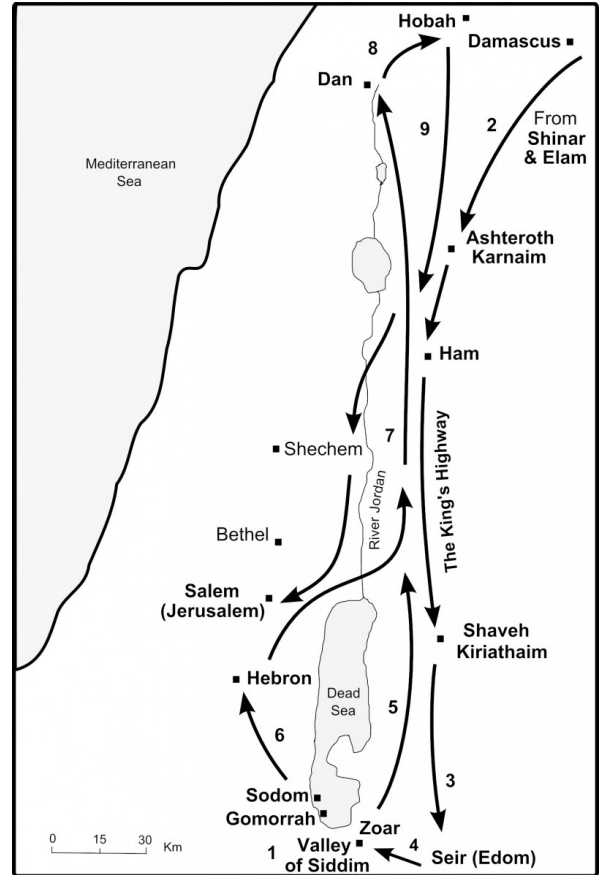
– **Amraphel** was _____ among the Eastern kings, but Chedorlaomer was directly _____ the Salt Sea kings.

– **The tribute** paid by the vassal kings could consist of gold, silver, produce, but also perhaps _____ (11.3).

– **Among the captives** of the Eastern kings was _____ and his family.

Abram's Response

Gn 14 ¹³ Then one who had escaped came and told Abram the Hebrew, for he dwelt by the terebinth trees of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and brother of Aner; and they were allies with Abram. ¹⁴ Now when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his three hundred and eighteen trained servants who were born in his own house, and went in pursuit as far as Dan. ¹⁵ He divided his forces against them by night, and he and his servants attacked them and pursued them as far as Hobah, which is north of Damascus. ¹⁶ So he brought back all the goods, and also brought back his brother Lot and his goods, as well as the women and the people.



– **That the escapee** knew of “Abram the Hebrew” means Abram was known and _____.

– **Abram's alliance** with the three Amorite brothers suggests that they had come to _____ the LORD.

– **Abram** was accompanied by his _____ in pursuing the Eastern kings (24).

– **Abram routed** the Eastern kings by _____.

Response of the Kings of Salem and Sodom

Gn 14 ¹⁷ And the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley), after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him. ¹⁸ Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. ¹⁹ And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; ²⁰ And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he gave him a tithe of all. ²¹ Now the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself." ²² But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have raised my hand to the LORD, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth, ²³ that I will take nothing, from a thread to a sandal strap, and that I will not take anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich' — ²⁴ except only what the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men who went with me: Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion."

– Salem will later be known as _____.

– What makes Mel. such a powerful picture of Christ?

1) Mel. is king of _____ and _____.

2) Mel. is both king and _____.

3) Mel. establishes the _____ of Christ's priesthood.

4) Mel.'s priestly order is not by succession, but by the power of an _____ life.

Ps 2¹ The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool. ² ... Rule in the midst of Your enemies! ... ⁴ ... You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek." ⁵ ... He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath. ⁶ He shall judge among the nations

Hb 7¹ Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, ... ² ... first being translated "king of righteousness," and then also king of Salem, meaning "king of peace" ... ³ without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually. ⁴ Now consider how great this man was, to whom even the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth of the spoils ... ⁶ [He] received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises. ⁷ Now beyond all contradiction the lesser is blessed by the better ... ¹⁴ [O]ur Lord arose from Judah, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood. ¹⁵ [So] in the likeness of Melchizedek, there arises another priest ¹⁶ who has come,

not according to the law ..., but according to the power of an endless life. ¹⁷ For He testifies: "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."

– What is the choice that the kings of Salem and Sodom present Abram?

– What is the choice that Abram makes and why?

– Application points:

1) God's plan of redemption entails restoration of dominion over the earth by _____ men in the face of _____ men.

2) Conquest is only by the _____ of God, who is _____ over everything we encounter.

3) Getting God's sovereignty does not produce cowardice, passivity, or naivety, but _____, _____, and _____ under the blessing of God.

Ps 34 A PSALM OF DAVID WHEN HE PRETENDED MADNESS BEFORE ABIMELECH, WHO DROVE HIM AWAY, AND HE DEPARTED. ... ² My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; The humble shall hear of it and be glad ... ⁴ I sought the LORD, and He heard me, And delivered me from all my fears ... ⁶ This poor man cried out, and the LORD heard him, And saved him out of all his troubles ... ⁸ Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

Ps 18²⁹ [B]y You I can run against a troop, By my God I can leap over a wall ... ³² It is God who arms me with strength, And makes my way perfect ... ³⁴ He teaches my hands to make war, So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze. ³⁵ You have also given me the shield of Your salvation