

Genesis - Lesson 14

Genesis Chapter 14

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Memory verses for this week: *Col 1:26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: Col 1:27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:*

Introduction: We continue our study on the book of Genesis this week as we get into chapter 14 which is about the first recorded war and the rescue of Lot by his uncle.

I. Abram's Rescue of Lot

Gen 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;*

Gen 14:2 *That these made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, which is Zoar.*

Gen 14:3 *All these were joined together in the vale of Siddim, which is the salt sea.*

Gen 14:4 *Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth year they rebelled.*

Gen 14:5 *And in the fourteenth year came Chedorlaomer, and the kings that were with him, and smote the Rephaims in Ashteroth Karnaim, and the Zuzims in Ham, and the Emims in Shaveh Kiriathaim,*

Gen 14:6 *And the Horites in their mount Seir, unto Elparan, which is by the wilderness.*

Gen 14:7 *And they returned, and came to Enmishpat, which is Kadesh, and smote all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites, that dwelt in Hazezontamar.*

Gen 14:8 *And there went out the king of Sodom, and the king of Gomorrah, and the king of Admah, and the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (the same is Zoar;) and they joined battle with them in the vale of Siddim;*

Gen 14:9 *With Chedorlaomer the king of Elam, and with Tidal king of nations, and Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar; four kings with five.*

Gen 14:10 *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.*

Abram is here a type of Christ, our deliverer. He intercedes and helps us, when we are taken captive by Satan.

1Co 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Several kings joined together to form a Confederacy in the first recorded war. Verse 1 says that in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of nations; That these made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, which is Zoar.

This first recorded war foreshadows the last great war of the tribulation. It will be consummated by Christ coming to rescue His own, and to punish the evil ones. Today, in the end times, our age is an age of wars.

Mat 24:4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

Mat 24:5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

Mat 24:6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

Mat 24:7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

Mat 24:8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

Genesis chapter 17 gives us a divine record of these kings and their countries. So called bible scholars and supposedly higher critics used to deny such O. T. records. Digging through the ruins of ancient cities, they have found the record of some of these kings. At no time has the result of archeology ever disproved any of the Bible. If it ever does, we should just believe God and know He is always true.

As in many of the wars of our era, the motive for these wars--greed, to get the spoil of the enemy.

Jas 4:1 From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?

Jas 4:2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.

Jas 4:3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

Matthew Henry had this to say about this first war recorded in the bible.

We have here an account of the first war that ever we read of in scripture, which (though the wars of the nations make the greatest figure in history) we should not have had the history of if Abram and Lot had not been concerned in it. Now, concerning this war, we may observe,

The parties engaged in it. The invaders were four kings, two of them no less than kings of Shinar and Elam (that is, Chaldea and Persia), yet probably not the sovereign princes of those great kingdoms in their own persons, but either officers under them, or rather the heads and leaders of some colonies which came out of those great nations, and settled themselves near Sodom, but retained the names of the countries from which they

had their origin. The invaders were the kings of five cities that lay near together in the plain of Jordan, namely, Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboiim, and Zoar. Four of them are named, but not the fifth, the king of Zoar or Bela, either because he was much more mean and inconsiderable or because he was much more wicked and inglorious than the rest, and worthy to be forgotten.

Gen 14:11 And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their victuals, and went their way.

Gen 14:12 And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

We know when Lot and Abram separated in last week's lesson, both men were well off and had many cattle and much wealth. Lot now loses his wealth and his freedom.

It all started with his decision to look to the well watered plains of Jordan. He had chosen the wrong place which was of the world, Sodom.

Gen 13:10 And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar.

Gen 13:11 Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.

If we let the physical man guide us, we will not choose the ways of the Lord. The spiritual man will guide us into happiness and success. But Lot's treasure was in the wrong place. Jesus taught the disciples to lay up treasures in heaven, not here on earth.

Mat 6:19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

Mat 6:20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

Mat 6:21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

This is also a picture of the end time.

Jas 5:1 Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you.

Jas 5:2 Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten.

Jas 5:3 Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days.

Jas 5:4 Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth.

Jas 5:5 Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished

your hearts, as in a day of slaughter.

Jas 5:6 Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you.

Mat 13:22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.

Mat 13:23 But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

1Ti 6:9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

1Ti 6:10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Gen 14:13 And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram the Hebrew; for he dwelt in the plain of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol, and brother of Aner: and these were confederate with Abram.

Gen 14:14 And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto Dan.

Gen 14:15 And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto Hobah, which is on the left hand of Damascus.

Gen 14:16 And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

One of Lot's group escapes and comes and tells Abram what had transpired. Abram armed his trained servants and they head out to rescue Lot.

Note some of the Key points about this situation.

1. Abram receives word of Lot's predicament. v. 13
2. Abram risks everything for lot. v. 14
3. He has a courageous victory. v. 15;

One of my favorite verses in the bible is Proverbs 28:1

Pro 28:1 The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion.

Just like Abram, if we know the Lord and go into battle, we can go with courage knowing that if we do die, we go on to a greater place to be with the Lord. We should fear no one or anything that Satan throws in our path. God is greater than all.

4. Abram has the complete victory. v. 16

There are several Spiritual Lessons:

a. Lot represents a disobedient brother.

Gal 6:1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

b. We should follow Abram's example in helping a brother.

c. Abram represents the Lord Jesus, who helps the child of God.

d. Christ not only delivers, but he restores all.

Jas 5:20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

John Wesley in his commentaries said this about the trained servants of Abram.

He armed his trained servants, born in his house - To the number of three hundred and eighteen: a great family, but a small army; about as many as Gideon's that routed the Midianites, *Jdg 7:7*. He drew out his trained servants, or his catechized servants; not only instructed in the art of war, but instructed in the principles of religion; for Abram commanded his household to keep the way of the Lord.

God wants us to be trained for battle when it comes with Satan. You will not be able to stand in that day without all the armor and weapons that God gives those who will but take them and become skillful in their use.

Eph 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Eph 6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Eph 6:13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

Eph 6:15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Eph 6:16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Eph 6:18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Eph 6:19 And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,

II. Abram's Meeting with Two Kings

Gen 14:17 And the king of Sodom went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer, and of the kings that were with him, at the valley of Shaveh, which is the king's dale.

Gen 14:18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.

Gen 14:19 And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

Gen 14:20 And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

We do not have a lot of information about the king that came from Salem, but we know for sure that Melchizedek was a type of Christ. v. 18-20

Melchizedek was the king of Salem. (King of peace) Salem the ancient name of Jerusalem. He brought forth bread and wine which reminds us of the Lord's Supper. Christ is the bread of life. Wine maketh glad the heart of man. Christ's priesthood was after the order of Melchizedek.

Psa 110:4 The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

The typology of Melchizedek is so much like Christ.

His human descent was not recorded in the bible.

Heb 7:1 For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him;

Heb 7:2 To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace;

Heb 7:3 Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually.

His birth and death were unrecorded as mentioned there in Heb. 7:3. Also, he was made like unto the son of God. This seems to rule out that he actually was Christ. He also had greatness. In verse 20, we have record that Abram gave tithes to this king of Salem. This is the first mention of the tithe in Genesis. This was over 400 years before the law.

III. King Of Sodom A Type Of Satan

Gen 14:21 And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself.

Gen 14:22 And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the

*LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth,
Gen 14:23 That I will not take from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not
take any thing that is thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich:*

*Gen 14:24 Save only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the
men which went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion.*

Be sure that after a great victory, the devil will show up.

*Gen 14:17 And the king of Sodom went out to meet him after his return from the
slaughter of Chedorlaomer, and of the kings that were with him, at the valley of
Shaveh, which is the king's dale.*

The devil wants people to serve him. Note verse 21. The devil also wants us to be obligated to him. As Christians, we should be careful not to get mixed up with the devil's crowd. If we have the Lord, He will provide, What do we need with the devil's provision. This is an example of personal separation.

*Php 4:19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by
Christ Jesus.*

Php 4:20 Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. In rescuing Lot, Abram was a type of:

Christ

2. Who went with Abram to rescue Lot?

His trained servants who knew how to fight.

3. Who did Abram give tithes to, after returning?

King of Salem, Melchizedek

4. Who was this man a type of?

Jesus Christ

5. Who was the king that tried to reward Abram?

The King of Sodom who typified Satan.

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Prov 4:18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

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Practice Random Acts of Kindness. Each act spreads, and many will be blessed.