

Abram Wins a Battle and Gains a Blessing **Genesis 14:1-24**

Lot gets captured in a battle between nine kings. 1-12

- ◆Shinar shows up again in a bad context, recall 11:2
- ◆Giants show up again: Rephaim, Zuzim, Emim, Deut. 2:9-21.
- ◆This war helps explain the later rise of Ammon, Moab, & Edom.

Abram rescues Lot by defeating four victorious kings. 13-16

- ◆Abram's personal army is very impressive but still so very tiny.
- ◆What does this daring rescue say about Abram?
- ◆This victory resembles Jdgs. 7:12ff. How can this later help Israel?

Abram chooses to be blessed by only one of two kings. 17-24

- ◆After his victory Abram is met by two kings. Note their differences.
 - 1) King Melchizedek: He offers Abram food, drink, & a blessing.
 - 2) King of Sodom: He tries to bargain with Abram, who resists the tempting offer of taking spoils of war. Was this normal?
- ◆What should we make of Abram giving a tenth to Melchizedek?
This mysterious King shows up Ps.110 and Heb. 5:6-10, 6:20-7:17. In Hebrews he is viewed as a type of Christ—a King-Priest over Jerusalem with no physical priestly lineage.

What should we learn from Abram's choices here?

