

LOT CHOOSES THE WORLD / Chapter 13  
MELCHIZEDEK, KING OF SALEM / Chapter 14

Abram, Sarai, and Lot with all the wealth they had in livestock and servants left Egypt for the Negev. He was becoming one of the wealthiest men in the country. They returned to Bethel and worshiped God where he had built an altar before.

Lot had plenty of livestock, also, but was not as wealthy as Abram. The land could not feed both groups and their herds and the herdsmen, as well as the neighboring Canaanites, began to fight over the area.

Abram took the high road, even though he could have had first choice, he gave Lot his choice in where he wanted to go. Lot lifted his eyes and saw the lush plain of Jordan, that reminded him of the delta in Egypt which produced so much food and, also, what God's garden of Eden must have been like. He had found his own paradise! The best of the best.

So, Lot and his group headed for the eastern side of Dead Sea and found the perfect location to pitch his tent, just outside the pagan city of Sodom.

Abram took the area on the west side, the area of the Canaanites. He remained a tent dweller while Lot was drawn to the attraction of worldly city life. Both men were counted righteous and both lived in the world and had to deal with nonbelievers as we do today. However, Lot chose to embrace the world's attractions while Abram remained a sojourner.

In verses 14-18 God spoke to Abram and said, "Look to the north, to the east, to the south and to west. All this land you see, I will give you and your descendants forever. You won't be able to count the number of descendants! So, get up and start walking its length and its breadth.

Look at Deuteronomy 11:24 where God repeats this promise to Moses, and again, in Joshua 1:3.

"Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that I have given you, as I said unto Moses." The Abram moved his tent to the plain of Mamre, in Hebron and built an altar there and worshiped God.

#### Chapter 14

##### Verses 1-4

During this time, most kings were just little frogs in a big pond, usually little "dictators" of cities. For twelve years four of the kings over large areas had been putting the squeeze on small city-states to pay tribute to them, but the little frogs got fed up and decided to rebel.

The four big kings mentioned in verse 1 are the following:

Amraphel, King of Shinar. Shinar is another name for Ur, Land of Chaldes, Babylon. Rabbinic writing says this is Nimrod's real name, which means "causes to fall," referring to fall of tower, and he was nicknamed Nimrod as it means "the Rebel."

Arioch (the Lion) King of Ellasar

Chedorlaomer, King of Elam (later Persia)

Tedal, King of Goyim (several other groups together)

##### Verses 5-16

These four Kings had to teach them a lesson so they started from the North and hitting there first and working their way down through what we call Jordan today. The names of the groups they hit were all Raphaim, the giants like Goliath. They got all the way South to Sodom and the other cities around the Dead Sea. Verse 9 says, four kings against five. Not good odds for the Dead Seas people. The little frogs headed for the hills with their armies of men, but fear and panic struck and most fell into the slime pits in the area. Any who survived continued into the hills.

Easy pickings for the big four. Notice that Lot has now moved into the city of Sodom and he was taken captive with all his stuff.

One person made an escape and ran to Abram for help. Abram was living the plain of Mamre, an

Amorite who had two brothers. Abram had alliances with these men. Abram armed 318 young men, from among his servants and was able, with God's help, to chase them back up into the North near Damascus where he rescued Lot, women and goods.

Verses 17-24

Abram was greeted as a hero by the kings, but the important King introduced to us here is Melchizedek, King of Salem (first time Salem shows up.) He offered bread and wine. Though it is a picture of our communion with God, most scholars believe this is simply an offer of hospitality to Abram.

Melchizedek was the priest of the most high God.

So, who is Melchizedek, anyway? Melek means "king." "Zedakka" is righteousness.

Called the King of Righteousness, he is a "type of Christ."

It is very possible that this is Shem, still alive and serving God as high priest in the place where God "wrote his Name."

Abram was blessed and God who gave the victory was blessed. Abram then then gave tithes of all he had gotten.

The King of Sodom, whose name means "gift" offered all the loot from Sodom to Abram, minus the people, but Abram refused. He didn't want anyone to think his gain was from a man but to know all was from God. He only accepted that which the men had eaten for nourishment and portion for the men of his alliance (Mamre and brothers.)

ABRA -  
(AVRAM) - called "friend of God" -

Jesus said, "Ye are my friends if you do whatso ever I command you."

many types of Christ, but Abraham is the only type in Scripture of God

the Father  
- He gave his only begotten son and was Father of the Jews and now me as Christian became part of his family -

TERAH

