

“Melchizedek King of Salem” Genesis 14:1-24 1/03/21

Today, we'd like to see the title of “Melchizedek King of Salem” in Genesis 14:1-24.

To Online Word's people, *through MP3 or YouTube*, on the earth, we'd like to suggest the 3 Questions. ([_____ Maranatha Worship Songs](#); Videos are seeable upon the click on the website)

Q1. In verse 12, “They also took Lot, Abram’s brother’s son who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed,” what is Lot’s character and its cost? And what can we learn from here?

Q2. In verse 18, “Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High,” what does it mean? And explain the relationship between Melchizedek and Jesus in the Scripture?

Q3. In verse 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’,” what is Abram’s character? And what can we learn from here?

(Background for Daily Bible Reading and Studying Weekly Book Basis)

Abram moved from Ur of the Chaldean, Haran, to Canaan land with Egypt.

(Gen 11:31-32) And Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot, the son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram’s wife, and they went out with them from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to the land of Canaan; and they came to Haran and dwelt there. ³² So the days of Terah were two hundred and five years, and Terah died in Haran; (Gen 12:1, 8, 11)¹ Now the LORD had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, From your family And from your father’s house, To a land that I will show you. ⁸ And he moved from there to the mountain east of Bethel, and he pitched his tent *with* Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; there he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD. ¹¹ And it came to pass, when he was close to entering Egypt, that he said to Sarai his wife, “Indeed I know that you *are* a woman of beautiful countenance.”; (Gen 13:12) Abram dwelt in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelt in the cities of the plain and pitched *his* tent even as far as Sodom.

Abram settled in Hebron of the Canaan land:

(Gen 13:18) Then Abram moved *his* tent, and went and dwelt by the terebinth trees of Mamre, which *are* in Hebron, and built an altar there to the LORD.

Text: NKJV [KJV]

Explanation

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

¹= ...Shinar....Ellasar....Elam.....nations [Goyim, NIV] (the 4 kings of 4 areas in Middle East – Sinar was Babylon; Eliasar was Euphrates River area; Elam was Persia area; nations or Goyim was scattered nomad area – the leading powerful king of the 4 kings was

<p>of <u>nations</u>, ² <i>that</i> they made war with Bera king of <u>Sodom</u>, Birsha king of <u>Gomorrah</u>, Shinab king of <u>Admah</u>, Shemeber king of <u>Zeboiim</u>, and the king of Bela (that is, <u>Zoar</u>). ³ <u>All these joined together in the Valley of Siddim</u> (that is, <u>the Salt Sea</u>). ⁴ <u>Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth year they rebelled.</u></p> <p>⁵ <u>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,</u> ⁶ and the Horites in their mountain of <u>Seir</u>, as far as El Paran, which is by the wilderness. ⁷ Then they turned back and came to En Mishpat (that is, <u>Kadesh</u>), and attacked all the country of the <u>Amalekites</u>, and also the <u>Amorites</u> who dwelt in Hazon Tamar.</p> <p>⁸ And <u>the king of Sodom, the king of Gomorrah, the king of Admah, the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela</u> (that is, <u>Zoar</u>) went out and joined together in <u>battle in the Valley of Siddim</u> ⁹ <u>against Chedorlaomer king of Elam, Tidal king of nations, Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar—four kings against five.</u> ¹⁰ Now the Valley of Siddim <u>was full of asphalt pits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled; some fell there, and the remainder fled to the mountains.</u> ¹¹ Then <u>they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their provisions, and went their way.</u></p> <p>¹² <u>They also took Lot, Abram’s brother’s son who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.</u></p>	<p>Chedorlaomer king)</p> <p>2= ...Sodom.... Gomorrah....Admah ...Zeboiim...Zoar (the 5 kings of 5 areas close to Dead Sea or Salt Sea – Then most cities had their own kings)</p> <p>3= All these joined together in the Valley of Siddim...the Salt Sea (So, the 5 kings were allies, against the other 4 kings enemy allies in verse 1. But they were defeated)</p> <p>4= 12 years they served Chedorlaomer (So, they had paid tribute to Chedorlaomer the leading powerful king of the enemy 4 kings allies for 12 years)...in 13th year they rebelled (It is interesting that 13 number is a symbol of rebellion or Satan)</p> <p>5-7 (the 4 kings and their armies from North attacked the Canaan land to the far South to reach the Salt Sea area)</p> <p>5= In the 14th year Chedorlaomer and the kings....attacked..... (See a reliable map of Canaan land)</p> <p>8= ..the king of Sodom, the king of Gomorrah.....battle in the Valley of Siddim (the 5 allied kings and their armies made a war in the valley near to the Salt Sea against Chedorlaomer allies the invaders)</p> <p>9= against Chedorlaomer king of Elam.... 4 kings against 5 (4 kings against the 5 kings)</p> <p>10=...full of asphalt pits....the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled; some fell there (the kings and others fell into mud or asphalt pits – even today the mud is near to salt sea); the remainder fled to the mountains (there are a lot of mountains – Masada the tall mountain is seen from the salt sea)</p> <p>11= ...they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their provisions...went their way (they took spoils and turned back home to the north bound)</p> <p>12=Q1 They also took Lot, Abram’s brother’s son who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods (They took Lot – Abram’s nephew -- as a captive and took his possession at Sodom; When Lot’s herders quarreled for more land to feed livestock with Abram’s herders, Lot did not try to stop the strife but chose exceedingly wicked and sinful Sodom by sight, not by faith, upon Abram’s suggestion to stop it <i>Gen 13:7-13¹</i>;</p>
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¹ Gen 13:7-13 And there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram’s livestock and the herdsmen of Lot’s

<p><u>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.</u></p> <p><u>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.</u></p> <p><u>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.</u></p> <p><u>18 Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God</u></p>	<p>Lot's covetousness or greed by sight cost him liberty and joyfulness now. He faced slavery. It's lessoned we should live by faith – by living on the words of God – not by sight. <i>2 Cor 5:7</i>² No matter circumstances, ask the Lord what His applicable words are and how you should do).</p> <p>13= Then one.....told Abram the Hebrew....he...by the terebinth trees of Mamre....allied with Abram (the messenger told Abram about Lot's captivity. Mamre and he who lived by Mamre's trees became allied with Abram against the 4 kings invaders)</p> <p>14= ...when Abram heard that....he armed his 318 trained servant...born in his own house (Abram was already very rich of livestock and servants, blessed by God <i>Gen 13:2</i>³); went in pursuit as far as Dan (they were pursuing immediately Chedorlaomer king the leader with his other 3 kings and armies – Abram must have been with the Lord even in this emergency situation)</p> <p>15= He divided his forces against them by night (Abram used a guerrilla tactic to attack the invaders).....attacked them and pursued them as far as...north of Damascus (Abram and his allies pursued the invaders up to Damascus, today the capital city of Syria)</p> <p>16=...brought back all the goods...his brother Lot and his goods...the women and the people (Abram and allies brought back their possessions and people including Lot, defeating Chedorlaomer and his allies in verse 17b)</p> <p>17= ..the king of Sodom.....to meet him at...the King's valley (exceedingly wicked and sinful Sodom's king went out to meet Abram); after his return from the defeat..... (after Abram's victorious return)</p> <p>18= Q2 Melchizedek (here, the 1st time his name appeared. About 1,000 years later in David's psalm the 2nd time his name appeared. And about 1,000 years later in Hebrews the 3rd time his name appeared <i>Psalm 110:4</i>; <i>Heb 7:1-3</i>⁴ ; So, he was "without genealogy" but was</p>
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livestock. The Canaanites and the Perizzites then dwelt in the land.⁸ So Abram said to Lot, "Please let there be no strife between you and me, and between my herdsmen and your herdsmen; for we are brethren. ⁹ Is not the whole land before you? Please separate from me. If you take the left, then I will go to the right; or, if you go to the right, then I will go to the left."¹⁰ And Lot lifted his eyes and saw all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere (before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah) like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt as you go toward Zoar. ¹¹ Then Lot chose for himself all the plain of Jordan, and Lot journeyed east. And they separated from each other. ¹² Abram dwelt in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelt in the cities of the plain and pitched his tent even as far as Sodom. ¹³ But the men of Sodom were exceedingly wicked and sinful against the LORD.

² *2 Cor 5:7* For we walk by faith, not by sight.

³ *Gen 13:2* Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold.

⁴ *Psalm 110:4* The LORD has sworn And will not relent, "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek."; *Heb 7:1-3* For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, ² to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated "king of righteousness," and then also king of Salem, meaning "king of peace," ³ without father, without

<p><u>Most High.</u></p> <p><u>19 And he blessed him</u> and said: “Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth;</p> <p><u>20 And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand.” And he gave him a tithe of all.</u></p>	<p>“made like the son of God,” So,2 interpretations (1) he was a type of Jesus Christ, so related to Jesus Christ; (2) theophany – a humankind of God appeared before the incarnated Jesus Christ. Abram saw Jesus Christ <i>John 8:56-57⁵</i>); king of Salem (this title means the king of peace. The other 3 titles are the king of righteousness and the possessor of heaven and earth in verse 19b and the priest of God Most High); bread and wine (who brought bread and wine? Melchizedek. Like Jesus’ communion service -- His body and blood for our sins <i>Mat 26:26-28⁶</i>)....the priest of God Most High (the priest played the role between people and God; Levi priests were not perfect because of sinful men but Jesus Christ is the perfect priest between people and God because He is a sinless or perfect man and perfect God. He is the priest of God Most High or High priest forever, and all Christians are priests by faith which is of Jesus Christ <i>Job 9:32-33; Heb 7:11, 12, 17, 26, 27; 1 Tim 2:5; John 14:6; 1 Peter 2:9⁷</i>)</p> <p>19= ...he blessed him (Melchizedek the greater blessed Abram the lesser <i>Heb 7:7⁸</i>); Possessor of heaven and earth (This title of Melchizedek with the other titles – the king of Salem, the king of righteousness, and the priest of God Most High -- is the same as Jesus Christ’s <i>Heb 2:8; Psalm 2:8; Ps 8:6; Ps 110:1; Mat 22:44⁹</i>)</p> <p>20= ...blessed be God Most High (here, “blessed” means “glorified or pleased,” i.e., May God be glorified by us); Who has delivered your enemies into your hand (Melchizedek as the</p>
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mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.

⁵ *John 8:56-57* Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw *it* and was glad.⁵⁷ Then the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?”

⁶ *Mat 26:26-28* And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples and said, “Take, eat; this is My body.” ²⁷ Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸ For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

⁷ *Job 9:32-33* “For *He is* not a man, as *I am*, *That I* may answer Him, *And that* we should go to court together. ³³ Nor is there any mediator between us, *Who* may lay his hand on us both; *Heb 7:11, 12, 17, 26, 27¹¹* Therefore, if perfection were through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need *was there* that another priest should rise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be called according to the order of Aaron?

¹² For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law. ¹⁷ For He testifies: “You *are* a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek.” ²⁶ For such a High Priest was fitting for us, *who is* holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; ²⁷ who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people’s, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.; *1 Tim 2:5* For *there is* one God and one Mediator between God and men, *the Man* Christ Jesus; *John 14:6* Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me; *1 Peter 2:9* But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

⁸ *Heb 7:7* And without doubt the lesser is blessed by the greater.

⁹ *Heb 2:8* and put everything under their feet. “In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them; *Psalm 2:8* Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession; *Ps 8:6* You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet; *Ps 110:1* The LORD says to my lord: “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.” *Mat 22:44* “The Lord said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet.””

<p><u>21</u> Now <u>the king of Sodom said to Abram, “Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself.”</u></p> <p><u>22</u> But Abram said to the king of Sodom, “<u>I have raised my hand to the LORD, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth,</u></p> <p><u>23</u> that <u>I will take nothing</u>, from a thread to a sandal strap, and that I will <u>not take anything that is yours, lest you should say, ‘I have made Abram rich’—</u></p> <p><u>24</u> <u>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.</u>”</p>	<p>priest told Abram as God gave the victory to Abram over his enemies); ...he gave him a tithe of all (Abram accepted that word of God’s delivery from his enemies in full in light of verse 23, and in a thankful token, not in exchange for the victory, gave 1/10 of whatever given by God to the high priest Melchizedek, as we the Christians do so to the Lord with the heart to love the just God. The heartless tithes and offerings are not accepted by God. So unbelievers, who don’t love the Lord Jesus Christ the Savior, are not justified to offer to the Lord in the light of God’s words <i>Heb 7:4; Mal 3:8-10; Luke 11:42; ;Deut 23:18¹⁰</i>)</p> <p>21= the king of Sodom said to Abram, “Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself” (In appreciation tokens, even wicked Sodom’s king wanted to give Abram the Sodom’s goods retaken by Abram.</p> <p>22= I have raised hand to the Lord ...(I have owed before the Lord in the OT time <i>Mat 5:34¹¹</i>)</p> <p>23=Q3...I will take nothing...not take anything that is yours, lest you should say, ‘I have made Abram rich’ (Abram knew God’s blessing him richly in light of verse 20 and so he did not want to give any credits to the king of Sodom other than to God alone. That’s true. Abram was the man of faith. Sadly, we sometimes see the proud ministers to steel God’s credits <i>Prov 10:22; Mat 6:13¹²</i>)</p> <p>24= except only what the young men have eaten...the portion of the men who went with me (the portion which young men and the men of Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre have eaten); let them take their portion (every portion should be taken from each man by the king of Sodom. Wow! God’s things to God and Caesar’s things to Caesar, e.g. church matter to God or a personal matter to that person <i>Mark 12:17¹³</i>)</p>
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Note: Most Christians say the Bible is important, but rarely study every word in the Bible. So, it’s better to study it and live accordingly after the Spirit for the Lord (2 Tim 2:15). This online word for global crusade in effect develops from the expositional sermon (KJV), into spiritual transformation in daily love fellowship

¹⁰ *Heb 7:4* Now consider how great this man was, to whom even the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth of the spoils; *Mal 3:8-10* “Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, ‘In what way have we robbed You?’ In tithes and offerings. ⁹ You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, *Even* this whole nation. ¹⁰ Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this,” Says the LORD of hosts, “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you *such* blessing That *there will not be room* enough to receive it; *Luke 11:42* But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass by justice and the love of God. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone; *Deut 23:18* You shall not bring the wages of a harlot or the price of a dog to the house of the LORD your God for any vowed offering, for both of these *are* an abomination to the LORD your God.

¹¹ *Mat 5:34* But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God’s throne;

¹² *Prov 10:22* The blessing of the LORD makes *one* rich, And He adds no sorrow with it; *Mat 6:13* And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

¹³ *Mark 12:17* Then Jesus said to them, “Give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God what is God’s.” And they were amazed at him.

