

Norview Baptist Church
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Genesis 14

The Holy Bible, New International Version. Pradis CD-ROM:Ge 14:1.

Abram Rescues Lot

Ge 14:1 At this time Amraphel king of Shinar,^{65 g} Arioch king of Ellasar, Kedorlaomerⁿ king of Elamⁱ and Tidal king of Goiim^{Ge 14:2} went to war against Bera king of Sodom, Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, Shemeber king of Zeboiim,^j and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar).^{k Ge 14:3} All these latter kings joined forces in the Valley of Siddim^l (the Salt Sea^{66 m}).^{Ge 14:4} For twelve years they had been subject to Kedorlaomer,ⁿ but in the thirteenth year they rebelled.^{Ge 14:5} In the fourteenth year, Kedorlaomer^o and the kings allied with him went out and defeated the Rephaites^p in Ashteroth Karnaim, the Zuzites in Ham, the Emites^q in Shaveh Kiriathaim^{Ge 14:6} and the Horites^r in the hill country of Seir,^s as far as El Paran^t near the desert.^{Ge 14:7} Then they turned back and went to En Mishpat (that is, Kadesh),^u and they conquered the whole territory of the Amalekites,^v as well as the Amorites^w who were living in Hazazon Tamar.^x^{Ge 14:8} Then the king of Sodom, the king of Gomorrah,^y the king of Admah, the king of Zeboiim^z and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar)^a marched out and drew up their battle lines in the Valley of Siddim^b^{Ge 14:9} against Kedorlaomer^c king of Elam,^d Tidal king of Goiim, Amraphel king of Shinar and Arioch king of Ellasar—four kings against five.^{Ge 14:10} Now the Valley of Siddim^e was full of tar^f pits, and when the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah^g fled, some of the men fell into them and the rest fled to the hills.^h^{Ge 14:11} The four kings seized all the goodsⁱ of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their food; then they went away.^{Ge 14:12} They also carried off Abram's nephew Lot^j and his possessions, since he was living in Sodom.^{Ge 14:13} One who had escaped came and reported this to Abram the Hebrew.^k Now Abram was living near the great trees of Mamre^l the Amorite, a brother⁶⁷ of Eshcol^m and Aner, all of whom were allied with Abram.

Ge 14:14 When Abram heard that his relativeⁿ had been taken captive, he called out the 318 trained^o men born in his household^p and went in pursuit as far as Dan.^q^{Ge 14:15} During the night Abram divided his men^r to attack them and he routed them, pursuing them as far as Hobah, north of Damascus.^s^{Ge 14:16} He recovered^t all the goods^u and brought back his relative Lot and his possessions, together with the women and the other people.

Ge 14:17 After Abram returned from defeating Kedorlaomer^v and the kings allied with him, the king of Sodom^w came out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley).^x Ge 14:18 Then Melchizedek^y king of Salem^{68z} brought out bread^a and wine.^b He was priest of God Most High,^c Ge 14:19 and he blessed Abram,^d saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High,^e Creator⁶⁹ of heaven and earth.^f Ge 14:20 And blessed be⁷⁰ God Most High,^g who delivered your enemies into your hand." Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.^h

Ge 14:21 The king of Sodomⁱ said to Abram, "Give me the people and keep the goods^j for yourself."

Ge 14:22 But Abram said to the king of Sodom,^k "I have raised my hand^l to the LORD, God Most High,^m Creator of heaven and earth,ⁿ and have taken an oath^{Ge 14:23} that I will accept nothing belonging to you,^o not even a thread or the thong of a sandal, so that you will never be able to say, 'I made Abram rich.'^{Ge 14:24} I will accept nothing but what my men have eaten and the share that belongs to the men who went with me—to Aner, Eshcol and Mamre.^p Let them have their share."

God's People on a Global Scale

I. God's People Will Collide With the World

A. **Amraphel** king of Shinar, **Arioch** king of Ellasar, **Kedorlaomer**^h king of Elam, and **Tidal** king of Goiim were four kings who controlled the rulers of Canaan

1. Kings were global – Shinar is Babylonia [(Genesis 11) modern day Iraq], Ellasar possibly modern day Syria (Hurrian inscription), Elam is located in southern Iran, Goiim means group of nations (usually Gentile)
2. Kings subjected - Bera king of Sodom, Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, Shemeber king of Zeboim, and the king of Bela

B. The Kings of Canaan rebelled

1. The other kings were expanding their empires
2. The Canaanite kings fought for their independence

C. The Canaanite Kings were defeated and Lot taken hostage

1. Lot now living in Sodom was captured in the raid
 2. Abraham had separated himself from the affairs of Sodom and Gomorrah but was now involved because of lot.
 - a. Try as we might to stay out of conflict we may get dragged in.
 - b. Family members can be the cause
- II. When Cultures Collide God's People must be ready to Respond
- A. Abram made alliances
 1. Mamre the Amorite
 2. The two brothers
 - B. Abram had 318 trained men from his own household ready to do battle
- III. God 's People are Never Alone
- A. Melchizedek king of Salem
 1. Shem, Christ, Canaanite, Priest-King
 2. Salem = Jerusalem
 3. Brought out bread and wine as king, blessed as priest
 - B. Abram gave him a tithe of the spoils to give tribute to God
 1. Probably shocked the other kings
 2. Puts the story in divine perspective
- IV. God's People Must Resist Taking from the Culture
- A. Abram resisted his share, but allowed his allies to have theirs
 - B. Problem with being relevant is compromise
 - C. Abraham shows faith by refusing the aid of kings and relying solely on God
 - D. Jesus faced a similar temptation in Matthew 4:9-10

- V. When We Come into Contact with Culture
 - A. We must be ready
 - B. We must remember we are not alone
 - C. We must refuse compromise