

Genesis 14

Perhaps Abraham was so generous with Lot in the last chapter because he already knew that God had promised him the whole either way, we can be just as generous that we can never out bless God nor can we ever give away that which God has promised us.

14:1-16 Abram Rescues Lot

"When our Savior said, 'Remember Lot's wife,' He did, as it were, put a hand on the margin of the Bible... 'Mark that event. Look at it closely, for there is more in it than there seems to be.' ... there is something to be learned from every step of Lot's journey—and from every incident connected with it."- Spurgeon

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Amraphel – uncertain; possibly “speaker of dark things” / “command of Amurru.”

Arioch – possibly “lion-like” / “venerable.”

Chedorlaomer – likely “servant of Lagamar”; older possible: “handful of sheaves.”

Tidal – uncertain; possibly “great son” / “fear.”

Shinar – Babylonia; possibly “country of two rivers” / uncertain.

Ellasar – uncertain; possibly Larsa (near Ur SE 15 miles.)

Elam – ancient region east of Babylon/Persia; possibly “hidden” / “eternity” in older sources.

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Amraphel is equated by some scholars with Hammurabi

Bera – “son of evil”

Birsha – “son of wickedness” / “with iniquity.”

Shinab – “splendor of the father”

Semeber – “renowned.”

King of Bela/Zoar – no personal name given.

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*cities of the plain

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GIANTS

Genesis 14:5 — Chedorlaomer... smote the Rephaims... the Zuzims... and the Emims...

Deuteronomy 3:11 — “For only Og king of Bashan remained of the remnant of the giants.[Rephaim] Indeed his bedstead was an iron bedstead... Nine cubits is its length and four cubits its width, according to the standard cubit.

“Bed” ~ 13.5x6ft

-Some argue that this may actually be speaking of his sarcophagus

Joshua 12:4 — And the coast of Og king of Bashan, which was of the remnant of the giants...

Deuteronomy 2:10-11 — The Emims dwelt therein in times past, a people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakims; Which also were accounted giants, as the Anakims; but the Moabites call them Emims.

Deuteronomy 2:20-21 — That also was accounted a land of giants: giants dwelt therein in old time; and the Ammonites call them Zamzummims; A people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakims...

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Genesis 36:20 — These were the sons of Seir the Horite who inhabited the land: Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah,

El-paran = "palm of Paran"

town and harbour at tip of Gulf of Aqaba on the Red Sea. Only mentioned here.

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“pits pits of asphalt/bitumen”

Asphalt = ḥēmār(חֶמָר), used 3x.

-Genesis 11:3 — ...They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar.

-Exodus 2:3 — But when she could no longer hide him, she took an ark of bulrushes for him, daubed it with asphalt and pitch, put the child in it, and laid it in the reeds by the river’s bank.

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Genesis 13:10 & 12 — And Lot lifted his eyes and saw all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere... and Lot dwelt in the cities of the plain and pitched his tent even as far as Sodom.

2 Peter 2:7 — [God] delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked

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We need to let people experience the weight of their choices.

-We also need to be willing to go the distance and save those in need.

Galatians 6:1-2 — Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

James 5:19-20 — Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.

2 Timothy 2:24-26 — And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

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*DAN1

*Dan2

*Dan3

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14:17-24 Melchizedek Blesses Abram

Melchizedek = melek + tsedeq, "king of righteousness";

Psalms 110:4 — The LORD has sworn And will not relent, "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek."

Hebrews 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, 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," without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.

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“And he gave him a tithe of all.”

Genesis 28:22 — “And this stone which I have set as a pillar shall be God’s house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You.”

The Israelites gave 23.33%, not 10%

- 1. The Levitical Tithe — (Lev 27:30–33 & Num 18:21–24)
- 2. The Festival (or Sacred) Tithe — (Deut 12:5–18 & 14:22–27)
- 3. The Poor Tithe — Every Third Year
Deut 14:28–29 & 26:12

1 Corinthians 16:2 — On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.

- Periodically Planned
- Proportionate
- Private

2 Corinthians 9:7 — So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

- Prayerfully
- Freely
- Cheerfully

**Spurgeon- "I do not like to lay down any rules for God's people... the New Testament... writes laws upon the heart."

“God, if not 10%, what shall I give?”

Give from your heart, trusting God to bless what you give.

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“give me the souls (nephesh) and take the goods.”