

Gen. 14:1 And it came to pass in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of nations;

Gen. 14:2 *That these* made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, which is Zoar.

Gen. 14:3 All these were joined together in the vale of Siddim, which is the salt sea.

Gen. 14:4 Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth year they rebelled.

Gen. 14:5 And in the fourteenth year came Chedorlaomer, and the kings that *were* with him, and smote the Rephaims in Ashteroth Karnaim, and the Zuzims in Ham, and the Emims in Shaveh Kiriathaim,

Gen. 14:6 And the Horites in their mount Seir, unto Elparan, which *is* by the wilderness.

Gen. 14:7 And they returned, and came to Enmishpat, which *is* Kadesh, and smote all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites, that dwelt in Hazezontamar.

Gen. 14:8 And there went out the king of Sodom, and the king of Gomorrah, and the king of Admah, and the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (the same *is* Zoar;) and they joined battle with them in the vale of Siddim;

Gen. 14:9 With Chedorlaomer the king of Elam, and with Tidal king of nations, and Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar; four kings with five.

Gen. 14:10 And the vale of Siddim *was full of* slimepits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and fell there; and they that remained fled to the mountain.

Gen. 14:11 And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their victuals, and went their way.

Gen. 14:12 And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

Gen. 14:13 And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram the Hebrew; for he dwelt in the plain of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol, and brother of Aner: and these *were* confederate with Abram.

Gen. 14:14 And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained *servants*, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued *them* unto Dan.

Gen. 14:15 And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto Hobah, which *is* on the left hand of Damascus.

Gen. 14:16 And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

Gen. 14:17 And the king of Sodom went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer, and of the kings that *were* with him, at the valley of Shaveh, which *is* the king's dale.

This chapter starts with a description of war among the neighboring kingdoms in the area. This is in the area of the salt sea (the Dead Sea). The kings of Sodom and Gomorrah were defeated, and a great quantity of food and possessions were taken by the conquering kings. Lot and his possessions were taken as part of the spoils of victory. Abram hears about it and takes 318 trained men born to his

household/servants and pursued them. Under cover of night he divided his men and attacked and defeated them and chased them all the way to Hobah near Damascus. He recovered Lot and ALL his possessions and the other people who had been captured with him. After Abram returned victorious, the king of Sodom came out to meet him.

(6/07) I was listening to Chuck Missler the other night, and he mentioned that Amraphel was identified with Hammurabi. I decided to do some research and found this in the Catholic Encyclopedia at www.newadvent.org.

“The great Babylonian King, Hammurabi...reigned about 2250 BC. This ruler’s famous Code of Laws, the oldest code of laws in the world, was discovered in 1901-2, in Susa, the ancient capital of Elam....The identity of Amraphel and Hammurabi is now unanimously accepted by Assyriologists and Biblical critics.”

(11/07) I think note should also be made that Shinar, the land over which Amraphel was king, is the land that later became known as Babylon. Isn’t it interesting that the “Code of Laws” came from the place where man blatantly rejected God’s law after the flood under the leadership of Nimrod.

Gen. 14:18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he *was* the priest of the most high God.

Gen. 14:19 And he blessed him, and said, Blessed *be* Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

Gen. 14:20 And blessed *be* the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

(11/05)

Melchizedek = King of Righteousness

Salem = peace.....so King of Peace

Then Melchizedek, **the** priest of God Most High and king of Salem (Jerusalem) came and blessed Abram. He made it clear that Abram was blessed of God Most High, Possessor/Owner/Creator (all from Hebrew) of heaven and earth. He also made it clear that God had delivered the enemy into Abram’s hand. (7/09) It appears to me that both Melchizedek and Abram already knew about each other.

Again, I don’t remember reading anything yet regarding the establishment of a priesthood, but it was obviously established. This first priest we read of is in Jerusalem.

Also, Abram gives him a tithe (tenth) of everything. This is also the first time we have heard of a tithe. Also, the fact that Abram built altars and prayed had to have its roots in teaching from what were accepted forms of worship and giving thanks.

Further study emphasizes the fact of Melchizedek as a type of Christ. It also presents differing arguments or points of view as to the identity of Melchizedek. Personally, I think the identity is not important, but the truths representing the kingship and priesthood of Christ are. A couple of newer points made to me

were regarding Lot as the type of Israel. Abram rescues him through God's enablement and is met by Melchizedek who blesses him. So the Lord will come to overthrow the beast and his armies to usher in the millennium, and Israel will recognize Him with honor as Abram did Melchizedek as the priest of God Most High. Also, it will happen in this same geographic area. Details are so important in God's plan!

Gen. 14:21 And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself.

Gen. 14:22 And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth,

Gen. 14:23 That I will not *take* from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that *is* thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich:

Gen. 14:24 Save only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men which went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion.

The king of Sodom wanted Abram to keep all material spoils as a reward. Abram makes it clear that he wants nothing from the king. He wants there to be no confusion—his blessings and wealth are from God, not from any earthly king. He does, however, agree to let him reward the men who helped him.

(11/05) Note from Courson

Melchizedek is a type of Christ.

The King of Sodom is a type of Satan—Give me the persons; keep the goods.