

Begin Again!

The Beginning of Battles!

A Study of the Book of Genesis – Part 21

Genesis 14:1-24 (NKJV)

1. The Raiding of Sodom

Genesis 14:1-12 (NKJV)

A. The Coalition for the Raid

Genesis 14:1-3 (NKJV)

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, ² *that* they made war with Bera king of Sodom, Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar). ³ All these joined together in the Valley of Siddim (that is, the Salt Sea).

B. The Cause of the Raid

Genesis 14:4 (NKJV)

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

C. The Cleverness of the Raid

Genesis 14:5-9 (NKJV)

D. The Conquering in the Raid

Genesis 14:10-12 (NKJV)

• The situation of the conquered.

Genesis 14:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Now the Valley of Siddim *was full of* asphalt pits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled; *some* fell there, and the remainder fled to the mountains.

• The scope of the conquering.

Genesis 14:11-12 (NKJV)

¹¹ Then they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their provisions, and went their way. ¹² They also took Lot, Abram's brother's son who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

2. The Rescue by Abraham

Genesis 14:13-16 (NKJV)

A. The Solicitation for the Rescue

Genesis 14:13 (NKJV)

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.

B. The Sympathy for the Rescue

Genesis 14:14a (NKJV)

¹⁴ Now when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, . . .

C. The Soldiers in the Rescue

Genesis 14:14b (NKJV)

• The size of his army.

Genesis 14:14b (NKJV)

. . . he armed his three hundred and eighteen trained *servants* who were born in his own house, and went in pursuit as far as Dan.

• The schooling of his army.

Genesis 14:14b (NKJV)

. . . he armed his three hundred and eighteen trained *servants* . . .

D. The Strategy in the Rescue

Genesis 14:15 (NKJV)

- **The dividing in the strategy.** . . . He divided his forces against them . . .
- **The darkness in the strategy.** . . . by night . . .
- **The dedication in the strategy.** . . . and he and his servants attacked them and pursued them as far as Hobah, which *is* north of Damascus.

E. The Success of the Rescue

Genesis 14:16 (NKJV)

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.

3. The Reception of Kings

Genesis 14:17-24 (NKJV)

A. The King of Salem

Genesis 14:18-20 (NKJV)

- **The term and territory for the king.** ¹⁸ . . . Melchizedek king of Salem . . .
- **The title of the king.** ¹⁸ . . . the priest of the God Most High . . .

- **The type in the king.**

Hebrews 7:1-3 (NKJV)

¹ 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 mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.

- **The table of the king.** ¹⁸ . . . Brought out bread and wine . . .
- **The tithes for the king.** ²⁰ . . . And he gave him a tithe of all.
- **The sanction of the king.** ¹⁹ And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; ²⁰ And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." . . .

B. The King of Sodom

Genesis 14:17, 21-24 (NKJV)

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.

- **The offer of the king.**

Genesis 14:21 (NKJV)

²¹ Now the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself."

- **The objection for the king.**

Genesis 14:22-24 (NKJV)

²² But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have raised my hand to the Lord, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth, 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'-- ²⁴ 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."