



# By Faith

Genesis 12-25

# MAIN IDEA

## The Crisis and its Resolution (14:1-16)

- *One way to worsen a crisis*
- *One way to face a crisis and act righteously*

## The Victorious Aftermath (14:17-24)

- *Take personal credit and reap possible rewards, or*
- *Bless God. Declare his greatness as the reason for your success, and rest in Him as your great reward.*

## Genesis 14:11-12

The four kings took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their food and went on. <sup>12</sup> They also took Abram's nephew Lot and his possessions, for he was living in Sodom, and they went on.

## Genesis 14:13-16

One of the survivors came and told Abram the Hebrew, who lived near the oaks belonging to Mamre the Amorite, the brother of Eshcol and the brother of Aner. They were bound by a treaty with Abram. <sup>14</sup> When Abram heard that his relative had been taken prisoner, he assembled his 318 trained men, born in his household, and they went in pursuit as far as Dan...



**<sup>15</sup> And he and his servants deployed against them by night, defeated them, and pursued them as far as Hobah to the north of Damascus. <sup>16</sup> He brought back all the goods and also his relative Lot and his goods, as well as the women and the other people.**

Jesus did not sit idly in heaven, waiting for us to deserve to be redeemed. If he had, eternity would have gone by without our redemption. Nor was our redemption risk free and painless. Christ was willing to leave the glories of heaven and come down to us, taking the form of a servant in our midst. When necessary, as king of his people, he took up a whip to clear the hucksters and merchants out of the temple (Matt. 21:12–13)...

As king of the Jews, he intervened powerfully to assure justice for his oppressed people. Yet in his own hour of need, he told his disciples to put away their swords, and he refused to call the angelic hosts to his defense (Matt. 26:52–54)... Jesus was willing not only to take risks for the sake of his undeserving kinsmen, but also to suffer great agony for them on the cross.

*Iain Duguid*

## Genesis 14:17-21

After Abram returned from defeating Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him in the Shaveh Valley (that is, the King's Valley).

<sup>18</sup> Melchizedek, king of Salem, brought out bread and wine; he was a priest to God Most High. <sup>19</sup> He blessed him and said: Abram is blessed by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth, <sup>20</sup> and blessed be God Most High who has handed over your enemies to you. And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

<sup>21</sup> Then the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the people, but take the possessions for yourself."



## Genesis 14:22-24

<sup>22</sup> But Abram said to the king of Sodom, “I have raised my hand in an oath to the LORD, God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth, <sup>23</sup> that I will not take a thread or sandal strap or anything that belongs to you, so you can never say, ‘I made Abram rich.’ <sup>24</sup> I will take nothing except what the servants have eaten. But as for the share of the men who came with me—Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre—they can take their share.”

Think of all the petty slights we perceive when we do something well, but we are not met with gratitude.

Compare that to how rarely we pause to thank our Lord, the Creator of heaven and earth, for ALL that He does on a constant basis to help and sustain us. How often do you testify before others that your achievements are only possible because of His help and grace?

## Genesis 14:18-20

<sup>18</sup> Melchizedek, king of Salem, brought out bread and wine; he was a priest to God Most High. <sup>19</sup> He blessed him and said: Abram is blessed by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth, <sup>20</sup> and blessed be God Most High who has handed over your enemies to you. And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

**Psalms 110:4**

**The LORD has sworn an oath and will not take it back:  
“You are a priest forever according to the pattern of  
Melchizedek.**

**Hebrews 5:6**

**You are a priest forever according to the order of  
Melchizedek.**



## Hebrews 7:1-3

For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of God Most High, met Abraham and blessed him as he returned from defeating the kings, <sup>2</sup> and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything. First, his name means king of righteousness, then also, king of Salem, meaning king of peace. <sup>3</sup> Without father, mother, or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God, he remains a priest forever.

## Hebrews 7:9-10

In a sense Levi himself, who receives a tenth, has paid a tenth through Abraham, <sup>10</sup> for he was still within his ancestor when Melchizedek met him.

## Hebrews 7:23-26

Now many have become Levitical priests, since they are prevented by death from remaining in office.

<sup>24</sup> But because he remains forever, Jesus holds his priesthood permanently. <sup>25</sup> Therefore, He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to intercede for them.

<sup>26</sup> For this is the kind of high priest we need: holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.

# Genesis 15:1

After these events, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision:

Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield; your reward will be very great.