

Abram – The Great Hearted

Gen 14:1 And it came to pass in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar.

Amraphel is considered by many scholars to be **Hammurabi**, the 6th King of Babylon.

Gen 14:14 Now when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his three hundred and eighteen trained *servants* who were born in his own house, and went in pursuit as far as Dan.

Sometime after Abram's separation from Lot, his servants had grown to 318 in number. In those days people would join either a city for protection or under the leadership of a powerful man like Abram. The term "**born in his own house**" refers to men who had voluntarily become servants in his household rather than born as babies. This was for provision and protection. This was not forced slavery.

God never forces people to choose His Son, Jesus. However men are drawn to Jesus because of His greatness to forgive, provide and protect for all eternity

Abram – The Courageous

Because of the raid on Sodom, Abram's nephew, Lot, is captured.

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

You will notice in Gen 14:14 that Lot is referred to as Abram's "Brother". This is not a biblical contradiction as some liberals assert. The Hebrew word "awkh" is used in this text which is a broad and primitive word that has the sense of one being one's kin rather than a literal brother from the same Mother and Father.

Abram wastes no time in gathering his servants and engages in the successful rescue of Lot.

NOTE: This is the first war of mankind. A total of Nine Kings were involved. They encroached on the Land which God had given to Abram. Abram was not concerned about the land for he knew that what God had given to him would come to him at the appointed time.

We should never worry about God's direction in our life and what it may bring. When God promises, He also provides.

Food For Thought:

Many people who grieve over loved ones turn to spiritism engaging in séance. One such example is in the old testament when King Saul attempts to call for the Prophet Samuel to give him advice.

1Sa 28:7 Then Saul said to his servants, "Find me a woman who is a **medium**, that I may go to her and inquire of her." And his servants said to him, "In fact, *there is* a woman who is a **medium** at En Dor."

Contacting the dead through a medium is forbidden in scripture and goes against everything to do with God. Some think that Samuel appeared but that would be inconsistent with scripture. The old man that rose from the dead was only seen by the medium. It was an evil spirit. Demons or evil spirits have been known to impersonate others. The Prophet Samuel would not have risen in defiance against God's directive. Here is the conclusion of King Saul's action:

1Ch 10:13 So Saul died for his unfaithfulness which he had committed against the LORD, because he did not keep the word of the LORD, and also because he consulted a **medium** for guidance.

Lev 20:27 'A man or a woman who is a **medium**, or who has familiar spirits, shall surely be put to death; they shall stone them with stones. Their blood *shall be* upon them.' "

God protects us by forbidding things that would hurt us. Like in the days of Abram, **God provides and protects His people**. Be satisfied with the things that are of God.

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

(Colossians 3:1-2 NKJV)

Next Sunday:

Genesis 14-15

Abram's
Great-Hearted Response
(continued)