

## RELYING ON GOD'S PROMISES ~ Genesis 14:1-24

→ Scripture Reading Genesis 12:1-3 and 14:18-20

### GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL SETTING ~ Genesis 14:1-10

**14:1-3 Sets the Stage - tells us WHO**

→ Map whole region

**14:4 Reason for the Attack**

**14:5-7 Method of Attack**

→ Map Israel and Transjordan

**14:8-10 Battle takes Place**

### GOD GIVES THE VICTORY ~ Genesis 14:11-16

[11] The four kings seized all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their food; then they went away. [12] They also carried off Abram's nephew Lot and his possessions, since he was living in Sodom. [13] One who had escaped came and reported this to Abram the Hebrew. Now Abram was living near the great trees of Mamre the Amorite, a brother of Eshcol and Aner, all of whom were allied with Abram. [14] When Abram heard that his relative had been taken captive, he called out the 318 trained men born in his household and went in pursuit as far as Dan.

→ Map Israel and Transjordan

[15] During the night Abram divided his men to attack them and he routed them, pursuing them as far as Hobah, north of Damascus. [16] He recovered all the goods and brought back his relative Lot and his possessions, together with the women and the other people.

**Abram's Character:** Life App Com

- he was **PREPARED**
- he showed **COURAGE** as he trusted God
- he was the **LEADER**

### APPLICATION

**Psalm 62:5-8** (NLT) Let all that I am wait quietly before God, for my **HOPE is in HIM**. [6] HE ALONE is my rock and my salvation, my fortress where I will not be shaken. [7] My victory and honor come from God alone. He is my refuge, a rock where no enemy can reach me. [8] O my people, TRUST in him at all times. Pour out your heart to him, for God is our refuge.

### CELEBRATING GOD'S VICTORY ~ Genesis 14:17-20

[17] After Abram returned from defeating Kedorlaomer and the kings allied with him, the king of Sodom came out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). [18] Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High,

→Map

[19] and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. [20] And blessed be God Most High, who DELIVERED your enemies into your hand." Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

## APPLICATION

### Fulfillment of God's Promises

- I will BLESS you
- I will BLESS those who bless you
- I will make your NAME GREAT

## TRUSTING GOD FOR HIS PROMISES ~ Genesis 12:21-24

[21] The king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the people and keep the goods for yourself." [22] But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have raised my hand to the LORD, God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth, and have taken an oath [23] that I will accept nothing belonging to you, not even a thread or the thong of a sandal, so that you will never be able to say, 'I made Abram rich.' [24] I will accept nothing but what my men have eaten and the share that belongs to the men who went with me - to Aner, Eshcol and Mamre. Let them have their share."

## TAKE AWAY ??

This absolute refusal was Abram's DECLARATION of DEPENDENCE upon God. K. Hughes

**2 Corinthians 4:5-7** (JBP) For it is Christ Jesus the Lord whom we preach, not ourselves; we are your servants for his sake. God, who first ordered 'light to shine in darkness', has flooded our hearts with his light. [6] We now can enlighten men only because we can give them knowledge of the glory of God, as we see it in the face of Jesus Christ. [7] This PRICELESS treasure we hold, so to speak, in a common earthenware jar - to show that the splendid power of it belongs to God and not to us.

If we try to polish decorate promote and embellish the "jars of clay" we could detract from the real impressiveness of the "TREASURE" within. Henderson

## QUESTIONS

1. What happens when we Trust God as our ROCK, our FORTRESS, our REFUGE?  
How can we do this?
2. Should GIVING back to God be a normal response when God Blesses?  
(Why is that hard for us some times?)
3. What is the most important thing about the Jars of Clay (us)?