

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

JUNE 1, 2022

GENESIS 14:18-24

INTRODUCTION:

1. After rescuing Lot who had become the spoil of the four kings, Abram was greeted by Melchizedek who blessed him. (Gen. 14.18-20)
2. In a polytheistic culture, Abram and Melchizedek both served the same God. (Gen. 14.18,19)
 - a) God chose Abram, and Abram chose to serve God. (Acts 7.2,3; Gen. 12.7,8; 13.4,18)
 - b) God chose Melchizedek, and Melchizedek chose to serve God. (Heb. 5.4; Gen. 14.20)
 - c) God is personally involved in our lives, but we must choose Him. (Acts 22.14; 1 Pet. 2.9)
3. Why is it so important to have an accurate concept of God?
 - a) Our concept of God affects us morally. (Rom. 1.21-28; 11.22)
 - b) Our concept of God affects us socially. (Luke 6.36; Eph. 4.32; 5.1,2)
 - c) Our concept of God affects us spiritually. (Rev. 4.11)
4. Our passage reveals God in three different ways.

I. THE POSITION OF GOD

- A. **GENESIS 14.18:** Melchizedek is the priest of *"God Most High"*
 1. Four times in our text, God is referred to as *"God Most High"* (Gen. 14.18,19,20,22)
 2. Though man may exalt himself, God is higher than all.
 - a) Pharaoh learned that God is Most High. (Ex. 5.2; 12.12; 18.11)
 - b) Nebuchadnezzar learned that God is Most High. (Isa. 14.3,4,12-15; Dan. 4.28-32)
- B. Our lives are governed by the One who is above all others.
 1. His commands are to be obeyed. (Deut. 4.39,40; Heb. 3.18; 5.9)
 2. His ways and wisdom are to be heard. (Isa. 55.8-11)
 3. Though His is the *"high and lofty One"* He dwells with the one *"who has a contrite and humble heart"* (Isa. 57.15).

II. THE POSSESSION OF GOD

- A. **GENESIS 14.19:** *"And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth."*
 1. Why did Abram give tithes to Melchizedek? (Gen. 14.21)
 2. Why did Abram swear to God not to take the spoils? (Gen. 14.22,23)
- B. How we use our possessions is governed by the One who is the Possessor of all things.
 1. Everything belongs to God. (Deut. 10.14; Job 41.11; Ps. 50.12)
 2. The children of Israel gave to support building the tabernacle. (Ex. 35.4,5)
 - a) They gave with a willing heart. (Ex. 35.5,21,22,29)
 - b) They gave more than what was needed. (Ex. 36.4-7)
 - c) Why did the children of Israel give so willingly? (1 Chr. 29.9,14)
 3. How we give is directly related to how we give ourselves we give to God. (2 Cor. 8.1-5)

III. THE POWER OF GOD

- A. **GENESIS 14.20:** *"And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand."*
 1. Abram was able to defeat the four kings with only 318 trained servants. (Gen. 14.14,17)
 2. God trimmed down the number of soldiers to only three hundred, *"lest Israel claim glory for itself against Me saying, 'My own right hand has saved me'"* (Judges 7.2,7).
- B. Our confidence can be strong when God is on our side.
 1. **ROMANS 8.26:** *"the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us"*
 2. **ROMANS 8.31:** *"If God is for us, who can be against us?"*
 3. **ROMANS 8.34:** Christ is *"at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us."* (cf. Heb. 9.24; 13.6).