

# Walk Through the Bible

## GENESIS 14-15

### OVERVIEW

Genesis chapter 14 informs us of a four-king coalition that was challenged by another team of five kings. The four kings defeat their challengers, loot the city of Sodom, and carry off Lot and his entire family as prisoners of war. Abram forms an army of his servants, chases down the departing army, defeats them in a single night, and brings back all that was lost. On the way home, Abram is met by a mysterious king and priest of God Most High, Melchizedek.

Genesis 15 tells of an encounter between Abram and God. In this conversation, Abram asks the Lord questions about how the seemingly impossible promises might be kept. God reinforces His promise that Abram will have many descendants. God has Abram organize an Ancient Near East covenant ritual which God completes without Abram's involvement. God also reveals to Abram that his future descendants will be servants in another country for 400 years before returning to take possession of the land of Canaan.

### DISCUSSION

- Abram relied on 318 servants to go to war against an army of trained soldiers (**Genesis 14:13-16**). The Bible tells us that our battle is not against flesh and blood (**Ephesians 6:12**), but our allies in the war are flesh and blood. Who are the people God has put in our lives to help us in the battle for our families?
- On his return from rescuing Lot, Abram was met by Melchizedek, the King of Salem and priest of the Most High God (**Genesis 14:17-24**). In what ways is Melchizedek a picture of Christ?
- God reinforces His promise to Abram that he will have many descendants. In response, Abram believed and God counted it to him as righteousness (**Genesis 15:1-6**). Why is this righteousness so important?
- God had Abram organize an Ancient Near East covenant ritual; however, God did not allow Abram to participate, God did everything himself (**Genesis 15:7-11, 17-21**). Why is it significant that God did the entire covenant ritual Himself?

