

# Genesis 14 – Armageddon in Genesis

## Bible Marking Notes

Genesis 14 is the first place in Scripture where Armageddon is presented in type in astonishing detail. The record covers the period from Armageddon to the full establishment of the Kingdom when Christ will share a fellowship meal with his saints in the House of Prayer for all nations.

### Genesis 14

<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup> And it came to pass in the days of <sup>2</sup> Amraphel king of <sup>3</sup> Shinar, <sup>4</sup> Arioch king of <sup>5</sup> Ellasar, <sup>6</sup> Chedorlaomer king of <sup>7</sup> Elam, and <sup>8</sup> Tidal king of <sup>9</sup> nations;

#### Prefigures Nebuchadnezzar's Image

The 4 kings of the northern confederacy typify the 4 world empires of Dan. 2 which are to be formed into one massive image empire in the latter days. This can only be complete when Gog is victorious in the Land for Israel was part of all four empires. The head (thinking power) of the image will be "Babylon the great"; hence Amraphel is first named, although he does not lead the actual invasion.



<sup>2</sup> That these made war with <sup>10</sup> Bera king of <sup>11</sup> Sodom, and with <sup>12</sup> Birsha king of <sup>13</sup> Gomorrah, <sup>14</sup> Shinab king of <sup>15</sup> Admah, and <sup>16</sup> Shemeber king of <sup>17</sup> Zeboiim, and the king of <sup>18</sup> Bela, which is <sup>19</sup> Zoar.

The five kings of the south typify the corrupt latter day Tarshish powers who oppose Gog's invasion but are defeated and humiliated in the Land. It is noteworthy that 1<sup>st</sup> World War British Empire posters listed Australia, Canada, India and New Zealand as allies – a total of 5 'kings'.

<sup>3</sup> All these were joined together in <sup>20</sup> the vale of Siddim, which is <sup>21</sup> the salt sea.

<sup>4</sup> Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and in the <sup>22</sup> thirteenth year they rebelled.

<sup>5</sup> And in the <sup>23</sup> fourteenth year came Chedorlaomer, and the kings that were with him, and smote the <sup>24</sup> Rephaims in <sup>25</sup> Ashteroth Karnaim, and the <sup>26</sup> Zuzims in Ham, and the <sup>27</sup> Emims in <sup>28</sup> Shaveh Kiriathaim,

<sup>6</sup> And the <sup>29</sup> Horites in their mount Seir, unto <sup>30</sup> Elparan, which is by the wilderness.

<sup>7</sup> And they returned, and came to <sup>31</sup> Enmishpat, which is <sup>32</sup> Kadesh, and smote all <sup>33</sup> the country of the Amalekites, and also the <sup>34</sup> Amorites, that dwelt in <sup>35</sup> Hazezontamar.

#### Armageddon

Hebrew derivation - 3 words - aremah/ gai/dan or dun "A heap of sheaves" - *ārēmāh* - heap, pile; (Strong adds - specifically a *sheaf*). This word is rendered "bringing in sheaves" (Neh. 13:15); "heap of corn" (Ruth 3:7); etc. Root - *āram* - to heap up, pile, be heaped up. Another word rendered "sheaves" is *āmar* - to bind sheaves; to gather.

"Valley" - *gai* - valley, a steep valley, narrow gorge.

"For judgement" - *dīyn/dūn* - to judge, contend, plead.

<sup>8</sup> <sup>1</sup> And there went out the king of Sodom, and the king of Gomorrah, and the king of Admah, and the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (the same is Zoar;) and they <sup>2</sup> joined battle with them in <sup>3</sup> the vale of Siddim;

<sup>9</sup> With Chedorlaomer the king of Elam, and with Tidal king of nations, and Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar; <sup>4</sup> four kings with five.

<sup>10</sup> And the vale of Siddim was full of <sup>5</sup> slimepits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and fell there; and they that remained fled to the mountain.

<sup>11</sup> And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their <sup>6</sup> victuals, and went their way.

<sup>12</sup> And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, <sup>7</sup> who dwelt in Sodom, <sup>8</sup> and his goods, and departed.

<sup>13</sup> And there came one that had <sup>1</sup> escaped, and told Abram

#### Invasion of the Land by a northern confederacy

<sup>1</sup> Cp. Dan. 2:44. Nebuchadnezzar's image is prefigured here in the 4 kings who form this confederacy.

<sup>2</sup> "One that speaks of secrets" (Hitchcock); "Keeper of the gods" (Smith); "Powerful people" (Youngs). After defeating Arioch he united Babylonia under one rule, and made Babylon his capital.

<sup>3</sup> "Two rivers" (BDB, Smith, Fausset). Hebrew form of the Akkadian name Semiramis (wife of Nimrod) – the first "mother of harlots".

<sup>4</sup> "Venerable" (Smith); "Lion-like" (BDB, Easton). Also said to mean "Servant of the moon god".

<sup>5</sup> "Revolting from God" (Hitchcock). Larsa in Chaldea.

<sup>6</sup> "Handful of sheaves" (BDB, Smith). Thought to mean "Servant of Lagomer" (an Elamite goddess) in the original language.

<sup>7</sup> "Eternity" (BDB, Smith) – related to *olam*. East of Babylon.

<sup>8</sup> "Fear" or "reverence" (Ges.); "Great son" (BDB, Smith).

<sup>9</sup> *goyim* – nations; i.e. local tribes east of Tigris and north of Elam.

<sup>10</sup> "Son of evil" (BDB, Easton, Smith).

<sup>11</sup> "Burning". Named for its ultimate fate.

<sup>12</sup> "With iniquity" (BDB); "Son of godlessness" (Smith).

<sup>13</sup> "Submersion" (BDB, Smith, Easton).

<sup>14</sup> "Splendour of the father" (BDB); "A father has turned" (Strong).

<sup>15</sup> "Earthy", "Red earth".

<sup>16</sup> "Lofty flight" (BDB); "Soaring on high" (Easton).

<sup>17</sup> "Gazelles".

<sup>18</sup> "To devour at a gulp" (Strong, Easton); "Destruction" (BDB, Smith).

<sup>19</sup> "Little" – Cp. Gen. 19:20-22.

<sup>20</sup> "Field" or "plain" (BDB). Roth. – "the valley of the open fields".

<sup>21</sup> i.e. when Moses wrote after the judgements.

<sup>22</sup> The number of rebellion.

<sup>23</sup> 2 x 7 (covenant) = enforced covenant.

<sup>24</sup> "Giants". A race of giants like Og (Deut. 3:11,13; Josh. 12:4) east of Jordan.

<sup>25</sup> "The horned Astartes" (Ges.).

<sup>26</sup> "Prominent" (Strong). Giants between Arnon and Jabbok – Deut. 2:20.

<sup>27</sup> "Terrors", "Terrible ones". Inhabitants of Moab – Deut. 2:10.

<sup>28</sup> "Plain of a double city". See Josh. 13:19; Deut. 3:13.

<sup>29</sup> "Cave dwellers" in Petra.

<sup>30</sup> "The terebinth (oak) or the Plain of Paran".

<sup>31</sup> "Fountain of judgement" (Ges.).

<sup>32</sup> "Sanctuary".

<sup>33</sup> i.e. the country later inhabited by the Amalekites, descendants of Esau – Gen. 36:12.

<sup>34</sup> "Highlanders", "hill-men". Inhabitants of Canaan.

<sup>35</sup> "Pruning (or dividing) of palm trees" (Easton) – the old name for Engedi – 2 Chron. 20:2.

#### The southern Confederacy defeated – Lot taken captive

<sup>1</sup> Roth. – "Thus then went forth".

<sup>2</sup> Roth. – "set themselves in array against them for the battle". Same word "battle" Zech. 14:2.

<sup>3</sup> Roth. – "the valley of the open fields".

<sup>4</sup> Total 9 = finality/judgement.

<sup>5</sup> *beer chemar* – pit of bitumen. Root *chamar* – to glow with redness; boil up. Translated "red", "troubled", "foul" (Job 16:16).

<sup>6</sup> *okel* – food.

<sup>7</sup> Lit. "and he was living in". A further step from Gen. 13:12.

<sup>8</sup> Contrast Gen. 19:12-16 – God left them behind.

#### Abram's company rescues Lot from the invader

<sup>1</sup> *palet* – a refugee. Used Jud. 12:4-5; Isa. 45:20. Type – Zech. 14:2.

the <sup>2</sup>Hebrew; for he dwelt in the <sup>3</sup>plain of <sup>4</sup>Mamre the Amorite, brother of <sup>5</sup>Eshcol, and brother of <sup>6</sup>Aner: and these were <sup>7</sup>confederate with Abram.

Abraham spent 20 years in Hebron. During this time his household grew to include 318 born in the camp. Added to this a number of Gentiles were converted by the preaching of the "gospel" (Gal. 3:8) God had earlier revealed to him.

<sup>14</sup> And when Abram heard that his <sup>8</sup>brother was taken captive, he <sup>9</sup>armed his <sup>10</sup>trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto <sup>11</sup>Dan.

<sup>15</sup> And he <sup>12</sup>divided <sup>13</sup>himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto <sup>14</sup>Hobah, which is on the <sup>15</sup>left hand of <sup>16</sup>Damascus.

<sup>16</sup> And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, <sup>17</sup>and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

<sup>17</sup> And the king of Sodom <sup>1</sup>went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer, and of the kings that were with him, at the valley of <sup>2</sup>Shaveh, which is <sup>3</sup>the king's dale.

<sup>18</sup> And <sup>4</sup>Melchizedek king of <sup>5</sup>Salem brought forth <sup>6</sup>bread and wine: and he was the priest of <sup>7</sup>the most high <sup>8</sup>God.

David later emulated Melchizedek and acted as a king and priest distributing bread and wine to both Jew and Gentile, and male and female when bringing the Ark to Zion to be placed in "the tabernacle of David" – 2 Sam. 6:14-19.

<sup>19</sup> And <sup>9</sup>he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, <sup>10</sup>possessor of <sup>11</sup>heaven and earth:

<sup>20</sup> And blessed be the most high God, which hath <sup>12</sup>delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he <sup>13</sup>gave him tithes of all.

Acts 3:25-26 shows Abraham's blessing is to have the work of Christ become truly effective in turning believers from iniquity.

<sup>21</sup> And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, <sup>1</sup>Give me the <sup>2</sup>persons, and take the goods to thyself.

<sup>22</sup> And Abram said to the king of Sodom, <sup>3</sup>I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth,

<sup>23</sup> That I will not take from a <sup>4</sup>thread even to a <sup>5</sup>shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing <sup>6</sup>that is thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich:

<sup>24</sup> <sup>7</sup>Save only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the <sup>8</sup>men which went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; <sup>9</sup>let them take their portion.

<sup>2</sup> "Crosser-over" (to be on the opposite side by transition). Descendent of Eber – Gen. 10:21,25.

<sup>3</sup> elon – oak.

<sup>4</sup> "Strength" or "fatness".

<sup>5</sup> "Cluster of grapes".

<sup>6</sup> "Boy".

<sup>7</sup> baalim berith – owners of a covenant. Roth. – "having a covenant".

Gentiles converted by preaching the Gospel – Gal. 3:8.

<sup>8</sup> ach – relative, kinsman.

<sup>9</sup> ruq – empty out; pour forth. Roth. – "drew forth".

<sup>10</sup> chaniyk – initiated, practised. i.e. in matters of the Truth.

<sup>11</sup> "Judgement".

<sup>12</sup> chalaq – separate by lot. See use Job 38:24 ("parted").

<sup>13</sup> Operated as one body. Cp. "he and his servants" - a type of Christ.

<sup>14</sup> "Hiding place". 80 kms (50 miles) north of Damascus.

<sup>15</sup> i.e. north (to one facing east). Signifies judgement – Ps. 75:6-8.

<sup>16</sup> "Sack of blood". Another indicator of judgement.

<sup>17</sup> Lot given opportunity to forsake Sodom, but goods prevailed in his family.

#### Abram blessed by Melchizedek

<sup>1</sup> Thus acknowledging Abram as his deliverer in humility.

<sup>2</sup> "Level plain"; root to level; equalise; resemble, hence, to be made like. Cp. Heb. 7:3 – "made like unto the son of God".

<sup>3</sup> Lit. "the valley of the king"; namely, Melchizedek. Note – 2 Sam. 18:18; 1 Kings 1:33-34; Neh. 2:14-15.

<sup>4</sup> "King of righteousness" - Heb. 7:2. 11 occs. in Scripture (2 O.T., 9 N.T. all in Hebrews). 11 = incompleteness. Shadow inferior to substance.

<sup>5</sup> "Peace". Jerusalem's ("Vision of peace") name in the Kingdom – Ps. 76:2.

<sup>6</sup> The tokens of the New (Abrahamic) Covenant – Matt. 26:26-28.

<sup>7</sup> elyon – elevation, lofty, supreme. Root halah – to ascend.

<sup>8</sup> El – strength, mighty. Title of Deity as prime mover of Creation.

<sup>9</sup> Melchizedek greater than Abram – Heb. 7:7. See Acts 3:25-26.

<sup>10</sup> qanah – found, create, thus to possess, own. See use Ps. 139:13; Prov. 8:22.

<sup>11</sup> Armageddon will ultimately unite heaven and earth (Matt. 6:10) by revealing its true possessor.

<sup>12</sup> magan – to shield, encompass with. Its root is magen used Gen. 15:1 "shield".

<sup>13</sup> See Heb. 7:4-10.

#### The king of Sodom repudiated by Abram

<sup>1</sup> King sin is only interested in ruling the bodies of men.

<sup>2</sup> nephesh – a breathing creature.

<sup>3</sup> To make an oath – Ex. 6:8; Deut. 32:40 (cp. context V.32,41-44,50).

<sup>4</sup> chuwt – to sew; a string. i.e. a tie for a girl's hair.

<sup>5</sup> serowk – a thong (as tied), and na'alah – a sandal tongue. Thus repudiates the smallest property of both male and female.

<sup>6</sup> Knew king of Sodom did not acknowledge El Elyon as "possessor of heaven and earth".

<sup>7</sup> i.e. recover out of pocket expenses.

<sup>8</sup> enosh – weak mortal men.

<sup>9</sup> Principle – 1 Tim. 5:18. But they may not have done so – 1 Cor. 9:4, 6-12.

#### Gentile converts in the army of Abram

Aner, Eschol and Mamre all went with Abram to the battle and were compensated for their out of pocket expenses – V.24.

#### Abbreviations

Roth. – J.B. Rotherham's Emphasised Bible  
Ygs. Lit. – Young's Literal Translation  
Strong – Strong's Concordance of the Bible  
Young – Young's Concordance  
Ges. – Gesenius' Hebrew Lexicon  
BDB – Brown, Driver, Briggs Hebrew Lexicon  
Easton – Easton's Bible Dictionary  
Fausset – Fausset's Bible Dictionary  
Smith – Smith's Bible Dictionary  
Hitchcock – Hitchcock's Bible Names  
Cp. – Compare  
Lit. - Literally

#### The Battle of the Kings

##### Genesis 14

##### The first cameo of the Kingdom

- V.1 A northern confederacy forms – "In the days of these kings" - Dan. 2:44.
- V.2-7 Northern confederacy invades the Land - Gog foreshadowed.
- V.8-12 Southern confederacy defeated - Lot and family taken captive.
- V.13-16 Abraham united with Jew and Gentile defeats invader - Rescues Lot.
- V.17-20 Abraham meets Melchizedek king of Salem – Fellowship.
- V.21-24 Abraham repudiates the king of Sodom's offer of wealth.

