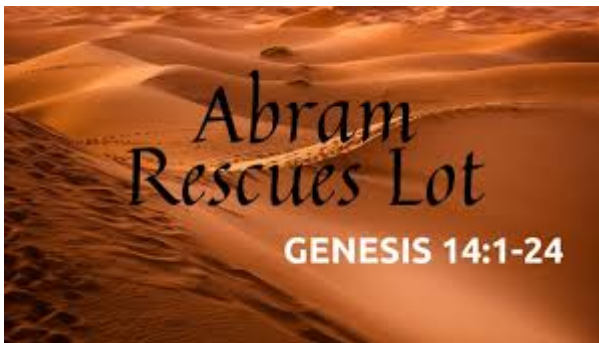


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Abram Goes to War With the Kings of the East

14: 1-24



After separating from Lot, **Abram** apparently lived quietly in Mamre for several years. Canaan and all the lands through Syria and Sinai were at peace. But that peace was suddenly broken when a northeastern confederation of **kings** swept through Canaan devastating everything in their path. **Abram** was caught up in this war and, humanly speaking, could have easily been killed and left **ADONAI's** promise unfulfilled. But **the LORD** is a promise keeper. **He** had said: **I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you, I will curse (12:3a)**. What we see here is the working out of **God's** promise to **bless all the peoples on earth through him (12:3b)**. In addition, rather than panic and show a lack of faith as **he** did in Egypt, this time **Abram** demonstrates great faith and gains a great victory. A life free from suffering would be a life in which faith in **ADONAI** would be a mere frill. A human life, on the other hand, is one in which *faith is a necessity*. Only a fool tries to do without it.²⁴⁶