THE BATTLE, THE RECOVERY, AND THE FIRST TENTH

"When God Restores What the Enemy Took"

Genesis 14:1–24

- When God gives victory and restores what has been lost, the proper response is worship, gratitude, and recognizing Him as the true source of every blessing.
- Abraham's tithe was not a transaction to obtain God's favor. It was a testimony that God had given the victory, restored what was taken, and remained the Possessor of heaven and earth.

INTRODUCTION:

"WHEN THE BATTLE COMES TO YOUR HOUSE"

Before Abraham ever lifted his sword, he had already lifted his faith.

- Genesis 14 introduces us to one of the first recorded military conflicts in Scripture. This was not a small disagreement between neighbors. This was a regional war involving kings, kingdoms, alliances, and conquered territories.
- Four powerful kings from the east went to war against five kings in the Jordan Valley region.
- The battle involved:

- Amraphel king of Shinar
- Arioch king of Ellasar
- Chedorlaomer king of Elam
- Tidal king of nations

- They came against:

- The kings of Sodom and Gomorrah.
- The kings of Admah, Zeboiim, and Bela.

- For 12 years they fought for authority. In the thirteenth year, they rebelled.
- The result was war.
- The kings of Sodom and Gomorrah were defeated.
- Their cities were plundered.
- Their possessions were taken.
- And among those captured was Lot, Abraham's nephew.

- I. THE ENEMY WILL ATTACK WHAT GOD HAS ENTRUSTED TO YOU
- Genesis 14:11–12
- —A. The Enemy Came to Steal. John 10:10
- —B. Lot Lost What He Could Not Defend
- —C. A Battle Around You Can Affect What Belongs to You
-
- II. COVENANT PEOPLE DON’T IGNORE WHAT HAS BEEN TAKEN
- Genesis 14:13–16
- —A. Abraham Heard the Report and Responded
- —B. Abraham Had Resources Prepared for the Battle
- —C. Abraham Pursued the Enemy
-
- III. GOD IS THE GOD OF RECOVERY
- Genesis 14:16
-
- IV. AFTER THE VICTORY, ABRAHAM MET THE SOURCE OF THE VICTORY
- Genesis 14:17–20
- —A. Melchizedek Redirected Abraham’s Focus
- —B. Abraham Recognized Who Delivered Him
-
- V. THE FIRST TENTH WAS A RESPONSE OF WORSHIP
- Genesis 14:20
- —A. Abraham Honored God Before Taking the Spoils
- —B. The Tithe Declared Ownership
- —C. The Tithe Was Thanksgiving After Deliverance
-
- VI. ABRAHAM REFUSED TO LET SODOM CLAIM CREDIT
- Genesis 14:21–24
- —A. Abraham Knew His Source
- —B. Covenant Blessing Does Not Depend on Worldly Systems
-
- VII. JESUS IS THE GREATER RESTORER

-

CONCLUSION

“THE BATTLE MAY CHANGE YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT WORSHIP REVEALS YOUR SOURCE”

Abraham entered the battle as a rescuer.

He left the battle as a worshiper.

He recovered possessions.

But he gained revelation.

He learned:

The victory was God’s.

The increase was God’s.

The future was God’s.

The first belonged to God.

What battle has God brought you through?

What has He restored?

What victory have you forgotten to acknowledge?

Today, remember:

The first belongs to God.

The seed belongs in the ground.

The victory belongs to God.

And the God who gave Abraham victory is still faithful to His people today.