

ABRAHAM'S

FAITH

*FRIEND OF GOD*

<sup>21</sup> Was not **Abraham our father** justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? <sup>22</sup> You see **that faith was active** along with his works, and **faith was completed by his works**; <sup>23</sup> and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “**Abraham believed God**, and it was counted to him as righteousness”—and he was called **a friend of God**.

*James 2:21-23, ESV*

# Active Faith

*Genesis 14*

**“In the beginning, God...”**

*Genesis 1:1a, ESV*

**In the Bible, God is:**

- **the Creator and Maker of all things**
- **the Divider and Separator**

# ABRAHAM IN CANAAN

GEN. 12:10-14:24; GEN. 18-22

- City
- City (uncertain location)
- ← Abraham's migration to Egypt and return to Canaan
- ←- - Abraham's route of battle with enemy kings
- ← Military route of the kings from the north in Gen. 14



Abraham departs from Canaan en route to Egypt

Abraham receives the blessing of Melchizedek

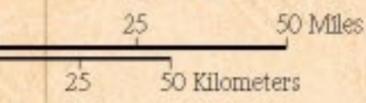
God promises a son to Abraham and Sarah

Hagar receives the news that she will bear a son, Ishmael

Conflict arises between Abraham and Lot

Abraham's attempt to offer up Issac at Mt. Moriah

Possible location of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zebolim



## Power/Prosperity (military threat)

Amraphel king of Shinar

Arioch king of Ellasar

Chedorlaomer king of Elam

Tidal king of Goiim

## Perversion/Sexual Immorality (moral threat)

Bera king of Sodom

- wicked, great sinners against the Lord (13:13)

Birsha king of Gomorrah

- ungodly (2Pet2:6); sexual immorality (Jud1:7)

Shinab king of Admah

Shemeber king of Zeboiim

king of Bela (that is, Zoar)

- 4 kings against 5
- Abram against “9 kings”

<sup>23</sup> the whole land burned out with brimstone and salt, nothing sown and nothing growing, where no plant can sprout, an overthrow like that of **Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim**, which the Lord overthrew in his anger and wrath— <sup>24</sup> all the nations will say, ‘Why has the Lord done thus to this land? What caused the heat of this great anger?’ <sup>25</sup> Then people will say, ‘It is because they abandoned the covenant of the Lord, the God of their fathers...

*Deuteronomy 29:23-25, ESV*

How can I give you up, O Ephraim?  
How can I hand you over, O Israel?  
How can I make you like **Admah**?  
How can I treat you like **Zeboiim**?  
My heart recoils within me;  
my compassion grows warm and tender.

*Hosea 11:8, ESV*

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MEDITERRANEAN SEA

EGYPT

Syro-Arabian Desert

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Wilderness of Paran

Wilderness of Shur

Way to Shur

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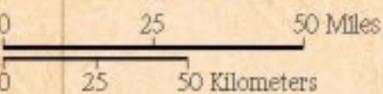
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Cave of Machpelah



<sup>12</sup> They also took Lot, the son of Abram's brother, **who was dwelling in Sodom**, and his possessions, and went their way.

*Genesis 14:12, ESV*

Compare: Gen13:<sup>12</sup> ...Lot settled among the cities of the valley and moved his tent **as far as Sodom**. (just near)

<sup>13</sup> Then one who had escaped came and told Abram **the Hebrew**, who was living by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and of Aner. These were allies of Abram. <sup>14</sup> When Abram heard that his kinsman had been taken captive, he led forth his trained men, born in his house, 318 of them, and went in pursuit as far as Dan. <sup>15</sup> And he divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and defeated them and pursued them to Hobah, north of Damascus. <sup>16</sup> Then he brought back all the possessions, and also brought back his kinsman Lot with his possessions, and the women and the people.

*Genesis 14, ESV*

Note: Abraham is the first person to be called a “Hebrew” in the Bible. Literally means “one from beyond.” Hebrews are those weirdos from across the river (Jordan).

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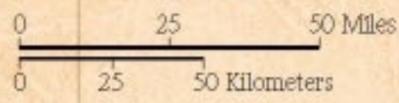
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<sup>17</sup> After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley)... <sup>21</sup> And the king of Sodom said to Abram, “Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself.” <sup>22</sup> But Abram said to the king of Sodom, “I have lifted my hand to the Lord, God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth, <sup>23</sup> that I would not take a thread or a sandal strap or anything that is yours, lest you should say, ‘I have made Abram rich.’ <sup>24</sup> I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me. Let Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre take their share.”

*Genesis 14, ESV*

<sup>18</sup> And Melchizedek **king** of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was **priest** of God Most High.) <sup>19</sup> And he blessed him and said,

“Blessed be Abram by God Most High,  
Possessor of heaven and earth;  
<sup>20</sup> and blessed be God Most High,  
who has delivered your enemies into your hand!”

And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

*Genesis 14, ESV*

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### 1. Courage in the face of overwhelming odds

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- 4. Recognition of God's sovereignty in victory**
- 5. Visible witness to others**

# Called Into Faith

*Faith builds over a lifetime, but is  
birthed in a moment.*