

## STUDY TWELVE

# BE WISE IN THE WAY YOU ACT

## Genesis 14

### Introduction

In this story we see more clearly the difference of character there is between Lot and his uncle Abram. At this time in this part of West Asia city states were ruled over by powerful kings who would often join together to fight other kings and extend their territory. Often one king would become dominant and force the others to pay taxes to him. Such was Kedorlaomer. When a less powerful king wanted to come out from under the dominant king's rule they would rebel and war would often result. Lot's family get caught up in such an event.

### Questions For Discussion

1.a) Where was Lot living by this time (v.12)?

b) What steps had Lot taken to get where he was (13:10-12 & 14:12)?

2.a) What did Abram do to help his nephew (vv.14-16)?

b) What can believers do to resist evil in society?

c) Is it right for followers of God to go to war?

d) What does Abram's action show us about his character?

3.a) What did the king of Sodom offer to Abram (vv.21-24)?

b) Why did Abram refuse the king of Sodom's offer? (Note: Abram did not want to accept anything that would give the king of Sodom a claim to be his king as well.)

c) Does this have anything to tell us about our relationships with unbelievers? (See Col. 4:5)

d) How can we demonstrate to the world around us that our success is from the Lord?

4.a) What did Abram give to Melchizedek king of Salem (v.20)?

b) In what ways is Melchizedek a shadow of Christ? (See Heb. 7:1-8:2)

5. What can we learn from Abram's example in this story?

6. What can we learn from Lot's example? (See 1Jn. 2:15-17)

### **For Further Thought And Action**

Think about your relationships with relatives and neighbours. Are you being wise in the way you act towards them?

### **Memory Verse**

Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.

Colossians 4:5