



## Lesson #14: El Elyon

The name *El Elyon* appears \_\_\_\_ times in the Old Testament. \_\_\_\_ of those times the name appears in the Psalms. *El Elyon* means “the \_\_\_\_\_.” The name conveys the truth that there is none other like Him. We read a fascinating account of this name being introduced to us in Genesis 14. In the culture of that time many ‘gods’ were followed. The truth of *El Elyon* as the most high God was a necessary truth especially in the life of God’s friend, Abram. The pressures of this would were all around him and he was wrestling with his place in this world. As we study this account in Genesis 14 we come to discover that the friends of God are to live lives of \_\_\_\_\_ but they are not to live lives of \_\_\_\_\_. We are *in* the world but we are not *of* the world.

There is tension in Genesis 14. Abram is in the world but He is not of the world and he finds himself facing several quandaries that are common to all of God’s people who desire to do God’s work. In this moment he learns of the God who is over all, the most high God – *El Elyon*.

### THOSE WHO LOOK TO EL ELYON WALK WITH HIM IN \_\_\_\_\_

Abram was being drawn into a fight that he didn’t start. He needs to ask himself this question: “When does the friend of God go into battle?”

- A. This was a battle to protect \_\_\_\_\_** (Gen. 14:11-12)  
Evidently, Sodom had been a tributary of King Chedorlaomer for some 12 years (14:4). After 12 years, they refused to pay their tribute money and revolted. In response, Chedorlaomer, along with his confederates, invaded Canaan to deal with these rebellious people. These Kings of the North then took what was the \_\_\_\_\_ for the families of the city-states.
- B. This was a battle to protect \_\_\_\_\_** (Gen. 14:12)  
Abram’s reason for getting involved in this battle hits close to home. They took his nephew, \_\_\_\_\_. We discover later in the passage that they took many of the people, including women. If you are following in this passage you discover that Abram was protecting both his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ trade. Abram then is the protector in Genesis 14 and not an aggressor. These motives that compelled Abram to battle almost 4,000 years ago ought to give us instruction today.

### THOSE WHO LOOK TO EL ELYON WILL BE \_\_\_\_\_ BY HIM

Now, not all of us will take up arms in military campaign, but all of us have no doubt asked the question, “What is the proper worship of God?”

- A. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the blessing** (Gen. 14:18)  
The mysterious man, Melchizedek, is one of the earliest and clearest pictures of the \_\_\_\_\_ in the Bible. Hebrews 7:1-17 elaborates on this. Melchizedek is painting a picture of Jesus in what he does for Abram. But did you notice why Abram was blessed? Did you notice *why* Abram was blessed? Abram was blessed because he refused to \_\_\_\_\_ even when the battle was tough.
- B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the blessing** (Gen. 14:19-20)  
All of the blessing coming to Abram is from the Most High God (El Elyon). Note the phrase “Abram \_\_\_\_\_ of the Most High God” (v. 19). Abram is known for his relationship to the Lord and is blessed as a result. There is therefore no greater commentary on your life or mine than for someone to say, “They are a Christian!” Such is the fruit of a life of consistent obedience and worship of the Lord.

### THOSE WHO LOOK TO EL ELYON WORSHIP HIM WITH THEIR \_\_\_\_\_

Abram now has to deal with the question, “What do I do now with the bounty of the battle in which I engaged myself?”

- A. The \_\_\_\_\_ he endured** (Gen. 14:21)  
Perhaps the greatest test Abram would face in this text was not the battle with Chedorlaomer. Perhaps the greatest test Abram would face was his battle with his own \_\_\_\_\_. I think we humans are more tempted in the area of money than we are in almost any other area.
- B. The \_\_\_\_\_ he exhibited** (Gen. 14:22-24)  
There are several principles that become evident in this passage ...
- 1. God must receive a \_\_\_\_\_ of my wealth** (“He gave tithes of all”) – What we discover is that tithing is not a “law” principle.” Abram gives tithes \_\_\_\_\_ the law was given.
  - 2. God must maintain his rightful \_\_\_\_\_ over my wealth** (“I have lifted up mind hand unto the Lord”). Abram demonstrates that he is dependent upon God.
  - 3. God is the sole \_\_\_\_\_ of my wealth** (“I will not take from a thread even to a shoelatchet ... lest thou shouldst say, I have made Abram rich”)

### Concluding Thoughts

When you hear the name “El Elyon” defined as “The God Most High” you may be tempted to think that God doesn’t interfere with the goings and doings of man. But as you read the context of the story where the name was first given you come to realize that not only is God intricately involved but he expects his children to likewise be involved. Dear Christian friend, we may not be of the world but we are certainly in it.