Main Thought  Victories and blessings from God are to be followed by adoration and worship from those who have received.

A New Battle – The King of Sodom [17, 21-24].

- The king of Sodom meets Abram in the Kings Valley east of the future Jerusalem (2 Sam. 18:18).
- Without gratitude, the king of Sodom dictated terms, albeit generous, to Abram in an attempt to be superior. But it was Abram who risked his life. To the VICTOR go the spoils.
- The king of Sodom wanted the PEOPLE but offered the GOODS (material possessions) to Abram.
- Sodom (HEB=burn) represented a wicked city (13:13; Ezek. 16:49-50) with its appeal to the flesh (Eph. 2:3).
- The King of Sodom wants your body (14:21; Rom. 6:12-13) just as God wants your body (Rom. 12:1-2; 1 Cor. 6:19-20)

-Joseph (Gen. 39:8-10) and Daniel (Dan. 1:8) said no.
-Samson (Jud. 16:1), David (2 Sam 11:2-4), and Judas (John 13:27) said yes.

- No mention is made of any choosing to stay with Abraham – not even Lot who returned to Sodom (Rom. 2:4).
- Abraham refused to be enriched by the world for he knew that all belongs to God (Psa. 50:9-10; Hag. 2:8).
- Abraham did not impose his convictions on others (2 Sam. 30:24-25).

“Others may — you cannot!”

A New Blessing – The King of Salem [18-20].

- Melch (HEB=king) Zedek (HEB=righteousness) means King of Righteousness and Salem (HEB=shalom; Jeru-salem) means peace.
- Melchizedek is the pre-incarnate Christ (Psa. 110:4; Heb. 7:1-4). Christ holds both offices – King and Priest with no separation of church and state. With sinful man, it is a problem (THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE [AD 800] and the SPANISH INQUISITION [AD 1478]).
- The bread and wine remind us of his priestly sacrifice for us.
- He blessed Abraham – the greater always blesses the lesser (Heb. 7:7).
- Abraham responded with a tithe (tenth).

-He gave to God, not a church.
-He gave willingly as an act of worship (2 Cor. 9:6-7).
-He gave proportionately (1 Cor. 16:1-2).