

A cosmic background featuring a view of Earth from space, showing the horizon and clouds. The Moon is visible in the upper center. The sky is filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy, with a color gradient from blue to purple.

THE BOOK OF
GENESIS

MELCHIZEDEK, KING OF PEACE

GENESIS 14:17-24

1. ABRAM THE WORSHIPPER

When Abraham returned from battle, he was met by two kings:

- Bera, King of Sodom—“burning”
- Melchizedek, King of Salem—“peace”

Abraham had to choose between worshipping two kings who represented two opposite ways of life.

KING AND PRIEST

Melchizedek means “king of righteousness,” and Salem means “peace.”

- **Hebrews 7** and **Psalms 110** both connect Melchizedek with Jesus Christ, the “King of peace” and the “King of righteousness.” **Psalms 85:10**
- Like Melchizedek in Abraham’s day, Jesus Christ is our King-Priest in heaven, enabling us to enjoy righteousness and peace as we serve and live for Him.
- Just as **Isaiah 32:17** and **Hebrews 12:11** tell us.

EVERYTHING BELONGS TO GOD

Legally, Abraham had every claim to the spoils of war; but morally, they were out of bounds.

- God wants to use human bodies for His glory
Rom. 12:1-2; 1 Cor. 6:19-20
- The enemy wants to use human bodies for evil purposes. **Rom. 6:12-13**
- Abram did not accept King Bera's worldly offer.
- Abram knew it all belonged to God, so he chose to care about what God cares about . . . people.

WHO IS THIS GUY MELCHIZEDEK?

1. He is both the Priest and King of Peace.
2. Melchizedek means “*king of righteousness.*”
3. The Hebrew prophet Jeremiah said of Him, “*He shall be called Yahweh Tsidkenu—THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.*” **Jeremiah 23:5-6**
4. King David, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, said regarding the coming Messiah, “*You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek*” (**Psalms 110:4**). Could this be a Christophany?

THE BLESSING OF GIVING A TITHE

Abram was a generous tither, one-tenth of all he had went to the Lord; he gave his very best. **Gen. 14:20**

- The New Testament plan for giving is outlined in **2 Cor. 9:6-7**.
- Abram brought his gifts to Jesus in the person of Melchizedek. **Heb. 7:1-10**
- Abram was prompt in his giving. **Mal. 1, 3**
- He was also proportionate in his giving, a policy encouraged by the Apostle Paul. **1 Cor. 16:1-2**

N.T. HELP WITH THIS MYSTERY MAN

Hebrews chapters 7-10 gives us some clear help.

First, the historical argument. **Heb. 7:1-10**

- A.** He was both king and priest. **v. 1**
- B.** His name is significant. **v. 2b**
- C.** He received tithes from Abram. **v. 2a**
- D.** His family history is really different. **v. 3**
- E.** He had authority to receive tithes and to bless Abram. **v. 4-10**

The doctrinal argument: Christ and Aaron.

Hebrews 7:11-25

- A.** Because both the priesthood and the Law were imperfect. **v. 11-14**
- B.** Because, being imperfect, the priesthood and the Law could not continue forever. **v. 15-19**
- C.** Because, being men, the priests died. **v. 23-25**

***BUT IN CONTRAST, JESUS IS THE PERFECT,
ETERNAL, UNCHANGEABLE ONE.***

Melchizedek was a pre-incarnational preview of the glorious Messiah who was to come 2,000 years later—in the person of Jesus Christ, the Son God, the light of the world, our redeemer, and our blessed Savior.

In Him, lovingkindness and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other. Psalm 85:10