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ABRAHAM – PART 15  
HIS TITHE

Abram had returned to the plain of Jordan with all the spoils, the riches, herds, people, and servants recovered from the Kings of Babylon. He was greeted by the King of Sodom under whom his nephew Lot had taken up residence.

Of greater significance, Abram was also met by Melchizedek, King of Salem, and Priest of ***“the most High God, possessor of heaven and earth.”*** (Genesis 14:18, 19). Melchizedek blessed Abram and blessed God who had delivered the enemies into Abram’s hand. Abram responded by giving God’s priest the tithe of everything in his possession, one-tenth of everything. This is the first recorded account of the tithe being given into the hand of God’s priest or minister.

Melchizedek brought forth bread and wine to Abram, also the first recorded incident of the holy sacraments of communion that Jesus established for the church.

Some people claim that tithing was under the Old Testament law and is therefore no longer relevant for today because the “Law of Moses” has been replaced by the New Testament “Law of Grace.” This is a fallacy. The precedent of tithing into God’s house is seen here with Abram almost five hundred years before “the law” was given. The absolute necessity of tithing on everything that comes into your hand is written in Malachi 3:8-11, yet many Christians will not do it. Verse 11 tells those disobedient people why they have problems in health, finances, family, and other such things. By stealing from God (withholding the tithe) they are allowing (giving permission to) the devourer to “destroy the fruits” of their ground (territory). Satan is the destroyer, and he can unleash his demons to cause loss to you. Many unexpected and unplanned expenses come about this way.

Abram (later renamed Abraham) set the tithing precedent four thousand years ago in honor to God and God’s supply to us, and also in support of the House of God and His ministers.

Who was this Melchizedek, ***“The priest of the Most High God?”*** (Genesis 14:18) We shall look at that question tomorrow as it is of very great importance.