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ABRAHAM – PART 16  
MELCHIZEDEK'S GREETING

Melchizedek (mêl-kîz'-ê-dêk), king of Salem and ***“the priest of the most-high God”*** (Gen. 14:18), came out to meet the returning victorious conqueror, Abram. He brought bread and wine to Abram, a foreshadow of Christian sacraments of two thousand years later. He also blessed Abram and blessed “the most-high God” (El Elyon: God the Highest).

Melchizedek was priest and king of Salem, later named Jeru-Salem, the capitol of future Israel and a holy city chosen by God. Priest and king were God's early model for desired rulership. Melchizedek was a type model for future messiah, Jesus, who is our High Priest and our King of Kings. Jesus shall return and rule the world from Jerusalem, the same place of Melchizedek, God's priest, four thousand years ago.

Scholars have long debated Melchizedek's true identity. Jewish custom says he was Noah's son Shem who was still alive and serving in a godly role. Some scholars say he came from Chaldea to Canaan (Salem) and was probably personally acquainted with Abram or his family from their Chaldean days. Personally, I put no credibility in either view.

Just as Melchizedek was king and priest, so is Jesus, our king and priest, and so shall we also be kings and priests in God's future kingdom under Jesus. Just as Melchizedek ruled from Jerusalem (Salem), so shall Jesus rule from Jerusalem, and we also together with Him from the New Jerusalem.

Tomorrow we will look deeper into the identity of Melchizedek and see how remarkably he shows forth as a pre-incarnate form of Christ.