



MELCHIZEDEK

HOLY
RIGHTEOUS

IS

MELCH-
ZEDEK

GREATER!

Hebrews 7:1-10

The Background

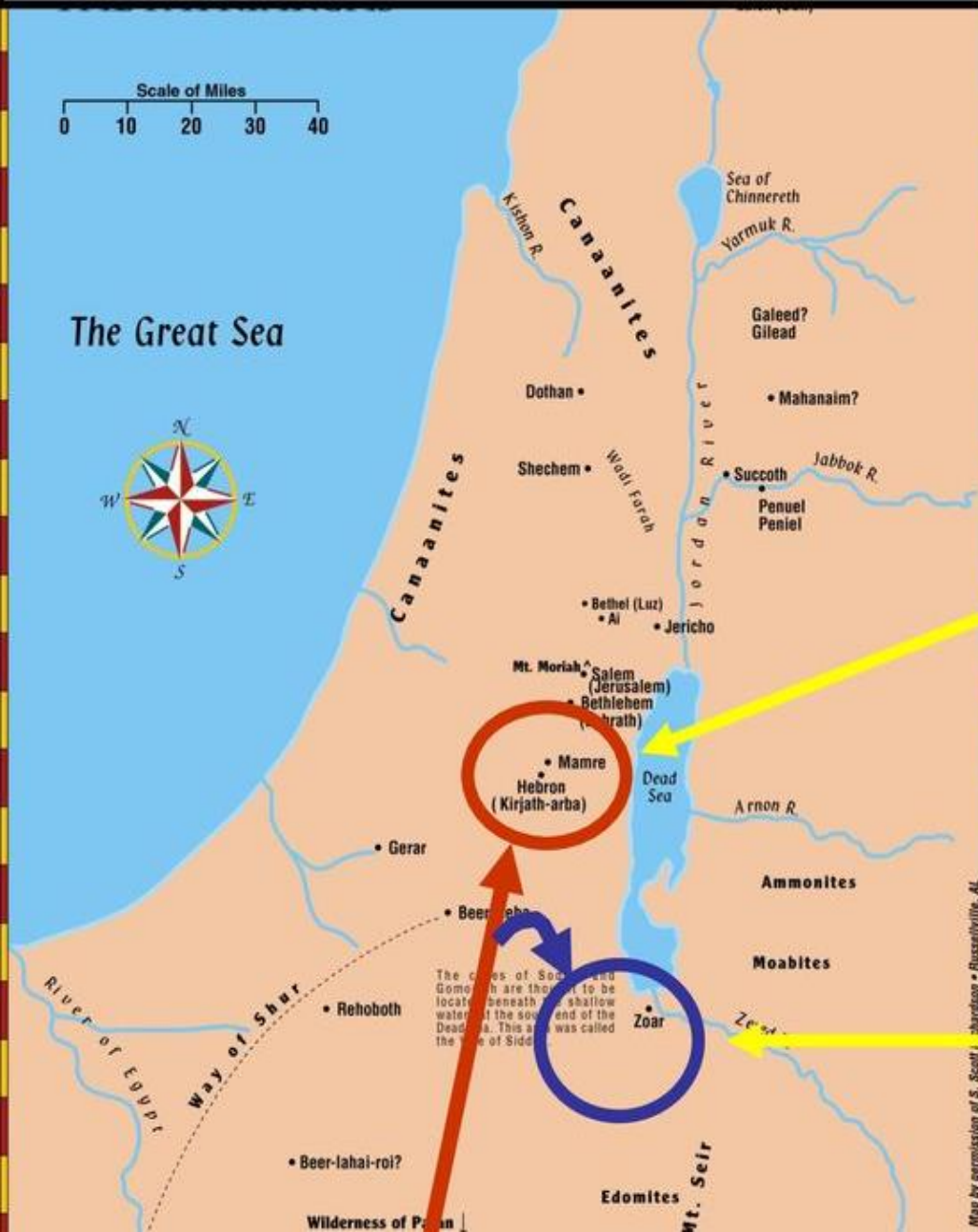
It's very important for us to know the historical background of this King, SO...

- + Let's recap Genesis 13:1 – 14:24**
 - Abram has left Egypt; went to Bethel w/Sarai and his nephew, Lot.**
 - Both blessed by God; large herds; quarreling amongst herdsmen**

The Background

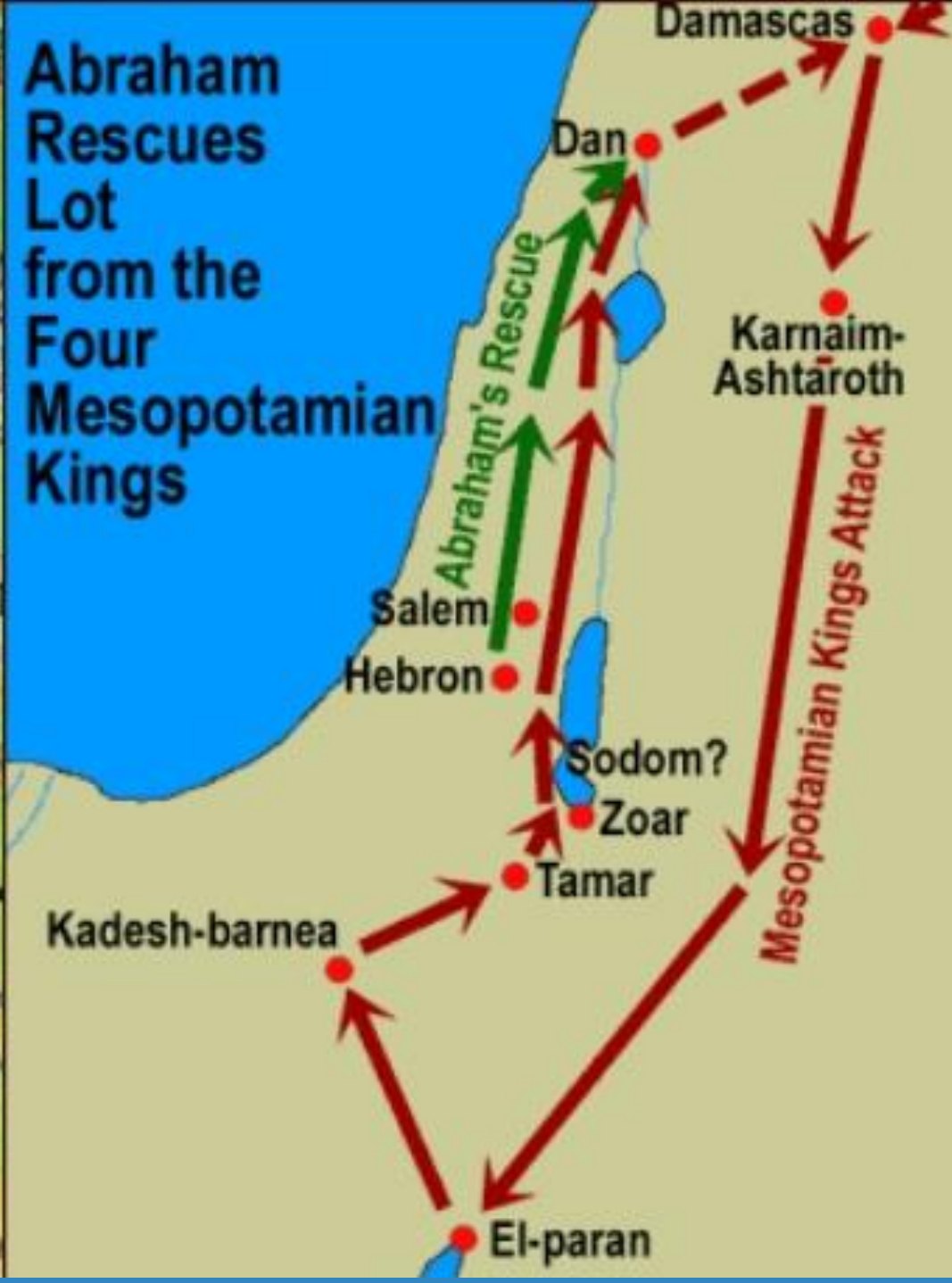
- + **Recap of Genesis 13:1 – 14:24**
 - **Abram/Lot agree to separate.**
 - **Lot chose the Plain of Jordan; Abram encamps at Hebron.**
 - **The “Kings” of the region were warring against each other.**
 - **The “five” lose to the “four.”**
 - **Lot is taken captive**

Abram and Lot Separate



**The Hill country
of Canaan
where Abram dwelt.**

**The Plain of Jordan
or the Valley of Siddim
where Lot dwelt.
(Sodom.)**



The Background

+ Hebrews 7 is an exegetical study of Ps 110:4!

“The LORD has sworn
And will not relent,
“You *are* a priest forever
According to the order of
Melchizedek.”

+ 7:1-10 is an exposition of
the name of Melchizedek and
His greatness in contrast to
Abraham and Levi.

Melchizedek's Ministry

+ Vv. 1-3

- The preacher recaps Abram's meeting with Melchizedek (Gen. 14:17-20)**

+ The Two Titles of Melchizedek

- "King of Salem"**
- "Priest of God Most High"**

Melchizedek's Ministry

+ The Two Titles are significant!

“King of Salem”

HOLY
RIGHTEOUS

MELCH-
ZEDĖK

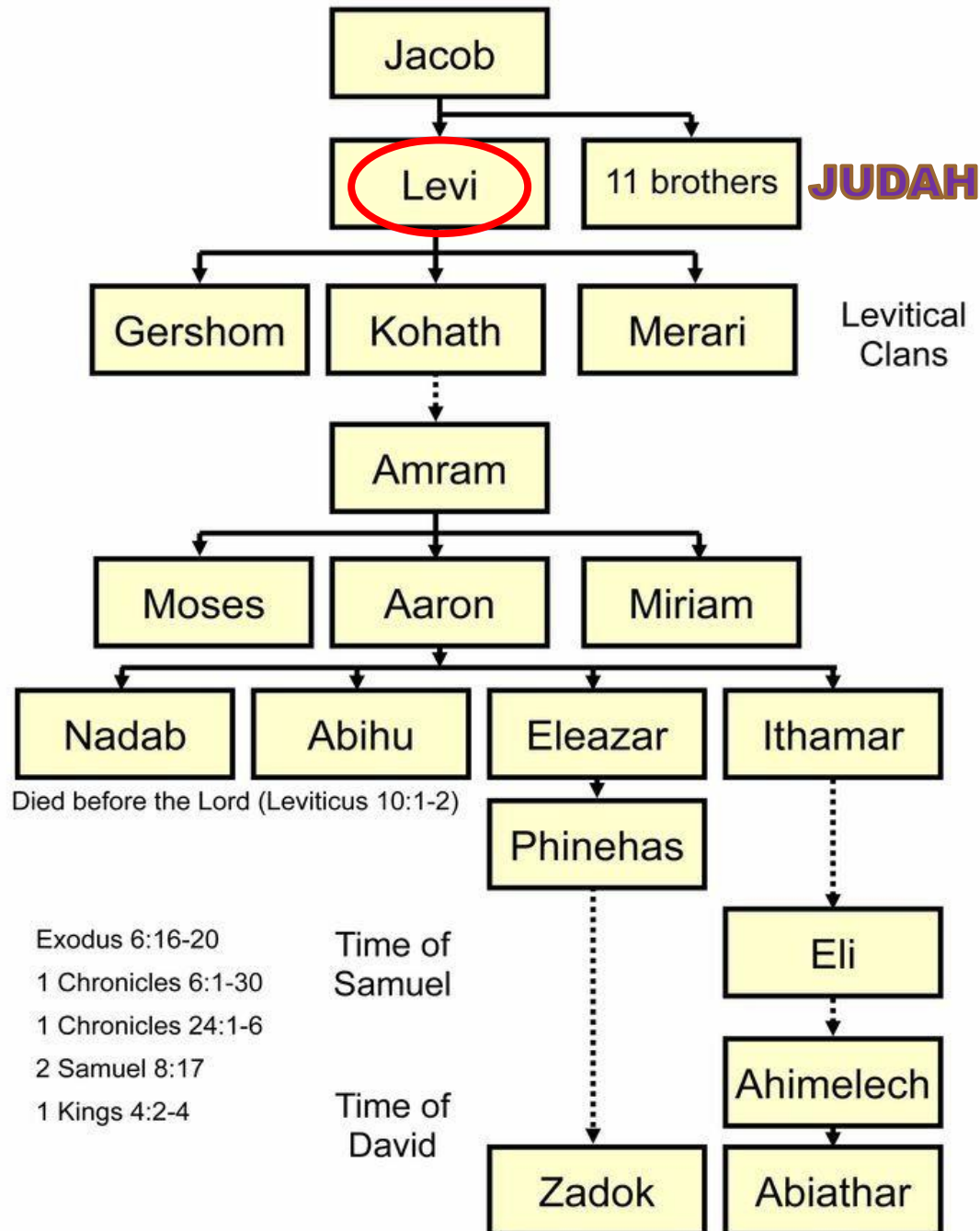
“Priest of God
Most High”



Me

try

Genealogy of the Priesthood



Melchizedek's Work

“Meets Abram”  **“Blesses Abram”**

Melchizedek, as a Priest, does a very important liturgical function; meeting and blessing.

Abram's tithe also recognizes Melchizedek as a priest

Melchizedek's Royal Office

KING



HOLY
RIGHTEOUS



MELCHI-
ZEDER

Thus, He is YHWH representative,
a **KING** who is **RIGHTEOUS** who is
also a **PRIEST**...not a Political
King, but a **SPIRITUAL** King/Priest.

Melchizedek's Priesthood

His is an eternal Priesthood!

- + Not human, since there's no retirement or death.**
- + He has no human successor.**
- + Uniqueness is extraordinary!**
- + His is an eschatological, eternal Priesthood!**

Contemplation

“Consider now how great this One was to whom the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth out of the best spoils” (v.4) .

Clearly, you must agree, that the King/Priest is greater than the patriarch Abraham, since Abraham gave Him a tenth of the very best of their captured treasures!

A Comparison: Levite/Melchizedek

“On the one hand, those sons of Levi who receive the priesthood have a mandate according to the Law to levy tithes from the people, that is, from their brothers, even though they have come from the loins of Abraham, ⁶but, on the other hand, He who does not have this genealogical descent from them has taken a tithe from Abraham and has blessed him who has the promises ” (vv.5, 6).

The Correlation

The tithe was commanded by God (Dt. 12:5-7; 14:24).

The people presented the best of their crops to God, via the priest, acknowledging God's blessings.

Thus, they received God's continued blessings upon their next yearly crop.

The Correlation

But, now the *MAJOR* difference!!!

- Abraham's tithe from the spoils of battle acknowledges that God has blessed him by giving him the victory over superior forces!

Tithe(crops) – Acknowledge – Blessing

Tithe (gold) – Blessing — Acknowledge

The “Greater/Lesser” (v.7)

This was a common social practice of the orient (and still is).

Biblically sound: Gen 27; 38-40; 48

The “greater” one has the power to bless the “lesser” one.

How does Melchizedek bless Abraham?

The “Blessing” (v.7)

**May the LORD bless you and
keep you;**

**May the LORD shine His face on
you and show you favor;**

**May the Lord lift His face on
you;**

And give you peace!

The Final Argument (vv.9, 10)

One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, ¹⁰for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him.

So the preacher is pointing out that the concern in this is not only with the superiority of Melchizedek over Abraham and Levi, but also the Divine source of Melchizedek's priesthood and of the blessing He transmitted to Abraham!

What does all this mean to you?

Like Melchizedek in the earthly city of Jerusalem, Jesus is both High Priest and King in the Heavenly Jerusalem, “the city of the Living God” (Heb. 12:22).

Like Melchizedek, Jesus is The High Priest Who blesses God’s people and receives their offerings (tithes)!

And like Melchizedek, Jesus is without human predecessor or successor; Jesus will remain in His Office, forever!

NEXT WEEK

The Eternal High Priest and Intercessor

HEBREWS 7:11-28

