Genesis Series Lesson #088 April 12, 2005

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The Priestly Order of Melchizedek

Genesis 14:17, "And the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley), after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him."

Genesis 14:18, "Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High [El Elyon]."

Melchizedek=

a. "My King is Tzediq

b. "Milku is Righteous"

c. King of Righteousness

1. A Theophany is an appearance of the pre-incarnate Christ.

2. Theophanies are always referred to by a title of deity.

3. Theophanies are not given different names.

4. Melchizedek ruled in *Shalem*, thus not a theophany. Christ did not rule on the earth in His pre-incarnate state.

5. Theophanies do not have specific, formal names, such as Melchizedek.

6. Rabbinic tradition in the Mishnah, Talmud, Midrash and other Rabbinic writings are <u>unanimous</u> in identifying Melechizedek as a historical figure: Shem, the son of Noah.

Whker>b'y>w: vaybarechehu

piel imperfect plus vav consec 3P ms suff, 3S noun,

"And he (Mel.) blessed him (Abram)."
"To kneel down, to praise, to bless."

"Possessor"

hnq *qanah*,

Qal Ptcp

"to acquire, buy, to own or possess."

Genesis 14:20, "'And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand.' And he gave him a tithe of all."

 $\lg m' \ magan$, to deliver, or to hand over as a gift.

Genesis 14:21, "Now the king of Sodom said to Abram, 'Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself.' "

Genesis 14:22, "But Abram said to the king of Sodom, 'I have raised my hand to the LORD, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth,' "

Genesis 14:23, "that I will take nothing, from a thread to a sandal strap, and that I will not take anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich' "

Genesis 14:24, "except only what the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men who went with me: Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion."