

Notes from various Bible dictionaries and lexicons used to develop this paraphrase of Genesis 14

Evil kings from future Babylon -- representing the hordes of hell:

Amraphel = unknown derivation, "one that speaks of secrets"

Shinar = **pride**

Arioch = Babylonian, "long, great, tall"

Ellasar = "**revolting from God**"

Kedorlaomer = Persian, "roundness of a sheaf"

Elam = "a young man; a virgin, a secret", "**blind**"

Tidal = Canaanite, "that breaks the yoke; knowledge of elevation", "fearfulness, dreadful, terrible"

Goiim = "**every nation**, Gentiles, herds"

Sinful kings from Canaan -- representing the human race

Bera = "a well; declaring"

Sodom = **burnt/scorched district**, "their secret; their cement"

Birsha = "an evil; a son who beholds", "with wickedness"

Gomorraah = **a ruined heap**, "rebellious people"

Shinab = “father of changing”, “a father has turned”

Admah = (from Adam), “**earthy, red, bloody**”

Shemeber = “name of force; name of the strong”, “name of pinions (wings)”

Zeboiim = “**deer; goats**”, “gazelles”

Bela = “devouring, gulp”

Zoar = “**little; small**”

Siddim = the tilled field

Valley of Siddim = the Salt Sea

Rephaites = **helpless, discouraged, failures**; or, giants (symbolically)

Ashteroth Qarnaim = **goddess of the double horns**

Zuzim = **abundant, wild beast**

Ham = “hot, heat, brown”, the cursed son of Noah (“cursed”)

Emites = “**fears, terrors, formidable; people**” – of Moab

Shaveh = the plain; place of equality

Kiriathaim = flooring; building

Horites = **cave-dwellers**, hole people

Seir = **rough, shaggy, devilish**, tempestuous (Idumean)

Paran = ornamental, embellished, **self-glory**, beauty (Arabian desert)

with El = God’s glory? or ungodly strength and glory?

El Paran = terebinths of Paran

Mishpat = judgment, decision, ordinances

En Mishpat = “spring of judgment”

Kadesh = holiness (or, **sacred person, male prostitute dedicated to licentious idolatry**)

Amalekites = descendants of Esau; “laborers, **toilers**”; “a people that licks up”

Amorites = **boasters**, prominence, challengers

Tamar = palm tree, scarecrow

Hazazon-Tamar = drawing near to **bitterness**

Lot = a veil, a covering. Lot is the hinge character in this story between the father and the tumultuous earth. Invaders tried to control the veil/covering. The father took it back. It's an illustration of the cosmic war for control of divine revelation/redemption.

Mamre = vigorous, lusty, self-promoting, rebellious, bitter

Eshcol = bunch of grapes

Aner = answer; song; affliction

Abram = high father

Abraham = **exalted father of a multitude**

Melchizedek = **king of righteousness**

Dan = **judgment**; he who judges

Hobah = love, friendship, **secrecy**; **hiding place**

Damascus = sack full of blood; similitude of burning

Salem = **shalom; complete peace**, fullness, in every way

Jerusalem = **flowing with peace**; foundation of peace