

The test of plenty – a tale of kinsmen and kings:

1) The undeserving one is rescued

(v1-16)

2) All the glory goes to God

(v17-20)

3) Shortcuts to blessing and glory are rejected

(v21-24)

For further discussion

- In what ways can times of plenty or success or happiness be tests of faith? What examples can you think of in your life?
- In what ways is Lot undeserving of what happens to him? How is he like us?
- How does Abram act out the grace that has been shown to him (v13-16)? Do you struggle to show the same kind of grace to the undeserving? What will help with those struggles?
- How does Melchizedek show that all the glory must go to God (v17-20)? What does that look like for us? How do we live in ways that imply we have forgotten that all good things come from God?
- In what way does the king of Sodom try and offer a shortcut to blessing and glory (v21-24)? How is what he offers a “counterfeit” glory? Why does Abram reject it? What examples are there in our lives of things the world offers us that are in fact counterfeit and will cost us everything? What will help us identify and reject those things?