

THE SCEPTER OF JUDAH

BY KAREN SANKOWSKI

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The Scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come: And unto Him shall the gathering of the people be. Gen.49:10.

In this text God is demonstrating that the people must have a leader; a figure of authority; and the one who would hold that office would be king. He would hold the scepter of authority. There must also be order, and a lawgiver; for the purpose of directing-guide lines if you will; until Shiloh come.

I want to be very clear here: The Scepter of the Almighty **HAS NEVER and WILL NEVER** leave His hand. He is God! The Great I Am. He alone is the lawgiver. Jehovah, alone is God!

For the LORD is our Judge, the LORD is our lawgiver... Isa.33:22.

There is ONE lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy...James 4:12.

ALL AUTHORITY IS IN HIS HAND!

The tribe of Judah would possess authority, as a demonstration of both the power and authority of God! Till Shiloh come- But after Christ's crucifixion and resurrection- all authority ceased from the hands of mere mortal men. Some would argue that because Jesus came in the flesh makes Him mortal. He came in the **likeness** of sinful flesh, but **ONLY** because He subjected Himself to giving His life a ransom for many, Flesh had to die for flesh. Mortal that He belonged to this world. **UTTERLY, ABSOLUTELY AND POSITIVELY NOT!** He is Divine Deity! He is the Son of God!

This Kingly Lion was a gentle humble Lamb, ...John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. John 1:29.

Jesus sacrificed Himself and poured out His own blood for every last sin. The precious Lamb of God gave His life a ransom for many. Matt.20:28. But the Lion of Judah **ROARED** on resurrection morning; when He destroyed the devil.

This Great Lion, also the precious Lamb of God has conquered every one of our enemies. This Lions roars, can be heard from one end of the earth to the other; speaking as a man. He marks His territory and gathers the other lions in. He roars for us.... The LORD: He shall roar like a lion: when He shall roar, then the children shall tremble from the west. They shall tremble as a bird out of Egypt, and as a dove out of the land of Assyria: and I will place them in their houses, saith the Lord. Ephraim compasseth me about with lies, and the house of Israel with deceit: But Judah yet ruleth with God, and is faithful with the saints. Hos.11:10-12.

He roars and those that are enslaved to this world, tremble and flee **from** Him; but the Lion's whelps tremble and flee **to** Him. The "Lamb of God" is associated with Christ's first coming. He came for the lost sheep of Israel. Matt.15:24. He came to save His people from their sins. Matt.1:21.

The Lion of Judah is the Lion that has Great Power and authority; one who has been exalted; without creating vexation and oppression to others. But rather for those in Christ; (Christ who is The Lion of Judah) are protected, encouraged and strengthened to continue to fight this good fight of faith.

He speaks to His children with the voice of the Lamb and sometimes with the roar of the Lion; which ever is needful, but always for our good.

The first reference between the tribe of Judah and a lion occurs in Genesis, when Jacob offers a prophesy related to Judah. His prophesy points to an everlasting kingdom of Jesus. Which is declared in Revelation 5:5.

Figuratively, The Lion is King of the Beasts; Known for their fierceness, strength and courage. Its interesting to note: that even in the animal kingdom on earth. God has delegated a king that has rule and power over the beasts of the earth.

The Lion was proverbial, Hence the lion was symbolic of Israel, of the tribe of Judah. Num.24:9, Gen.49:9. Of God . Deut.33:20.The lion's whelps. Deut.33:22. Of Christ. Rev.5:5. Of God protecting His church. Isa.31:4. Of God executing judgments. Isa.38:13, Lam.3:10. Hos.5:14 and 13:8. The boldness of the saints. Prov.28:1.

Throughout the generations, since time began God and God alone has all authority and power; He alone rules. When He delegates His authority to someone, they must be good and acceptable before Him. It is for His purpose; hence He delegated authority to the tribe of Judah.

He delegates authority to nations for kings and priests. And we have been given a scepter of authority and power from the courts of heaven to rule. To rule our heart, mind and bodies. To Keep them in subjection to the ways of God and NOT to the ways of flesh. This power and rule was given to us because of the authority, power and rule delegated to Christ; by the Father.

But someone has to stand before God in His presence; and that someone was Christ. When Christ accomplished the work of Salvation **and** reconciliation; God received Him; When God saw the travail of His soul He was satisfied. Our debt was paid; and the wrath of God that once hung over us was now turned away and turned in to love. Christ Highly Exalted, now sits at the right hand of God making intercession for us. God giving Him rule over all things. God has delegated His authority and power and handed His scepter of Rule to Christ, until the end. And Christ will give this powerful scepter back to His Father; and be subject unto God.

Then cometh the end, when He shall have delivered up the Kingdom to God, even the Father; when He shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign, till He hath put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For He hath put all things under His feet. But when He saith all things are put under Him, it is manifest that He is excepted, which did put all things under Him. And when all things shall be subdued unto Him, then shall the Son also Himself be subject under Him, that God may be all in all. I Cor.15:24-28.

The Lion of Judah points to the protecting of His children. Throughout all generations this Great Lion has been fighting in the fiercest of battles for us.

The Lion roars and we hear His voice; His roars are urging us to stop doubting His promises, stop worrying about tomorrow, stop struggling with the guilt that torments us, and stop falling for the same temptations that attack us. His voice calls men out of darkness into the light of His forgiveness and grace. It reminds us that He has destroyed the devil; and His victory is complete.

It also points to His second coming; the roaring of This Great Lion is used to characterize a King's Great Wrath. When Jesus returns, He will appear as the Savior we have waited for; to be gathered unto Him. Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors and their works do follow them....and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on His head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. Rev.14:12,13,15.

But to those that believed Him not. He will appear as the Great and Powerful Lion Of Judah; who has come in the fulness of His wrath to destroy the earth and all those that refused to believe the precious Lamb of God, which took away the sin of the world.

The third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, if any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: and the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. Rev.14:9-11.

The Day of Salvation will be over; and The Day of Judgment will have come!

When the Son of Man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory: And before Him shall be gathered all nations: and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth His sheep from the goats. And He shall set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. Matt.25:31-34.

I exhort you to trust in this Great and Powerful King; This Lion of Judah; He protects all those that trust in Him. His Victory is sure, His Kingdom is Forever! And He will set us on His right hand. And God is Glorified. Amen.

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