

*B'nai Chayim Children of Life: First Winter Series: Who is This Guy Anyway?*

**A Messianic Jewish Understanding of the Messiah, the King of Israel**

7 Kislev, 5768 (Nov. 17, 2007) *Messiah is the Seed of David.* J. M. Terrett

So far we have established that the Bible teaches us that the Messiah or Saviour was to be the seed, or offspring of a number of people. First, our Messiah was to be the **seed of woman**, conceived in the womb of a woman, without the help of a man. Next our Messiah was to be the **seed of Abraham**, so that after scattering our Babel ancestors among many races, languages, and families, we could be all woven back together into a **single extended family** by a man who would descend from the great nation which Abraham was to found.

Abraham's nation was divided into 13 tribes and just as they began their long sojourn in Egypt, one tribe, the **seed of Judah** was selected to be both the ruler and lawgiver of the other tribes and also to be the one which all nations or peoples would obey. Last week we examined how this seed would also be the incarnate **word of G-d** to speak to us over and above that which Moses taught. And since Judah was to be the lawgiver, we understand that the one whom G-d would put His new commands into would also be of the tribe of Judah.

This week we are going to look at the family or household of Judah from which the Word of G-d, our Messiah descended. We have already established that He is to be **human** (from woman) and **divine** (the Word of G-d), and that He is to be of the **race** of Abraham. He is also to be of the **tribe** of Judah and this week we will talk about the family of Judah from which He comes, the House of David. Messiah is also the **seed of David**.

So far we have examined four aspects of Messiah's ministry. **(1)** He is to **crush** the serpent's head and **(2)** He is to be a **blessing** to all nations. As the Word of G-d incarnate, He is also to be **(3)** the **lawgiver** and **(4)** the **ruler** of all nations. As the son of David, our Messiah sets in motion a **time frame** for the accomplishment of His ministry as ruler of all nations. David's regime is to rule over Israel **uninterrupted** (except for the Babylonian captivity) **until Messiah comes to inaugurate the eternal Kingdom of G-d over all of mankind.**

David rose from being a humble, unknown **shepherd**, to become the King of Israel both by **calling** (the anointing) and by **right of arms** (he killed Goliath and delivered the people from their enemies). It was also David who collected all the materials for the **temple** and who both received the plan for how and where the complex was to be built. He also organized the worship liturgy and the high priestly sacrificial rotation.

We read in the Torah that one day Israel was going to have a king. In David we understand that one of the kings who descends from David's royal house is also going to be the royal king, or **high king**, over all the kingdoms and kings of the world. So instead of being allowed to build a house to G-d, which would last throughout the generations, G-d told David that the L-RD would build him a house, or household which would last throughout the generations and establish an **eternal royal rule over all the nations and generations of mankind.**

But why did G-d select David and why did He select David's line? You guessed it: three reasons. **First of all**, David was of the tribe of Judah which is part of the nation of Abraham and in David's eventual descendant we see the fulfillment of all aspects of the promises G-d made to both Abraham and Judah. David ruled over the great nation which Abraham founded and finally took possession of all the land which G-d had promised to give to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

**Secondly**, just as one of David's sons was going to inherit the royalty from David, one of His successors was going to inherit or to assume the throne of the eternal kingdom which G-d was going to establish over all mankind. In other words, one day, one of David's descendants was going to rule as an eternal king over all the nations of the earth in an eternal kingdom.

This was the house, or household G-d was going to build for David. David knew it was not going to be Solomon, nor the kingdom which Solomon was going to inherit. However in David we learn that part of the blessing to all nations which one of the descendants of David was to be, would involve both **conquest** and the **establishment of David's royal authority** over all the nations and families of the earth.

**Lastly**, Messiah was to descend from David because David did not just inherit his royalty or his kingdom, he **fought** for it and **won the right** to be king by the battles he fought and won. David knew that the House of Judah was to receive obedience from all nations and he also knew that the temple his son was to build, would be a house of prayer for all nations. So the royal mandate to establish an eternal kingdom was going to be fulfilled in a descendent of David who would both eventually **personally** take on the serpent and then win the right to extend this victory over all the nations and generations of the earth.

In Yeshua, we have a **double victory** over the serpent because Yeshua not only conquered temptation in His own life, but He also paid the price to redeem those whose defeat by the devil excluded them from the Kingdom of G-d. As the ram was given in the place of Isaac, so Messiah was given in the place of each one of us as a holy, pure and acceptable offering to G-d. **He took onto Himself Adam's flesh and overcame the Goliath that no one was able to defeat.**

Even though He was of the House of David, Yeshua did **not demand recognition**, nor did He claim any of His rightful royal prerogatives, but He became a **humble servant** and through His life and His death on the cross, He earned the right to rule the kingdom He was born to inherit. **Just as David proved that he was worthy to be king, so Yeshua proved His right to the eternal king.** He earned His royalty by conquest over the spiritual **Goliath** who defeated our first ancestors (Col. 2:14, 15) and by the victory He won over the **sin** which crouches at each of our doors.

In a very real sense, in every generation, He still does battle with all the spiritual Goliaths who want to take possession of each of our souls, in much the same way as a Shepherd does battle with each and every intruder who would attack one of His flock. He is the **Shiloh** who has come and who has won the right to take the **royal sceptre** and **law giving stick** – and He did this before the House of Judah ceased in its rule over Israel.

Now, in every generation, He wants to **personally extend** the rule of His kingdom into each of our hearts and show us how to do battle with the enemy of our souls. Generation by generation, He will keep **adding willing members** to His Kingdom until the last one of the elect enters the kingdom and it is time to bring this world to a close and usher in G-d's eternal kingdom on earth over all the nations and generations of all mankind.

Next week, we are going to expand on the **cosmic** or universal nature of Messiah's ministry and talk about Him as the **right hand**, or conquering might of the Father, as we build a complete picture of a Messianic Jewish understanding of the Messiah the king of Israel. Let me close with a discussion of the difficulty some people still have with accepting Yeshua as the Messiah of Israel – and it has to do with W5 plus one, because only one person meets all the biblical criteria.

The Bible paints four pictures of a single Messiah, **(1) who** is the Son of David (and the son of Abraham), and tells us **(2) what** He will do - crush the serpent. It also tell us **(3) when** this will occur – before the sceptre passes from Judah and **(4) where** this Messiah will be born and exercise His earthly ministry (Bethlehem and in Israel first). The Bible also teaches us **(5) why** the Messiah will do this (John 3:16) and it takes it one step further and tells us **how** He will do it (on the cross). There is only one person in the history of the world who could do all of these things in the right place and at the right time and who, when the time is right who will also inaugurate forever, G-d's eternal kingdom. His name is Yeshua of Nazareth, the seed of woman, of Abraham, of Judah and of David, the W-rd of G-d incarnate.

My question to you this morning is whether you are allowing the Son of David to defeat all of your personal, spiritual Goliaths and establish the rule of His Kingdom over all the kingdoms of your heart and life. As we celebrate the L-rd's table, let's allow Him to renew His victory in every area of our lives, both as individuals and as a community. Let's pray.