

~KINGDOM OF GOD (415)

[Greek, *ba-si-lei'a*]

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• The expression and exercise of God's universal sovereignty toward his creatures, or the means or instrumentality used by him for this purpose.

• Yehowah himself has firmly established his throne in the very heavens, and over everything his own kingship has held domination. (**Psalms 103:19**)

• The phrase is used particularly for the expression of God's sovereignty through a royal government headed by his Son, Christ Jesus.

• The word rendered, **kingdom** in the **Christian Greek Scriptures** is *ba-si-lei'a*, meaning, **a kingdom, realm, the region or country governed by a**

king, kingly power, authority, dominion, reign, royal dignity, the title and honor of king. [The Analytical Greek Lexicon, 1908, p. 67]

- The phrase, **the kingdom of God**, is used frequently by Mark and Luke, and in Matthew's account the parallel phrase, **the kingdom of the heavens**, appears some 30 times.
- After looking around Jesus said to his disciples; How difficult a thing it will be for those with money to enter into the **kingdom of God!** (Mark 10:23)
- Jesus looked at him and said; How difficult a thing it will be for those having money to make their way into the **kingdom of God!** (Luke 18:24)
- With
- But Jesus said to his disciples; Truly I say to you that it will be a difficult thing for a rich man to get into the **kingdom of the heavens.** (Matthew 19:23)
- Again I say to you, It is easier for a camel to get through a needles eye than for a rich man to get into the **kingdom of God.** (Matthew 19:24)

See Also HEAVEN (Spiritual Heavens)

See Also KINGDOM

- The government of God is, in structure and function, a pure theocracy from Greek *the-os'*, god, and *kra'tos*, a rule, a rule by God.
- The term, **theocracy**, is attributed to Jewish historian Josephus of the **First Century C.E.**, who evidently coined it in his writing **Against Apion** [II, 164,165, 16].
- Of the government established over Israel in Sinai, Josephus wrote: **Some peoples have entrusted the supreme political power to monarchies, others to oligarchies, yet others to the masses. Our lawgiver, however, was attracted by none of these forms of polity, but gave to his constitution the form of what if a forced expression be permitted may be termed a theocracy** Greek, *the-o-kra-ti'an*, placing all sovereignty and authority in the hands of God.

- To be a pure **theocracy**, of course, the government could not be ordained by any human legislator, such as the man Moses, but must be ordained and established by God. The Scriptural record shows this was the case.

·· Origin Of The Term

- The term **king**, Hebrew, *me'lekh*, evidently came into use in human language after the global Flood. The first earthly **kingdom** was that of Nimrod, a mighty hunter in opposition to Yehowah.

- And Cush became father to Nimrod. He made the start in becoming a mighty one in the earth. (**Genesis 10:8**)

- He displayed himself a mighty hunter in opposition to Yehowah. That is why there is a saying; Just like Nimrod a mighty hunter in opposition to Yehowah. (**Genesis 10:9**)

- And the beginning of his **kingdom** came to be Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. (**Genesis 10:10**)

- Out of that land he went forth into Assyria and set himself to building Nineveh and RehobothIr and Calah (**Genesis 10:11**)

- And Resen between Nineveh and Calah, this is the great city. (**Genesis 10:12**)

- Thereafter, during the period down to Abraham's time, city-states and nations developed and human kings multiplied. With the exception of the **kingdom** of Melchizedek, king-priest of Salem, who served as a prophetic type of the Messiah

- Then the king of Sodom went out to meet him after he returned from defeating Chedorlaomer and the kings that were with him, to the Low Plain of Shaveh, that is, the kings Low Plain. (**Genesis 14:17**)

- And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine, and he was priest of the Most High God. (**Genesis 14:18**)

- Then he blessed him and said; Blessed be Abram of the Most High God, producer of heaven and earth. (**Genesis 14:19**)

- And blessed be the Most High God, who has delivered your

oppressors into your hand! At that Abram gave him a tenth of everything. ([Genesis 14:20](#))

- None of these earthly **kingdoms** represented God's rule or were established by him. Men also made **kings** of the false gods they worshiped, attributing to them the ability to grant power of rulership to human's.
- Yehowah's application of the title, King, *Me'lekh* to himself, as found in the post-Flood writings of the Hebrew Scriptures, therefore meant God's making use of the title men had developed and employed. God's use of the term showed that he, and not presumptuous human rulers or man-made gods, should be looked to and obeyed as King.
- But Yehowah is in truth God. He is the living God and the King to time indefinite. Because of his indignation the earth will rock, and no nations will hold up under his denunciation. ([Jeremiah 10:10](#))
- This is what you men will say to them; The gods that did not make the very heavens and the earth are the ones who will perish from the earth and from under these heavens. ([Jeremiah 10:11](#))
- He is the Maker of the earth by his power, the One firmly establishing the productive land by his wisdom, and the One who by his understanding stretched out the heavens. ([Jeremiah 10:12](#))
- Yehowah had, of course, been Sovereign Ruler long before human **kingdoms** developed, in fact before human's existed. As the true God and as their Creator, he was respected and obeyed by angelic sons numbering into the millions.
- Where did you happen to be when I founded the earth? Tell me, if you do know understanding. ([Job 38:4](#))
- Who set its measurements, in case you know, or who stretched out upon it the measuring line? ([Job 38:5](#))
- Into what have its socket pedestals been sunk down, or who laid its cornerstone. ([Job 38:6](#))
- When the morning stars joyfully cried out together, and all the

sons of God began shouting in applause? (**Job 38:7**)

- **And he went on to say; Therefore hear the word of Yehowah; I certainly see Yehowah sitting upon his throne and all the army of the heavens standing at his right and his left. (2 Chronicles 18:18)**
- **Bless Yehowah, O you angels of his, mighty in power, carrying out his word, by listening to the voice of his word. (Psalms 103:20)**
- **Bless Yehowah, all you armies of his, you ministers of his, doing his will. (Psalms 103:21)**
- **Bless Yehowah, all you his works, in all places of his domination. Bless Yehowah, O my soul. (Psalms 103:22)**
- **There was a stream of fire flowing and going out from before him. There were a thousand thousands that kept ministering to him, and ten thousand times ten thousand that kept standing right before him. The Court took its seat, and there were books that were opened. (Daniel 7:10)**
- **By whatever title, then, he was, from the beginning of creation, recognized as the One whose will was rightfully supreme.**

•• God's Rulership In Early Human History

- **The first human creatures, Adam and Eve, likewise knew Yehowah as God, the Creator of heaven and earth. They recognized his authority and his right to issue commands, to call upon people to perform certain duties or to refrain from certain acts, to assign land for residence and cultivation, as well as to delegate authority over others of his creatures.**
- **And God went on to say; Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have in subjection the fish of the sea and the flying creatures of the heavens and the domestic animals and all the earth and every moving animal that is moving upon the earth. (Genesis 1:26)**
- **And God proceeded to create the man in his image, in God's image he created him, male and female he created them. (Genesis 1:27)**

- **Further, God blessed them and God said to them; Be fruitful and become many and fill the earth and subdue it, and have in subjection the fish of the sea and the flying creatures of the heavens and every living creature that is moving upon the earth. (Genesis 1:28)**
- **And God went on to say; Here I have given to you all vegetation bearing seed which is on the surface of the whole earth and every tree on which there is the fruit of a tree bearing seed. To you let it serve as food. (Genesis 1:29)**
- **And to every wild beast of the earth and to every flying creature of the heavens and to everything moving upon the earth in which there is life as a soul I have given all green vegetation for food. And it came to be so. (Genesis 1:30)**
- **And Yehowah God proceeded to take the man and settle him in the garden of Eden to cultivate it and to take care of it. (Genesis 2:15)**
- **And Yehowah God also laid this command upon the man; From every tree of the garden you may eat to satisfaction. (Genesis 2:16)**
- **But as for the tree of the knowledge of good and bad you must not eat from it, for in the day you eat from it you will positively die. (Genesis 2:17)**
- **Though Adam had the ability to coin words.**
- **Now Yehowah God was forming from the ground every wild beast of the field and every flying creature of the heavens, and he began bringing them to the man to see what he would call each one, and whatever the man would call it, each living soul, that was its name. (Genesis 2:19)**
- **So the man was calling the names of all the domestic animals and of the flying creatures of the heavens and of every wild beast of the field, but for man there was found no helper as a complement of him. (Genesis 2:20)**

- There is no evidence that he developed the title, king *me'lekh*, to apply it to his God and Creator, although he recognized Yehowah's supreme authority.

- As revealed in the initial chapters of Genesis, God's exercise of his sovereignty toward man in Eden was benevolent and not unduly restrictive. The relationship between God and man called for obedience such as the obedience a son renders to his father.

- Son of Enosh, son of Seth, son of Adam, son of God. ([Luke 3:38](#))

- Man had no lengthy code of laws to fulfill.

- Now we know that the Law is fine provided one handles it lawfully. ([1 Timothy 1:8](#))

- In the knowledge of this fact, that Law is promulgated, not for a righteous man, but for persons lawless and unruly, ungodly and sinners, lacking loving-kindness, and profane, murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, manslayers. ([1 Timothy 1:9](#))

- Fornicators, men who lie with males, kidnappers, liars, false swearers, and whatever other thing is in opposition to the healthful teaching. ([1 Timothy 1:10](#))

- According to the glorious Good News of the happy God, with which I was entrusted. ([1 Timothy 1:11](#))

- God's requirements were simple and purposeful. Nor is there anything to indicate that Adam was made to feel inhibited by constant, critical supervision of his every action, rather, God's communication with perfect man seems to have been periodic, according to need. ([Genesis Chapters 1-3](#))

•• A New Expression Of God's Rulership Purposed

- The first human pairs open violation of God's command, instigated by one of God's spirit sons, was actually rebellion against divine authority.

- And to Adam he said; Because you listened to your wife's voice and took to eating from the tree concerning which I gave you this command, You must not eat from it, cursed is the ground on your account. In pain you will eat its produce all the days of your

life. (**Genesis 3:17**)

- And thorns and thistles it will grow for you, and you must eat the vegetation of the field. (**Genesis 3:18**)
- In the sweat of your face you will eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken. For dust you are and to dust you will return. (**Genesis 3:19**)
- The position taken by God's spirit Adversary, **Hebrew, *sa-tan'***, constituted a challenge calling for a test, the issue being the rightfulness of Yehowah's universal sovereignty. The earth, where the issue was raised, is fittingly the place where it will be settled.
- And war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels battled with the dragon, and the dragon and its angels battled (**Revelation 12:7**)
- But it did not prevail, neither was a place found for them any longer in heaven. (**Revelation 12:8**)
- So down the great dragon was hurled, the original serpent, the one called Devil and Satan, who is misleading the entire inhabited earth. He was hurled down to the earth, and his angels were hurled down with him. (**Revelation 12:9**)
- And I heard a loud voice in heaven say; Now have come to pass the salvation and the power and the **kingdom** of our God and the authority of his Christ, because the accuser of our brothers has been hurled down, who accuses them day and night before our God! (**Revelation 12:10**)
- And they conquered him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their witnessing, and they did not love their souls even in the face of death. (**Revelation 12:11**)
- On this account be glad, you heavens and you who reside in them! Woe for the earth and for the sea, because the Devil has come down to you, having great anger, knowing he has a short period of time. (**Revelation 12:12**)

See Also TREES (Figurative Use)

See Also YEHOWAH (The supreme issue a moral one)

- **At the time of pronouncing judgment upon the first rebels, Yehowah God spoke a prophecy, couched in symbolic phrase, setting forth his purpose to use an agency, a seed, to effect the ultimate crushing of the rebel forces.**
- **And I shall put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed. He will bruise you in the head and you will bruise him in the heel. ([Genesis 3:15](#))**
- **Thus, Yehowah's rulership, the expression of his sovereignty, would take on a new aspect or expression in answer to the insurrection that had developed. The progressive revelation of the sacred secrets of the **kingdom**.**
- **In reply he said; To you it is granted to understand the sacred secrets of the **kingdom of the heavens**, but to those people it is not granted. ([Matthew 13:11](#))**
- **Showed that this new aspect would involve the formation of a subsidiary government, a ruling body headed by a deputy ruler. The realization of the promise of the seed is in the **kingdom** of Christ Jesus in union with his chosen associates.**
- **These will battle with the Lamb, but, because he is Lord of lords and King of kings, the Lamb will conquer them. Also, those called and chosen and faithful with him will do so. ([Revelation 17:14](#))**
- **From the time of the Edenic promise forward, the progressive development of God's purpose to produce this **Kingdom** seed becomes a basic theme of the Bible and a key to understanding Yehowah's actions toward his servants and toward mankind in general.**

See Also JESUS CHRIST (His Vital Place in God's Purpose)

- **God's delegating vast authority and power to creatures**
- **And Jesus approached and spoke to them, saying; All authority has been given me in heaven and on the earth. ([Matthew 28:18](#))**
- **And to him that conquers and observes my deeds down to the end I will give authority over the nations. ([Revelation 2:26](#))**
- **And he shall shepherd the people with an iron rod so that they**

will be broken to pieces like clay vessels, the same as I have received from my Father. ([Revelation 2:27](#))

- To the one that conquers I will grant to sit down with me on my throne, even as I conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. ([Revelation 3:21](#))
- In this way is noteworthy inasmuch as the question of the integrity of all God's creatures, that is, their wholehearted devotion to him and their loyalty to his headship, formed a vital part of the issue raised by God's Adversary.
- That God could confidently entrust any of his creatures with such remarkable authority and power would in itself be a splendid testimony to the moral strength of his rule, contributing to the vindication of Yehowah's name and position and exposing the falsity of his adversary's allegations.

See Also INTEGRITY (Involved in the supreme issue)

· Need For Divine Government Manifested

- The conditions that developed from the time of the start of human rebellion until the time of the Flood clearly illustrated mankind's need for divine headship. Human society soon had to contend with disunity, bodily assault, and murder.
- Later she again gave birth, to his brother Abel. And Abel came to be a herder of sheep, but Cain became a cultivator of the ground. ([Genesis 4:2](#))
- And it came about at the expiration of some time that Cain proceeded to bring some fruits of the ground as an offering to Yehowah. ([Genesis 4:3](#))
- But as for Abel, he too brought some firstlings of his flock, even their fatty pieces. Now while Yehowah was looking with favor upon Abel and his offering. ([Genesis 4:4](#))
- He did not look with any favor upon Cain and upon his offering. And Cain grew hot with great anger, and his countenance began to fall. ([Genesis 4:5](#))
- At this Yehowah said to Cain; Why are you hot with anger and

why has your countenance fallen? (Genesis 4:6)

- **If you turn to doing good, will there not be an exaltation? But if you do not turn to doing good, there is sin crouching at the entrance, and for you is its craving, and will you, for your part, get the mastery over it? (Genesis 4:7)**
- **After that Cain said to Abel his brother; Let us go over into the field. So it came about that while they were in the field Cain proceeded to assault Abel his brother and kill him. (Genesis 4:8)**
- **Later on Yehowah said to Cain; Where is Abel your brother? And he said; I do not know. Am I my brothers guardian? (Genesis 4:9)**
- **Consequently Lamech composed these words for his wives Adah and Zillah; Hear my voice, you wives of Lamech; Give ear to my saying; A man I have killed for wounding me, yes, a young man for giving me a blow. (Genesis 4:23)**
- **If seven times Cain is to be avenged, then Lamech seventy times and seven. (Genesis 4:24)**
- **To what extent the sinner Adam, during his 930 years of life, exercised patriarchal authority over his multiplying descendants is not revealed. But by the seventh generation shocking ungodliness evidently existed.**
- **Yes, the seventh one in line from Adam, Enoch, prophesied also regarding them, when he said; Look! Yehowah came with his holy myriads. (Jude 1:14)**
- **To execute judgment against all, and to convict all the ungodly concerning all their ungodly deeds that they did in an ungodly way, and concerning all the shocking things that ungodly sinners spoke against him. (Jude 1:15)**
- **And by the time of Noah, born about 120 years after Adam's death, conditions had deteriorated to the point that, the earth became filled with violence.**
- **Now it came about that when men started to grow in numbers on the surface of the ground and daughters were born to them. (Genesis 6:1)**

- **Then the sons of the true God began to notice the daughters of men, that they were good-looking, and they went taking wives for themselves, namely, all whom they chose. (Genesis 6:2)**
- **After that Yehowah said; My spirit shall not act toward man indefinitely in that he is also flesh. Accordingly his days shall amount to a hundred and twenty years. (Genesis 6:3)**
- **The Nephilim proved to be in the earth in those days, and also after that, when the sons of the true God continued to have relations with the daughters of men and they bore sons to them, they were the mighty ones who were of old, the men of fame. (Genesis 6:4)**
- **Consequently Yehowah saw that the badness of man was abundant in the earth and every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only bad all the time. (Genesis 6:5)**
- **And Yehowah felt regrets that he had made men in the earth, and he felt hurt at his heart. (Genesis 6:6)**
- **So Yehowah said; I am going to wipe men whom I have created off the surface of the ground, from man to domestic animal, to moving animal and to flying creature of the heavens, because I do regret that I have made them. (Genesis 6:7)**
- **But Noah found favor in the eyes of Yehowah. (Genesis 6:8)**
- **This is the history of Noah. Noah was a righteous man. He proved himself faultless among his contemporaries. Noah walked with the true God. (Genesis 6:9)**
- **In time Noah became father to three sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth. (Genesis 6:10)**
- **And the earth came to be ruined in the sight of the true God and the earth became filled with violence. (Genesis 6:11)**
- **So God saw the earth and, look! It was ruined, because all flesh had ruined its way on the earth. (Genesis 6:12)**
- **After that God said to Noah; The end of all flesh has come before me, because the earth is full of violence as a result of them, and**

here I am bringing them to ruin together with the earth. (**Genesis 6:13**)

- **Contributing to this condition was the unauthorized interjection of spirit creatures into human society, contrary to God's will and purpose.**
- **Now it came about that when men started to grow in numbers on the surface of the ground and daughters were born to them. (**Genesis 6:1**)**
- **Then the sons of the true God began to notice the daughters of men, that they were good-looking, and they went taking wives for themselves, namely, all whom they chose. (**Genesis 6:2**)**
- **After that Yehowah said; My spirit shall not act toward man indefinitely in that he is also flesh. Accordingly his days shall amount to a hundred and twenty years. (**Genesis 6:3**)**
- **The Nephilim proved to be in the earth in those days, and also after that, when the sons of the true God continued to have relations with the daughters of men and they bore sons to them, they were the mighty ones who were of old, the men of fame. (**Genesis 6:4**)**
- **And the angels that did not keep their original position but forsook their own proper dwelling place he has reserved with eternal bonds under dense darkness for the judgment of the great day. (**Jude 1:6**)**
- **Certainly if God did not hold back from punishing the angels that sinned, but, by throwing them into Tartarus, delivered them to pits of dense darkness to be reserved for judgment. (**2 Peter 2:4**)**
- **And he did not hold back from punishing an ancient world, but kept Noah, a preacher of righteousness, safe with seven others when he brought a deluge upon a world of ungodly people. (**2 Peter 2:5**)**

See Also NEPHILIM

- **Though earth had become a focus of rebellion, Yehowah did not relinquish his dominion over it. The global Flood was evidence that**

God's power and ability to enforce his will on earth, as in any part of the universe, continued.

- **During the pre-Flood period he likewise demonstrated his willingness to guide and govern the actions of those individuals who sought him, such as Abel, Enoch, and Noah.**
- **Noah's case in particular illustrates God's exercise of rulership toward a willing earthly subject, giving him commands and direction, protecting and blessing him and his family, as well as evidencing God's control over the other earthly creation animals and birds.**
- **This is the history of Noah. Noah was a righteous man. He proved himself faultless among his contemporaries. Noah walked with the true God. ([Genesis 6:9](#))**
- **And those going in, male and female of every sort of flesh, went in, just as God had commanded him. After that Yehowah shut the door behind him. ([Genesis 7:16](#))**
- **Yehowah likewise made clear that he would not allow alienated human society to corrupt the earth endlessly, that he had not restricted himself as to executing his righteous judgment against wrongdoers when and as he saw fit.**
- **Additionally he demonstrated his sovereign ability to control earth's various elements, including its atmosphere.**
- **After that Yehowah said; My spirit shall not act toward man indefinitely in that he is also flesh. Accordingly his days shall amount to a hundred and twenty years. ([Genesis 6:3](#))**
- **Consequently Yehowah saw that the badness of man was abundant in the earth and every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only bad all the time. ([Genesis 6:5](#))**
- **And Yehowah felt regrets that he had made men in the earth, and he felt hurt at his heart. ([Genesis 6:6](#))**
- **So Yehowah said; I am going to wipe men whom I have created off the surface of the ground, from man to domestic animal, to moving animal and to flying creature of the heavens, because I do regret that I have made them. ([Genesis 6:7](#))**

- **And the deluge went on for forty days upon the earth, and the waters kept increasing and began carrying the ark and it was floating high above the earth. (Genesis 7:17)**
- **For all the days the earth continues, seed sowing and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night, will never cease. (Genesis 8:22)**

· The Early Post-Flood Society And Its Problems

- **Following the Flood, a patriarchal arrangement apparently was the basic structure of human society, providing a measure of stability and order.**
- **Mankind was to, fill the earth, which called not merely for procreating but for the steady extension of the area of human habitation throughout the globe.**
- **And God went on to bless Noah and his sons and to say to them; Be fruitful and become many and fill the earth. (Genesis 9:1)**
- **And as for you men, be fruitful and become many, make the earth swarm with you and become many in it. (Genesis 9:7)**
- **These factors, of themselves, would reasonably have had a limiting effect on any social problems, keeping them generally within the family circle and making unlikely the friction that frequently develops where density of population or crowded conditions exist.**
- **The unauthorized project at Babel, however, called for an opposite course, for a concentrating of people, avoiding being scattered over all the surface of the earth.**
- **Now all the earth continued to be of one language and of one set of words. (Genesis 11:1)**
- **And it came about that in their journeying eastward they eventually discovered a valley plain in the land of Shinar, and they took up dwelling there. (Genesis 11:2)**
- **And they began to say; each one to the other; Come on! Let us make bricks and bake them with a burning process. So brick served as stone for them, but bitumen served as mortar for them. (Genesis 11:3)**

- They now said; Come on! Let us build ourselves a city and also a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a celebrated name for ourselves, for fear we may be scattered over all the surface of the earth. (**Genesis 11:4**)
- Then, too, Nimrod departed from the patriarchal rule and set up the first **kingdom**; Hebrew, *mam-la-khah'*. A Cushite of the family line of Ham, he invaded Shemite territory, the land of Asshur or Assyria, and built cities there as part of his realm.
- And Cush became father to Nimrod. He made the start in becoming a mighty one in the earth. (**Genesis 10:8**)
- He displayed himself a mighty hunter in opposition to Yehowah. That is why there is a saying; Just like Nimrod a mighty hunter in opposition to Yehowah. (**Genesis 10:9**)
- And the beginning of his **kingdom** came to be Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. (**Genesis 10:10**)
- Out of that land he went forth into Assyria and set himself to building Nineveh and RehobothIr and Calah (**Genesis 10:11**)
- And Resen between Nineveh and Calah. This is the great city. (**Genesis 10:12**)

See Also LANGUAGE

- God's confusion of human language broke up the concentration of people on the Plains of Shinar, but the pattern of rulership begun by Nimrod was generally followed in the lands to which the various families of mankind migrated. In the days of Abraham, **2018-1843 B.C.E**, **kingdoms** were active from Asian Mesopotamia on down to Egypt, where the **king** was titled, **Pharaoh**, rather than *Me'lekh*.
- But these kingships did not bring security. **Kings** were soon forming military alliances, waging far-ranging campaigns of aggression, plunder, and kidnapping.
- Now it came about in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of Goiim. (**Genesis 14:1**)

- **That these made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, that is to say, Zoar. (Genesis 14:2)**
- **All these marched as allies to the Low Plain of Siddim, that is, the Salt Sea. (Genesis 14:3)**
- **Twelve years they had served Chedorlaomer, but the thirteenth year they rebelled. (Genesis 14:4)**
- **And in the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer came, and also the kings who were with him, and they inflicted defeats on the Rephaim in Ashterothkarnaim, and the Zuzim in Ham, and the Emim in Shavehkiriathaim. (Genesis 14:5)**
- **And the Horites in their mountain of Seir, down to Elparan, which is at the wilderness. (Genesis 14:6)**
- **Then they turned about and came to Enmishpat, that is, Kadesh, and defeated the whole field of the Amalekites and also the Amorites who were dwelling in Hazazontamar. (Genesis 14:7)**
- **At this point the king of Sodom went on the march, and also the king of Gomorrah and the king of Admah and the king of Zeboiim and the king of Bela, that is to say, Zoar, and they drew up in battle order against them in the Low Plain of Siddim. (Genesis 14:8)**
- **Against Chedorlaomer king of Elam and Tidal king of Goiim and Amraphel king of Shinar and Arioch king of Ellasar, four kings against the five. (Genesis 14:9)**
- **Now the Low Plain of Siddim was pits upon pits of bitumen, and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah took to flight and went falling into them, and those who remained fled to the mountainous region. (Genesis 14:10)**
- **Then the victors took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their food and went on their way. (Genesis 14:11)**
- **They also took Lot the son of Abram's brother and his goods and continued on their way. He was then dwelling in Sodom. (Genesis 14:12)**

- **In some cities strangers were subject to attack by homosexuals.**
- **Before they could lie down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, surrounded the house, from boy to old man, all the people in one mob. (Genesis 19:4)**
- **And they kept calling out to Lot and saying to him; Where are the men who came in to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may have intercourse with them. (Genesis 19:5)**
- **Finally Lot went out to them to the entrance, but he shut the door behind him. (Genesis 19:6)**
- **Then he said; Please, my brothers, do not act badly. (Genesis 19:7)**
- **Please, here I have two daughters who have never had intercourse with a man. Please, let me bring them out to you. Then do to them as is good in your eyes. Only to these men do not do a thing, because that is why they have come under the shadow of my roof. (Genesis 19:8)**
- **At this they said; Stand back there! And they added; This lone man came here to reside as an alien and yet he would actually play the judge. Now we are going to do worse to you than to them. And they came pressing heavily in on the man, on Lot, and were getting near to break in the door. (Genesis 19:9)**
- **Thus, whereas men doubtless banded together in concentrated communities in search of security.**
- **Here you are actually driving me this day from off the surface of the ground, and from your face I shall be concealed, and I must become a wanderer and fugitive on the earth, and it is certain that anyone finding me will kill me. (Genesis 4:14)**
- **At this Yehowah said to him; For that reason anyone killing Cain must suffer vengeance seven times. And so Yehowah set up a sign for Cain in order, that no one finding him should strike him. (Genesis 4:15)**
- **With that Cain went away from the face of Yehowah and took up residence in the land of Fugitiveness to the east of Eden. (Genesis 4:16)**

- Afterward Cain had intercourse with his wife and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Then he engaged in building a city and called the city's name by the name of his son Enoch. (**Genesis 4:17**)
- They soon found it necessary to wall their cities and eventually fortify them against armed attack. The earliest secular records known, many of them from the Mesopotamian region where Nimrod's **kingdom** had originally operated, are heavy with accounts of human conflict, greed, intrigue, and bloodshed.
- The most ancient non-Biblical Law records found, such as those of Lipit-Ishtar, Eshnunna, and Hammurabi, show that human living had become very complex, with social friction producing problems of theft, fraud, commercial difficulties, disputes about property and payment of rent, questions regarding loans and interest, marital infidelity, medical fees and failures, assault and battery cases, and many other matters.
- Though Hammurabi called himself, the efficient king, and, the perfect king, his rule and legislation, like that of the other ancient political kingdoms, was incapable of solving the problems of sinful mankind. [**Ancient Near Eastern Texts, edited by J. B. Pritchard, 1974, pp. 159-180**]
- Men given to badness cannot understand judgment, but those who are seeking Yehowah can understand everything. (**Proverbs 28:5**)
- In all these **kingdoms** religion was prominent, but not the worship of the true God. Though the priesthood collaborated closely with the ruling class and enjoyed royal favor, this brought no moral improvement to the people.
- The cuneiform inscriptions of the ancient religious writings are devoid of spiritual uplift or moral guidance, they betray the gods worshiped as quarrelsome, violent, lustful, not governed by righteous standards or purpose. Men needed Yehowah **God's kingdom** if they were to enjoy life in peace and happiness.

· Toward Abraham And His Descendants

- True, those individuals who looked to Yehowah God as their Head were not without their personal problems and frictions. Yet they were helped to solve these or to endure them in a way conforming to

God's righteous standards and without becoming degraded. They were afforded divine protection and strength.

- **Now Lot, who was going along with Abram, also owned sheep and cattle and tents. (Genesis 13:5)**
- **So the land did not allow for them to dwell all together, because their goods had become many and they were not able to dwell all together. (Genesis 13:6)**
- **And a quarrel arose between the herders of Abram's livestock and the herders of Lot's livestock, and at that time the Canaanite and the Perizzite were dwelling in the land. (Genesis 13:7)**
- **Hence Abram said to Lot; Please, do not let any quarreling continue between me and you and between my herdsmen and your herdsmen, for we men are brothers. (Genesis 13:8)**
- **Is not the whole land available to you? Please, separate from me. If you go to the left, then I will go to the right, but if you go to the right, then I will go to the left. (Genesis 13:9)**
- **So Lot raised his eyes and saw the whole District of the Jordan, that all of it was a wellwatered region before Yehowah brought Sodom and Gomorrah to ruin, like the garden of Yehowah, like the land of Egypt as far as Zoar. (Genesis 13:10)**
- **Then Lot chose for himself the whole District of the Jordan, and Lot moved his camp to the east. So they separated the one from the other. (Genesis 13:11)**
- **And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine, and he was priest of the Most High God. (Genesis 14:18)**
- **Then he blessed him and said; Blessed be Abram of the Most High God, producer of heaven and earth. (Genesis 14:19)**
- **And blessed be the Most High God, who has delivered your oppressors into your hand! At that Abram gave him a tenth of everything. (Genesis 14:20)**
- **After that the king of Sodom said to Abram; Give me the souls, but take the goods for yourself. (Genesis 14:21)**

- **At this Abram said to the king of Sodom; I do lift up my hand in an oath to Yehowah the Most High God, Producer of heaven and earth. (Genesis 14:22)**
- **That, from a thread to a sandal lace, no, I shall take nothing from anything that is yours, in order, that you may not say; It was I who made Abram rich. (Genesis 14:23)**
- **Nothing for me! Only what the young men have already eaten, and the share of the men who went with me, Aner, Eshcol and Mamre, let them take their share. (Genesis 14:24)**
- **However, when the dawn ascended, then the angels became urgent with Lot, saying; Get up! Take your wife and your two daughters who are found here, for fear you may be swept away in the error of the city! (Genesis 19:15)**
- **When he kept lingering, then in the compassion of Yehowah upon him, the men seized hold of his hand and of the hand of his wife and of the hands of his two daughters and they proceeded to bring him out and to station him outside the city. (Genesis 19:16)**
- **And it came about that, as soon as they had brought them forth to the outskirts, he began to say; Escape for your soul! Do not look behind you and do not stand still in all the District! Escape to the mountainous region for fear you may be swept away! (Genesis 19:17)**
- **Then Lot said to them; Not that, please, Yehowah! (Genesis 19:18)**
- **Please, now, your servant has found favor in your eyes so that you are magnifying your loving-kindness, which you have exercised with me to preserve my soul alive, but I, I am not able to escape to the mountainous region for fear calamity may keep close to me and I certainly die. (Genesis 19:19)**
- **Please, now, this city is nearby to flee there and it is a small thing. May I, please, escape there, is it not a small thing? And my soul will live on. (Genesis 19:20)**
- **So he said to him; Here I do show you consideration to this extent also, by my not overthrowing the city of which you have**

- spoken. (**Genesis 19:21**)
- **Hurry! Escape there, because I am not able to do a thing until your arriving there! That is why he called the name of the city Zoar. (**Genesis 19:22**)**
 - **The sun had gone forth over the land when Lot arrived at Zoar. (**Genesis 19:23**)**
 - **Then Yehowah made it rain sulphur and fire from Yehowah, from the heavens, upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah. (**Genesis 19:24**)**
 - **And Sarah kept noticing the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, poking fun. (**Genesis 21:9**)**
 - **So she began to say to Abraham; Drive out this slave girl and her son, for the son of this slave girl is not going to be an heir with my son, with Isaac! (**Genesis 21:10**)**
 - **But the thing proved to be very displeasing to Abraham as regards his son. (**Genesis 21:11**)**
 - **Then God said to Abraham; Do not let anything that Sarah keeps saying to you be displeasing to you about the boy and about your slave girl. Listen to her voice, because it is by means of Isaac that what will be called your seed will be. (**Genesis 21:12**)**
 - **And as for the son of the slave girl, I shall also constitute him a nation, because he is your offspring. (**Genesis 21:13**)**
 - **Now it came about at that time that Abimelech together with Phicol the chief of his army said to Abraham; God is with you in everything you are doing. (**Genesis 21:22**)**
 - **So now swear to me here by God that you will not prove false to me and to my offspring and to my posterity, that, according to the loyal love with which I have dealt with you, you will deal with me and with the land in which you have been residing as an alien. (**Genesis 21:23**)**
 - **So Abraham said; I shall swear. (**Genesis 21:24**)**
 - **When Abraham criticized Abimelech severely as regards the well of water that the servants of Abimelech had seized by violence.**

(Genesis 21:25)

- **Then Abimelech said; I do not know who did this thing, neither did you yourself tell it to me, and I myself have also not heard of it except today. (Genesis 21:26)**
- **With that Abraham took sheep and cattle and gave them to Abimelech, and both of them proceeded to conclude a covenant. (Genesis 21:27)**
- **When Abraham set seven female lambs of the flock by themselves. (Genesis 21:28)**
- **Abimelech went on to say to Abraham; What is the meaning here of these seven female lambs that you have set by themselves? (Genesis 21:29)**
- **Then he said; You are to accept the seven female lambs at my hand, that it may serve as a witness for me that I have dug this well. (Genesis 21:30)**
- **That is why he called that place Beersheba, because there both of them had taken an oath. (Genesis 21:31)**
- **So they concluded a covenant at Beersheba, after which Abimelech got up together with Phicol the chief of his army and they returned to the land of the Philistines. (Genesis 21:32)**
- **After that he planted a tamarisk tree at Beersheba and called there upon the name of Yehowah the indefinitely lasting God. (Genesis 21:33)**
- **Thus, after pointing out that Yehowah's, judicial decisions are in all the earth, the psalmist says of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; They happened to be few in number, yes, very few, and alien residents in Canaan. And they kept walking about from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another people.**
- **Yehowah did not allow any human to defraud them, but on their account he reproved kings, saying,**
- **He is Yehowah our God. His judicial decisions are in all the earth. (Psalms 105:7)**

- He has remembered his covenant even to time indefinite, the word that he commanded, to a thousand generations. (**Psalms 105:8**)
- Which covenant he concluded with Abraham, and his sworn statement to Isaac. (**Psalms 105:9**)
- And which statement he kept standing as a regulation even to Jacob, as an indefinitely lasting covenant even to Israel. (**Psalms 105:10**)
- Saying; To you I shall give the land of Canaan as the allotment of your inheritance. (**Psalms 105:11**)
- This was when they happened to be few in number, yes, very few, and alien residents in it. (**Psalms 105:12**)
- And they kept walking about from nation to nation, from one **kingdom** to another people. (**Psalms 105:13**)
- He did not allow any human to defraud them, but on their account he reproved kings. (**Psalms 105:14**)
- Saying; Do not you men touch my anointed ones, and to my prophets do nothing bad. (**Psalms 105:15**)
- Now a famine arose in the land and Abram made his way down toward Egypt to reside there as an alien, because the famine was severe in the land. (**Genesis 12:10**)
- And it came about that as soon as he got near to entering Egypt, then he said to Sarai his wife; Please, now! I well know you are a woman beautiful in appearance. (**Genesis 12:11**)
- So it is bound to happen that the Egyptians will see you and will say; This is his wife. And they will certainly kill me, but you they will preserve alive. (**Genesis 12:12**)
- Please say you are my sister, in order, that it may go well with me on your account, and my soul will be certain to live due to you. (**Genesis 12:13**)
- So it happened that, as soon as Abram entered Egypt, the Egyptians got to see the woman, that she was very beautiful.

(Genesis 12:14)

- **And the princes of Pharaoh also got to see her and they began praising her to Pharaoh, so that the woman was taken to the house of Pharaoh. (Genesis 12:15)**
- **And he treated Abram well on her account, and he came to have sheep and cattle and asses and menservants and maidservants and she-asses and camels. (Genesis 12:16)**
- **Then Yehowah touched Pharaoh and his household with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife. (Genesis 12:17)**
- **With that Pharaoh called Abram and said; What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife? (Genesis 12:18)**
- **Why did you say; She is my sister, so that I was about to take her as my wife? And now here is your wife. Take her and go! (Genesis 12:19)**
- **And Pharaoh issued commands to men concerning him, and they went escorting him and his wife and all that he had. (Genesis 12:20)**
- **Now Abraham moved camp from there to the land of the Negeb and took up dwelling between Kadesh and Shur and residing as an alien at Gerar. (Genesis 20:1)**
- **And Abraham repeated concerning Sarah his wife; She is my sister. With that Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah. (Genesis 20:2)**
- **Afterward God came to Abimelech in a dream by night and said to him; Here you are as good as dead because of the woman whom you have taken, since she is owned by another owner as his wife. (Genesis 20:3)**
- **However, Abimelech had not gone near her. Hence he said, Yehowah, will you kill a nation that is really righteous? (Genesis 20:4)**
- **Id not he say to me; She is my sister? And she, did not she too say; He is my brother? In the honesty of my heart and with**

innocency of my hands I have done this. ([Genesis 20:5](#))

- **That the true God said to him in the dream; I too have known that in the honesty of your heart you have done this, and I was also holding you back from sinning against me. That is why I did not allow you to touch her. ([Genesis 20:6](#))**
- **But now return the man's wife, for he is a prophet, and he will make supplication for you. So keep living. But if you are not returning her, know that you will positively die, you and all who are yours. ([Genesis 20:7](#))**
- **So Abimelech got up early in the morning and proceeded to call all his servants and to speak of all these things in their ears. And the men got very much afraid. ([Genesis 20:8](#))**
- **Then Abimelech called Abraham and said to him; What have you done to us, and what sin have I committed against you, in that you have brought upon me and my **kingdom** a great sin? Deeds that should not have been done you have done in connection with me. ([Genesis 20:9](#))**
- **And Abimelech went on to say to Abraham; What did you have in view in that you have done this thing? ([Genesis 20:10](#))**
- **To this Abraham said; It was because I said to myself; Doubtless there is no fear of God in this place, and they will certainly kill me because of my wife. ([Genesis 20:11](#))**
- **And, besides, she is truly my sister, the daughter of my father, only not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife. ([Genesis 20:12](#))**
- **And it came about that, when God caused me to wander from the house of my father, then I said to her; This is your loving-kindness which you may exercise toward me; At every place where we shall come say of me; He is my brother. ([Genesis 20:13](#))**
- **Following that Abimelech took sheep and cattle and menservants and maidservants and gave them to Abraham and returned to him Sarah his wife. ([Genesis 20:14](#))**
- **Further Abimelech said; Here my land is available to you. Dwell**

- where it is good in your eyes. ([Genesis 20:15](#))
- **And to Sarah he said; Here I do give a thousand silver pieces of money to your brother. Here it is for you a covering of the eyes to all who are with you, and before everybody, and you are cleared of reproach. ([Genesis 20:16](#))**
 - **And Abraham began to make supplication to the true God, and God proceeded to heal Abimelech and his wife and his slave girls, and they began bearing children. ([Genesis 20:17](#))**
 - **For Yehowah had tightly shut up every womb of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife. ([Genesis 20:18](#))**
 - **Later, on the third day, it was told to Laban that Jacob had run away. ([Genesis 31:22](#))**
 - **With that he took his brothers with him and went chasing after him for a distance of seven days journey and caught up with him in the mountainous region of Gilead. ([Genesis 31:23](#))**
 - **Then God came to Laban the Syrian in a dream by night and said to him; Watch yourself that you do not go speaking either good or bad with Jacob. ([Genesis 31:24](#))**
 - **And Jacob became angry and began to quarrel with Laban, and in answer Jacob went on to say to Laban; What is the revolt on my part, what the sin of mine, as a reason why you have hotly pursued after me? ([Genesis 31:36](#))**
 - **Now that you have felt through all my goods, what of all the goods of your house have you found? Put it here in front of my brothers and your brothers, and let them decide between us two. ([Genesis 31:37](#))**
 - **These twenty years I have been with you. Your female sheep and your she-goats did not suffer abortions, and the rams of your flock I never ate. ([Genesis 31:38](#))**
 - **Any animal torn to pieces I did not bring to you. I myself would stand the loss of it. Whether one was stolen by day or was stolen by night, you would put in a claim for it from my hand. ([Genesis 31:39](#))**

- It has been my experience that by day the heat consumed me and the cold by night, and my sleep would flee from my eyes. **(Genesis 31:40)**
- This makes twenty years for me in your house. I have served you fourteen years for your two daughters and six years for your flock, and you kept changing my wages ten times. **(Genesis 31:41)**
- If the God of my father, the God of Abraham and the Dread of Isaac, had not proved on my side, you would now have sent me away empty-handed. My wretchedness and the toil of my hands God has seen, and so he reproved you last night. **(Genesis 31:42)**
- Then Laban in answer said to Jacob; The daughters are my daughters and the children my children and the flock my flock, and everything you are looking at is mine and my daughters. What can I do against these today or against their children whom they have borne? **(Genesis 31:43)**
- And now, come, let us conclude a covenant, I and you, and it must serve as a witness between me and you. **(Genesis 31:44)**
- Accordingly Jacob took a stone and set it up as a pillar. **(Genesis 31:45)**
- Then Jacob said to his brothers; Pick up stones! And they went taking stones and making a heap. After that they ate there on the heap. **(Genesis 31:46)**
- And Laban began calling it Jegarsahadutha, but Jacob called it Galeed. **(Genesis 31:47)**
- And Laban proceeded to say; This heap is a witness between me and you today. That is why he called its name Galeed. **(Genesis 31:48)**
- And The Watchtower, because he said; Let Yehowah keep watch between me and you when we are situated unseen the one from the other. **(Genesis 31:49)**
- If you go to afflicting my daughters and if you go to taking wives in addition to my daughters, there is no man with us. See! God is a witness between me and you. **(Genesis 31:50)**

- **And Laban went on to say to Jacob; Here is this heap and here is the pillar that I have erected between me and you. (Genesis 31:51)**
- **This heap is a witness, and the pillar is something that bears witness, that I will not pass this heap against you and that you will not pass this heap and this pillar against me for harm. (Genesis 31:52)**
- **Let the god of Abraham and the god of Nahor judge between us, the god of their father. But Jacob swore by the Dread of his father Isaac. (Genesis 31:53)**
- **After that Jacob sacrificed a sacrifice in the mountain and invited his brothers to eat bread. Accordingly they ate bread and passed the night in the mountain. (Genesis 31:54)**
- **However, Laban got up early in the morning and kissed his children and his daughters and blessed them. Then Laban got on his way that he might return to his own place. (Genesis 31:55)**
- **This, too, was proof that God's sovereignty over earth was still in effect, enforceable by him in harmony with the development of his purpose.**
- **The faithful patriarchs did not attach themselves to any of the city-states or **kingdoms** of Canaan or other lands. Rather than seek security in some city under the political rule of a human **king**, they lived in tents as aliens, strangers and temporary residents in the land, in faith awaiting the city having real foundations, the builder and maker of which city is God.**
- **They accepted God as their Ruler, waited for his **future heavenly arrangement**, or agency, for governing the earth, solidly founded on his sovereign authority and will, though the realization of this hope was then afar off.**
- **By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed in going out into a place he was destined to receive as an inheritance, and he went out, although not knowing where he was going. (Hebrews 11:8)**
- **By faith he resided as an alien in the land of the promise as in a foreign land, and dwelt in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs**

- with him of the very same promise. ([Hebrews 11:9](#))
- For he was awaiting the city having real foundations, the builder and maker of which city is God. ([Hebrews 11:10](#))
 - In faith all these died, although they did not get the fulfillment of the promises, but they saw them afar off and welcomed them and publicly declared that they were strangers and temporary residents in the land. ([Hebrews 11:13](#))
 - For those who say such things give evidence that they are earnestly seeking a place of their own. ([Hebrews 11:14](#))
 - And yet, if they had indeed kept remembering that place from which they had gone forth, they would have had opportunity to return. ([Hebrews 11:15](#))
 - But now they are reaching out for a better place, that is, one belonging to heaven. Hence God is not ashamed of them, to be called upon as their God, for he has made a city ready for them. ([Hebrews 11:16](#))
 - Thus, Jesus, already anointed by God to be king, could later say; Abraham rejoiced greatly in the prospect of seeing my day, and he saw it and rejoiced.
 - Abraham your father rejoiced greatly in the prospect of seeing my day, and he saw it and rejoiced. ([John 8:56](#))
 - Yehowah brought the development of his promise regarding the **Kingdom** seed.
 - And I shall put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed. He will bruise you in the head and you will bruise him in the heel. ([Genesis 3:15](#))
 - A step farther by the establishing of a covenant with Abraham.
 - And Yehowah proceeded to say to Abram; Go your way out of your country and from your relatives and from the house of your father to the country that I shall show you. ([Genesis 12:1](#))
 - And I shall make a great nation out of you and I shall bless you and I will make your name great, and prove yourself a blessing.

(Genesis 12:2)

- **And I will bless those who bless you, and him that calls down evil upon you I shall curse, and all the families of the ground will certainly bless themselves by means of you. (Genesis 12:3)**
- **And Yehowah's angel proceeded to call to Abraham the second time out of the heavens. (Genesis 22:15)**
- **And to say; By myself I do swear, is the utterance of Yehowah, that by reason of the fact that you have done this thing and you have not withheld your son, your only one. (Genesis 22:16)**
- **I shall surely bless you and I shall surely multiply your seed like the stars of the heavens and like the grains of sand that are on the seashore, and your seed will take possession of the gate of his enemies. (Genesis 22:17)**
- **And by means of your seed all nations of the earth will certainly bless themselves due to the fact that you have listened to my voice. (Genesis 22:18)**
- **In connection therewith, he foretold that kings would come from Abraham or Abram and his wife.**
- **When Abram got to be ninety-nine years old, then Yehowah appeared to Abram and said to him; I am God Almighty. Walk before me and prove yourself faultless. (Genesis 17:1)**
- **And I will give my covenant between me and you, that I may multiply you very, very much. (Genesis 17:2)**
- **At this Abram fell upon his face, and God continued to speak with him, saying; (Genesis 17:3)**
- **As for me, look! My covenant is with you, and you will certainly become a father of a crowd of nations. (Genesis 17:4)**
- **And your name will not be called Abram anymore, and your name must become Abraham, because a father of a crowd of nations I will make you. (Genesis 17:5)**
- **And I will make you very, very fruitful and will make you become nations, and kings will come out of you. (Genesis 17:6)**

- **And God went on to say to Abraham; As for Sarai your wife, you must not call her name Sarai, because Sarah is her name. (Genesis 17:15)**
- **And I will bless her and also give you a son from her, and I will bless her and she shall become nations, kings of peoples will come from her. (Genesis 17:16)**
- **Though the descendants of Abraham's grandson Esau formed sheikdoms and **kingdoms**, it was to Abraham's other grandson, Jacob, that God's prophetic promise of kingly descendants was repeated.**
- **And God said further to him; I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and become many. Nations and a congregation of nations will proceed out of you, and kings will come out of your loins. (Genesis 35:11)**
- **As for the land that I have given to Abraham and to Isaac, to you I shall give it, and to your seed after you I shall give the land. (Genesis 35:12)**
- **And this is the history of Esau the father of Edom in the mountainous region of Seir. (Genesis 36:9)**
- **These are the sheiks of the sons of Esau. The sons of Eliphaz, Esau's firstborn, Sheik Teman, Sheik Omar, Sheik Zepho, Sheik Kenaz. (Genesis 36:15)**
- **Sheik Korah, Sheik Gatam, Sheik Amalek. These are the sheiks of Eliphaz in the land of Edom. These are the sons by Adah. (Genesis 36:16)**
- **These are the sons of Reuel, Esau's son, Sheik Nahath, Sheik Zerah, Sheik Shammah, Sheik Mizzah. These are the sheiks of Reuel in the land of Edom. These are the sons by Basemath, Esau's wife. (Genesis 36:17)**
- **Finally these are the sons of Oholibamah, Esau's wife: Sheik Jeush, Sheik Jalam, Sheik Korah. These are the sheiks of Oholibamah the daughter of Anah, Esau's wife. (Genesis 36:18)**
- **These are the sons of Esau, and these are their sheiks. He is Edom. (Genesis 36:19)**

- **These are the sons of Seir the Horite, the inhabitants of the land: Lotan and Shobal and Zibeon and Anah. (Genesis 36:20)**
- **And Dishon and Ezer and Dishan. These are the sheiks of the Horite, the sons of Seir, in the land of Edom. (Genesis 36:21)**
- **And the sons of Lotan came to be Hori and Hemam, and Lotan's sister was Timna. (Genesis 36:22)**
- **And these are the sons of Shobal, Alvan and Manahath and Ebal, Shepho and Onam. (Genesis 36:23)**
- **And these are the sons of Zibeon, Aiah and Anah. This is the Anah who found the hot springs in the wilderness while he was tending the asses for Zibeon his father. (Genesis 36:24)**
- **And these are the children of Anah, Dishon and Oholibamah the daughter of Anah. (Genesis 36:25)**
- **And these are the sons of Dishon, Hemdan and Eshban and Ithran and Cheran. (Genesis 36:26)**
- **These are the sons of Ezer, Bilhan and Zaavan and Akan. (Genesis 36:27)**
- **These are the sons of Dishan, Uz and Aran. (Genesis 36:28)**
- **These are the sheiks of the Horite, Sheik Lotan, sheik Shobal, sheik Zibeon, sheik Anah. (Genesis 36:29)**
- **Sheik Dishon, Sheik Ezer, Sheik Dishan. These are the sheiks of the Horite according to their sheiks in the land of Seir. (Genesis 36:30)**
- **Now these are the kings who reigned in the land of Edom before any king reigned over the sons of Israel. (Genesis 36:31)**
- **And Bela son of Beor proceeded to reign in Edom, and the name of his city was Dinhabah. (Genesis 36:32)**
- **When Bela died, Jobab son of Zerah from Bozrah began to reign instead of him. (Genesis 36:33)**

- **When Jobab died, Husham from the land of the Temanites began to reign instead of him. (Genesis 36:34)**
- **When Husham died, Hadad son of Bedad, who defeated the Midianites in the field of Moab, began to reign instead of him, and the name of his city was Avith. (Genesis 36:35)**
- **When Hadad died, Samlah from Masrekah began to reign instead of him. (Genesis 36:36)**
- **When Samlah died, Shaul from Rehoboth by the River began to reign instead of him. (Genesis 36:37)**
- **When Shaul died, Baalhanan son of Achbor began to reign instead of him. (Genesis 36:38)**
- **When Baalhanan son of Achbor died, Hadar began to reign instead of him, and the name of his city was Pau, and the name of his wife was Mehetabel the daughter of Matred the daughter of Mezahab. (Genesis 36:39)**
- **So these are the names of the sheiks of Esau according to their families, according to their places, by their names, Sheik Timna, sheik Alvah, sheik Jetheth. (Genesis 36:40)**
- **Sheik Oholibamah, Sheik Elah, Sheik Pinon. (Genesis 36:41)**
- **Sheik Kenaz, Sheik Teman, Sheik Mibzar. (Genesis 36:42)**
- **Sheik Magdiel, Sheik Iram. These are the sheiks of Edom according to their dwellings in the land of their possession. This is Esau the father of Edom. (Genesis 36:43)**

•• **Formation Of The Israelite Nation**

- **Centuries later, at the due time.**
- **And he began to say to Abram; You may know for sure that your seed will become an alien resident in a land not theirs, and they will have to serve them, and these will certainly afflict them for four hundred years. (Genesis 15:13)**
- **But the nation that they will serve I am judging, and after that they will go out with many goods. (Genesis 15:14)**

- **As for you, you will go to your forefathers in peace. You will be buried at a good old age. (Genesis 15:15)**
- **But in the fourth generation they will return here, because the error of the Amorites has not yet come to completion. (Genesis 15:16)**
- **Yehowah God acted on behalf of Jacob's descendants, now numbering into the millions, protecting them during a campaign of genocide by the Egyptian government.**
- **Later on the king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, the name of one of whom was Shiphrah and the name of the other Puah. (Exodus 1:15)**
- **Yes, he went so far as to say; When you help the Hebrew women to give birth and you do see them on the stool for childbirth, if it is a son, you must also put it to death, but if it is a daughter, it must also live. (Exodus 1:16)**
- **However, the midwives feared the true God, and they did not do as the king of Egypt had spoken to them, but they would preserve the male children alive. (Exodus 1:17)**
- **In time the king of Egypt called the midwives and said to them; Why is it you have done this thing, in that you preserved the male children alive? (Exodus 1:18)**
- **In turn the midwives said to Pharaoh; Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women. Because they are lively, they have already given birth before the midwife can come in to them. (Exodus 1:19)**
- **So God dealt well with the midwives, and the people kept growing more numerous and becoming very mighty. (Exodus 1:20)**
- **And it came about that because the midwives had feared the true God he later presented them with families. (Exodus 1:21)**
- **Finally Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying; Every newborn son you are to throw into the river Nile, but every daughter you are to preserve alive. (Exodus 1:22)**

- **And finally freeing them from harsh slavery to Egypt's regime.**
- **And it came about during those many days that the king of Egypt finally died, but the sons of Israel continued to sigh because of the slavery and to cry out in complaint, and their cry for help kept going up to the true God because of the slavery. (Exodus 2:23)**
- **In time God heard their groaning and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. (Exodus 2:24)**
- **So God looked on the sons of Israel and God took notice. (Exodus 2:25)**
- **God's command to Pharaoh, delivered through his agents Moses and Aaron, was spurned by the Egyptian ruler as proceeding from a source with no authority over Egyptian affairs.**
- **Pharaoh's repeated refusal to recognize Yehowah's sovereignty brought demonstrations of divine power in the form of plagues. (Exodus Chapters 7-12)**
- **God thereby proved that his dominion over earth's elements and creatures was superior to that of any king in all the earth.**
- **Then Yehowah said to Moses; Get up early in the morning and take a position in front of Pharaoh, and you must say to him; This is what Yehowah the God of the Hebrews has said; Send my people away that they may serve me. (Exodus 9:13)**
- **For at this time I am sending all my blows against your heart and upon your servants and your people, to the end that you may know that there is none like me in all the earth. (Exodus 9:14)**
- **For by now I could have thrust my hand out that I might strike you and your people with pestilence and that you might be effaced from the earth. (Exodus 9:15)**
- **But, in fact, for this cause I have kept you in existence, for the sake of showing you my power and in order to have my name declared in all the earth. (Exodus 9:16)**

- **He climaxed this display of sovereign power by destroying Pharaoh's forces in a way that none of the boastful warrior kings of the nations could ever have duplicated.**
- **Finally Yehowah said to Moses; Stretch your hand out over the sea, that the waters may come back over the Egyptians, their war chariots and their cavalrymen. (Exodus 14:26)**
- **Moses at once stretched his hand out over the sea, and the sea began to come back to its normal condition at the approaching of morning. All the while the Egyptians were fleeing from encountering it, but Yehowah shook the Egyptians off into the midst of the sea. (Exodus 14:27)**
- **And the waters kept coming back. Finally they covered the war chariots and the cavalrymen belonging to all of Pharaoh's military forces and who had gone into the sea after them. Not so much as one among them was let remain. (Exodus 14:28)**
- **As for the sons of Israel, they walked on dry land in the midst of the seabed, and the waters were for them a wall on their right hand and on their left. (Exodus 14:29)**
- **Thus on that day Yehowah saved Israel from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel got to see the Egyptians dead on the seashore. (Exodus 14:30)**
- **Israel also got to see the great hand that Yehowah put in action against the Egyptians, and the people began to fear Yehowah and to put faith in Yehowah and in Moses his servant. (Exodus 14:31)**
- **With real basis, Moses and the Israelites sang; Yehowah will rule as king to time indefinite, even forever.**
- **At that time Moses and the sons of Israel proceeded to sing this song to Yehowah and to say the following; Let me sing to Yehowah, for he has become highly exalted the horse and its rider he has pitched into the sea. (Exodus 15:1)**
- **My strength and my might is Yah, since he serves for my salvation. This is my God, and I shall laud him, my father's God, and I shall raise him on high. (Exodus 15:2)**

- **Yehowah is a manly person of war. Yehowah is his name. (Exodus 15:3)**
- **Pharaoh's chariots and his military forces he has cast into the sea, and the choice of his warriors have been sunk in the Red Sea. (Exodus 15:4)**
- **The surging waters proceeded to cover them, down they went into the depths like a stone. (Exodus 15:5)**
- **Your right hand, O Yehowah, is proving itself powerful in ability, Your right hand, O Yehowah, can shatter an enemy. (Exodus 15:6)**
- **And in the abundance of your superiority you can throw down those who rise up against you. You send out your burning anger, it eats them up like stubble. (Exodus 15:7)**
- **And by a breath from your nostrils waters were heaped up, they stood still like a dam of floods, the surging waters were congealed in the heart of the sea. (Exodus 15:8)**
- **The enemy said; I shall pursue! I shall overtake! I shall divide spoil! My soul will be filled with them! I shall draw my sword! My hand will drive them away! (Exodus 15:9)**
- **You blew with your breath, the sea covered them, they sank like lead in majestic waters. (Exodus 15:10)**
- **Who among the gods is like you, O Yehowah. Who is like you, proving yourself mighty in holiness. The One to be feared with songs of praise, the One doing marvels. (Exodus 15:11)**
- **You stretched out your right hand, the earth proceeded to swallow them up. (Exodus 15:12)**
- **You in your loving-kindness have led the people whom you have recovered; You in your strength will certainly conduct them to your holy abiding place. (Exodus 15:13)**
- **Peoples must hear, they will be agitated; Birth pangs must take hold on the inhabitants of Philistia. (Exodus 15:14)**
- **At that time the sheiks of Edom will indeed be disturbed. As for**

- the despots of Moab, trembling will take hold on them. All the inhabitants of Canaan will indeed be disheartened. (**Exodus 15:15**)
- Fright and dread will fall upon them. Because of the greatness of your arm they will be motionless like a stone; Until your people pass by, O Yehowah, until the people whom you have produced pass by. (**Exodus 15:16**)
 - You will bring them and plant them in the mountain of your inheritance; An established place that you have made ready for you to inhabit, O Yehowah, a sanctuary, O Yehowah, that your hands have established. (**Exodus 15:17**)
 - Yehowah will rule as king to time indefinite, even forever. (**Exodus 15:18**)
 - When Pharaoh's horses with his war chariots and his cavalymen went into the sea, then Yehowah brought back the waters of the sea upon them, while the sons of Israel walked on dry land through the midst of the sea. (**Exodus 15:19**)

See Also EXODUS (The Number Involved in the Exodus)

- Thereafter Yehowah gave added proof of his dominion over earth, its vital water resources, and its bird life, and he showed his ability to guard and sustain his nation even in arid and hostile surroundings.
- Later Moses caused Israel to depart from the Red Sea and they went out to the wilderness of Shur and marched on for three days in the wilderness, but they did not find water. (**Exodus 15:22**)
- And Moses proceeded to build an altar and to call its name Yehowah-nissi. (**Exodus 17:15**)
- Having done all of this, he addressed the liberated people, telling them that, by obedience to his authority and covenant, they could become his special property out of all other peoples, because the whole earth belongs to me. They could become, a **kingdom** of priests and a holy nation.
- And Moses went up to the true God, and Yehowah began to call

- to him out of the mountain, saying; This is what you are to say to the house of Jacob and to tell the sons of Israel. (**Exodus 19:3**)
- You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, that I might carry you on wings of eagles and bring you to myself. (**Exodus 19:4**)
 - And now if you will strictly obey my voice and will indeed keep my covenant, then you will certainly become my special property out of all other peoples, because the whole earth belongs to me. (**Exodus 19:5**)
 - And you yourselves will become to me a **kingdom** of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you are to say to the sons of Israel. (**Exodus 19:6**)
 - When they went on record as willing subjects of his sovereignty, Yehowah acted as Kingly Legislator by giving them royal decrees in a large body of laws, accompanying this by dynamic and awe-inspiring evidence of his power and glory.
 - So Moses came and called the older men of the people and set before them all these words that Yehowah had commanded him. (**Exodus 19:7**)
 - Then Moses entered into the midst of the cloud and went on up the mountain. And Moses continued in the mountain forty days and forty nights. (**Exodus 24:18**)
 - A tabernacle or tent of meeting, and particularly its ark, was to indicate the presence of the invisible heavenly Head of State.
 - And they must make a sanctuary for me, as I must tabernacle in the midst of them. (**Exodus 25:8**)
 - And you must place the cover above upon the Ark, and in the Ark you will place the testimony that I shall give you. (**Exodus 25:21**)
 - And I will present myself to you there and speak with you from above the cover, from between the two cherubs that are upon the ark of the testimony, even all that I shall command you for the sons of Israel. (**Exodus 25:22**)
 - As for Moses, he proceeded to take his tent away and he pitched

- it outside the camp, far away from the camp, and he called it a tent of meeting. And it occurred that everyone inquiring of Yehowah would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp. (**Exodus 33:7**)
- **And it occurred that as soon as Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise, and they stationed themselves each one at the entrance of his own tent, and they gazed after Moses until he went into the tent. (**Exodus 33:8**)**
 - **It also occurred that as soon as Moses had gone into the tent, the pillar of cloud would come down, and it stood at the entrance of the tent and he spoke with Moses. (**Exodus 33:9**)**
 - **And all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, and all the people rose and bowed down each one at the entrance of his own tent. (**Exodus 33:10**)**
 - **And Yehowah spoke to Moses face to face, just as a man would speak to his fellow. When he returned to the camp, his minister Joshua, the son of Nun, as attendant, would not withdraw from the midst of the tent. (**Exodus 33:11**)**
 - **With that I heard a loud voice from the throne say; Look! The tent of God is with mankind, and he will reside with them, and they will be his peoples. And God himself will be with them. (**Revelation 21:3**)**
 - **Although Moses and other appointed men judged the majority of cases, guided by God's Law, Yehowah intervened personally at times to express judgments and apply sanctions against lawbreakers.**
 - **And it came about on the next day that Moses sat down as usual to serve as judge for the people, and the people kept standing before Moses from the morning till the evening. (**Exodus 18:13**)**
 - **And Moses father-in-law got to see all that he was doing for the people. So he said; What kind of business is this that you are doing for the people? Why do you alone continue sitting and all the people continue taking their stand before you from morning till evening? (**Exodus 18:14**)**
 - **Then Moses said to his father-in-law; Because the people keep coming to me to inquire of God. (**Exodus 18:15**)**

- **In the event that they have a case arise, it must come to me and I must judge between the one party and the other, and I must make known the decisions of the true God and his Laws. (Exodus 18:16)**
- **Immediately Moses listened to the voice of his father-in-law and did all that he had said. (Exodus 18:24)**
- **And Moses proceeded to choose capable men out of all Israel and to give them positions as heads over the people, as chiefs of thousands, chiefs of hundreds, chiefs of fifties and chiefs of tens. (Exodus 18:25)**
- **And they judged the people on every proper occasion. A hard case they would bring to Moses, but every small case they themselves would handle as judges. (Exodus 18:26)**
- **And Moses got to see that the people went unrestrained, because Aaron had let them go unrestrained for a disgrace among their opposers. (Exodus 32:25)**
- **Then Moses took his stand in the gate of the camp and said; Who is on Yehowah's side? To me! And all the sons of Levi began gathering themselves to him. (Exodus 32:26)**
- **He now said to them; This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; Put each one of you his sword on his side. Pass through and return from gate to gate in the camp and kill each one his brother and each one his fellow and each one his intimate acquaintance. (Exodus 32:27)**
- **And the sons of Levi proceeded to do as Moses had said; so that there fell of the people on that day about three thousand men. (Exodus 32:28)**
- **And Moses went on to say; Fill your hand today with power for Yehowah, because each one of you is against his own son and his own brother, and that he may confer a blessing upon you today. (Exodus 32:29)**
- **And it came about on the very next day that Moses proceeded to say to the people; You, you have sinned with a great sin, and now I shall go up to Yehowah. Perhaps I can make amends for**

your sin. ([Exodus 32:30](#))

- So Moses returned to Yehowah and said; Ah, but this people has sinned with a great sin, in that they made a god of gold for themselves! ([Exodus 32:31](#))
- But now if you will pardon their sin, and if not, wipe me out, please, from your book that you have written. ([Exodus 32:32](#))
- However, Yehowah said to Moses; Whoever has sinned against me, I shall wipe him out of my book. ([Exodus 32:33](#))
- And now, come, lead the people to where I have spoken to you of. Look! My angel will go ahead of you, and on the day of my bringing punishment I shall certainly bring punishment upon them for their sin. ([Exodus 32:34](#))
- And Yehowah began plaguing the people because they had made the calf, which Aaron had made. ([Exodus 32:35](#))
- The ordained priesthood acted to maintain good relations between the nation and its heavenly Ruler, helping the people in their efforts to conform to the high standards of the Law covenant. Thus the government over Israel was a genuine theocracy.
- And he proceeded to say, Yehowah, from Sinai he came and he flashed forth from Seir upon them. He beamed forth from the mountainous region of Paran, and with him were holy myriads, at his right hand warriors belonging to them. ([Deuteronomy 33:2](#))
- And he came to be king in Jeshurun, when the heads of the people gathered themselves, the entire number of the tribes of Israel. ([Deuteronomy 33:5](#))

See Also PRIEST

- As God and Creator, holding the right of eminent domain over all the earth, as well as being the Judge of all the earth.
- It is unthinkable of you that you are acting in this manner to put to death the righteous man with the wicked one so that it has to occur with the righteous man as it does with the wicked! It is unthinkable of you. Is the Judge of all the earth not going to do what is right? ([Genesis 18:25](#))

- **Yehowah had assigned the land of Canaan to Abraham's seed.**
- **So Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot the son of his brother and all the goods that they had accumulated and the souls whom they had acquired in Haran, and they got on their way out to go to the land of Canaan. Finally they came to the land of Canaan. (Genesis 12:5)**
- **And Abram went on through the land as far as the site of Shechem, near the big trees of Moreh, and at that time the Canaanite was in the land. (Genesis 12:6)**
- **Yehowah now appeared to Abram and said; To your seed I am going to give this land. After that he built an altar there to Yehowah, who had appeared to him. (Genesis 12:7)**
- **The sun was now setting and a dense darkness came and, look! A smoking furnace and a fiery torch that passed in between these pieces. (Genesis 15:17)**
- **On that day Yehowah concluded with Abram a covenant, saying; To your seed I will give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates. (Genesis 15:18)**
- **The Kenites and the Kenizzites and the Kadmonites. (Genesis 15:19)**
- **And the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Rephaim. (Genesis 15:20)**
- **And the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Girgashites and the Jebusites. (Genesis 15:21)**
- **As Chief Executive, he now ordered the Israelites to carry out the forcible expropriation of the territory held by the condemned Canaanites, as well as his death sentence against them.**
- **Hear, O Israel, you are today crossing the Jordan to go in and dispossess nations greater and mightier than you, cities great and fortified to the heavens. (Deuteronomy 9:1)**
- **A people great and tall, the sons of Anakim, about whom you yourself have known and you yourself have heard it said; Who**

can make a firm stand before the sons of Anak? (**Deuteronomy 9:2**)

- **And you well know today that Yehowah your God is crossing before you. A consuming fire he is. He will annihilate them, and he himself will subdue them before you, and you must dispossess them and destroy them speedily, just as Yehowah has spoken to you. (**Deuteronomy 9:3**)**
- **Do not say in your heart when Yehowah your God pushes them away from before you this; It was for my own righteousness that Yehowah has brought me in to take possession of this land, whereas it is for the wickedness of these nations that Yehowah is driving them away from before you. (**Deuteronomy 9:4**)**
- **It is not for your righteousness or for the uprightness of your heart that you are going in to take possession of their land, in fact, it is for the wickedness of these nations that Yehowah your God is driving them away from before you, and in order to carry out the word that Yehowah swore to your forefathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. (**Deuteronomy 9:5**)**

See Also CANAAN, CANAANITE NO. 2 (Conquest of Canaan by Israel)

•• The Period Of The Judges

- **For three and a half centuries after Israel's conquest of Canaan's many **kingdoms**, Yehowah God was the nation's only king. During varying periods, Judges, chosen by God, led the nation or portions thereof in battle and in peace.**
- **Judge Gideon's defeat of Midian brought a popular request that he become the nation's ruler, but he refused, acknowledging Yehowah as the true ruler.**
- **Later the men of Israel said to Gideon; Rule over us, you and your son and your grandson as well, for you have saved us out of the hand of Midian. (**Judges 8:22**)**
- **But Gideon said to them; I myself shall not rule over you, nor will my son rule over you. Yehowah is the one who will rule over you. (**Judges 8:23**)**

- **His ambitious son Abimelech briefly established **kingship** over a small segment of the nation, but this ended in personal disaster.**
- **In time Abimelech the son of Jerubbaal went to Shechem to the brothers of his mother and began speaking to them and to all the family of the house of his mother's father, saying; (Judges 9:1)**
- **Subsequently all the landowners of Shechem and all the house of Millo gathered together and went and made Abimelech reign as king, close by the big tree, the pillar that was in Shechem. (Judges 9:6)**
- **And Abimelech kept playing the prince over Israel three years. (Judges 9:22)**
- **Then a certain woman pitched an upper millstone upon Abimelech's head and broke his skull in pieces. (Judges 9:53)**
- **So he quickly called the attendant bearing his weapons and said to him; Draw your sword and put me to death, for fear they should say about me; It was a woman that killed him. Immediately his attendant ran him through, so that he died. (Judges 9:54)**
- **When the men of Israel got to see that Abimelech had died, they now went each one to his place. (Judges 9:55)**
- **Thus God made the evil of Abimelech that he had done to his father by killing his seventy brothers come back. (Judges 9:56)**
- **Of this general period of the Judges, the comment is made; In those days there was no king in Israel. As for everybody, what was right in his own eyes he was accustomed to do.**
- **In those days there was no king in Israel. As for everybody, what was right in his own eyes he was accustomed to do. (Judges 17:6)**
- **In those days there was no king in Israel. What was right in his own eyes was what each one was accustomed to do. (Judges 21:25)**

- **This does not imply that there was no judicial restraint. Every city had judges, older men, to handle legal questions and problems and to mete out justice.**
- **You should set judges and officers for yourself inside all your gates that Yehowah your God is giving you by your tribes, and they must judge the people with righteous judgment. (Deuteronomy 16:18)**
- **You must not pervert judgment. You must not be partial or accept a bribe, for the bribe blinds the eyes of wise ones and distorts the words of righteous ones. (Deuteronomy 16:19)**
- **Justice, justice you should pursue, in order, that you may keep alive and may indeed take possession of the land that Yehowah your God is giving you. (Deuteronomy 16:20)**
- **The Levitical priesthood functioned as a superior guiding force, educating the people in God's law, the High Priest having the Urim and Thummim by which to consult God on difficult matters.**
- **So, the individual who availed himself of these provisions, who gained knowledge of God's Law and applied it, had a sound guide for his conscience. His doing what was right in his own eye. In such case would not result in bad.**
- **Yehowah allowed the people to show a willing or unwilling attitude and course. There was no human monarch over the nation supervising the work of the city judges or commanding the citizens to engage in particular projects or marshaling them for defense of the nation.**
- **And on that day Deborah along with Barak the son of Abinoam broke out in song, saying; (Judges 5:1)**
- **For letting the hair hang loose in Israel for war, for the peoples volunteering, bless Yehowah. (Judges 5:2)**
- **Listen, you kings, give ear, you high officials. I to Yehowah, yes, I, will sing. I shall make melody to Yehowah, Israel's God. (Judges 5:3)**
- **Yehowah, at your going forth from Seir, at your marching out of the field of Edom, earth rocked, heavens also dripped, clouds also**

dripped with water. (**Judges 5:4**)

- **Mountains flowed away from the face of Yehowah, this Sinai away from the face of Yehowah, Israel's God. (**Judges 5:5**)**
- **In the days of Shamgar the son of Anath, in the days of Jael, pathways had no traffic, and the travelers of roadways would travel by roundabout pathways. (**Judges 5:6**)**
- **The dwellers in open country ceased, in Israel they ceased, until I, Deborah, rose up, until I rose up as a mother in Israel. (**Judges 5:7**)**
- **They proceeded to choose new gods. It was then there was war in the gates. A shield could not be seen, nor a lance, among forty thousand in Israel. (**Judges 5:8**)**
- **My heart is for the commanders of Israel, who were volunteers among the people. Bless Yehowah. (**Judges 5:9**)**
- **You riders on yellowish-red she-asses, you who sit on rich carpets, and you who walk on the road, consider! (**Judges 5:10**)**
- **Some of the voices of the water distributors among the places of drawing water; There they began to recount the righteous acts of Yehowah, the righteous acts of his dwellers in open country in Israel. It was then Yehowah's people made their way down to the gates. (**Judges 5:11**)**
- **Awake, awake, O Deborah, Awake, awake, utter a song! Rise up, Barak, and lead your captives away, you son of Abinoam! (**Judges 5:12**)**
- **It was then the survivors came down to the majestic ones. Yehowah's people came down to me against the mighty ones. (**Judges 5:13**)**
- **Out of Ephraim was their origin in the low plain, with you, O Benjamin, among your peoples. Out of Machir the commanders went down, and out of Zebulun those handling the equipment of a scribe. (**Judges 5:14**)**
- **And the princes in Issachar were with Deborah, and as Issachar, so was Barak. Into the low plain he was sent on foot. Among**

- the divisions of Reuben great were the searchings of the heart. (Judges 5:15)**
- **Why did you sit down between the two saddlebags, to listen to the pipings for the flocks? For the divisions of Reuben there were great searchings of the heart. (Judges 5:16)**
 - **Gilead kept to his residence on the other side of the Jordan. And Dan, why did he continue to dwell for the time in ships? Asher sat idle at the seashore, and by his landing places he kept residing. (Judges 5:17)**
 - **Zebulun was a people that scorned their souls to the point of death, Naphtali also, on the heights of the field. (Judges 5:18)**
 - **The bad conditions that developed, therefore, were chargeable to the unwillingness of the majority to heed the word and Law of their heavenly King and to avail themselves of his provisions.**
 - **And the sons of Israel fell to doing what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah and serving the Baals. (Judges 2:11)**
 - **Thus they abandoned Yehowah the God of their fathers who had brought them out of the land of Egypt and went following other gods from among the gods of the peoples who were all around them and they began bowing down to them, so that they offended Yehowah. (Judges 2:12)**
 - **Thus they abandoned Yehowah and took up serving Baal and the Ashtoreth images. (Judges 2:13)**
 - **At this Yehowah's anger blazed against Israel, so that he gave them into the hands of the pillagers, and they began to pillage them, and he proceeded to sell them into the hand of their enemies round about, and they were no longer able to stand before their enemies. (Judges 2:14)**
 - **Everywhere that they went out, the hand of Yehowah proved to be against them for calamity, just as Yehowah had spoken and just as Yehowah had sworn to them, and they got to be in very sore straits. (Judges 2:15)**
 - **So Yehowah would raise up judges, and they would save them out of the hand of their pillagers. (Judges 2:16)**

- **And even to their judges they did not listen, but they had immoral intercourse with other gods and went bowing down to them. They quickly turned aside from the way in which their forefathers had walked by obeying the commandments of Yehowah. They did not do like that. (Judges 2:17)**
- **And when Yehowah did raise up judges for them, Yehowah proved to be with the judge, and he saved them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge, for Yehowah would feel regret over their groaning because of their oppressors and those who were shoving them around. (Judges 2:18)**
- **And it occurred that when the judge died they would turn around and act more ruinously than their fathers by walking after other gods to serve them and bow down to them. They did not refrain from their practices and their stubborn behavior. (Judges 2:19)**
- **Finally Yehowah's anger blazed against Israel and he said; For the reason that this nation have overstepped my covenant that I commanded their forefathers and have not listened to my voice. (Judges 2:20)**
- **I too, for my part, shall not drive out again from before them a single one of the nations that Joshua left behind when he died. (Judges 2:21)**
- **In order by them to test Israel, whether they will be keepers of Yehowah's way by walking in it just as their fathers kept it, or not. (Judges 2:22)**
- **Accordingly Yehowah let these nations stay by not driving them out quickly, and he did not give them into Joshua's hand. (Judges 2:23)**

See Also COURT, JUDICIAL

See Also HIGH PRIEST

See Also PRIEST

See Also URIM AND THUMMIM

•• A Human King Requested

- **Nearly 400 years from the time of the Exodus and over 800 years from the making of God's covenant with Abraham, the Israelites**

requested a human king to lead them, even as the other nations had human monarchs. Their request constituted a rejection of Yehowah's own kingship over them.

- In time all the older men of Israel collected themselves together and came to Samuel at Ramah (**1 Samuel 8:4**)
- And said to him; Look! You yourself have grown old, but your own sons have not walked in your ways. Now do appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations. (**1 Samuel 8:5**)
- But the thing was bad in the eyes of Samuel inasmuch as they had said; Do give us a king to judge us, and Samuel began to pray to Yehowah. (**1 Samuel 8:6**)
- Then Yehowah said to Samuel; Listen to the voice of the people as respects all that they say to you, for it is not you whom they have rejected, but it is I whom they have rejected from being king over them. (**1 Samuel 8:7**)
- In accord with all their doings that they have done from the day of my bringing them up out of Egypt until this day in that they kept leaving me and serving other gods, that is the way they are doing also to you. (**1 Samuel 8:8**)
- True, the people properly expected a **kingdom** to be established by God in harmony with his promise to Abraham and to Jacob, already cited. They had further basis for such hope in Jacob's deathbed prophecy concerning Judah.
- As for you, Judah, your brothers will laud you. Your hand will be on the back of the neck of your enemies. The sons of your father will prostrate themselves to you. (**Genesis 49:8**)
- A lion cub Judah is. From the prey, my son, you will certainly go up. He bowed down, he stretched himself out like a lion and, like a lion, who dares rouse him? (**Genesis 49:9**)
- The scepter will not turn aside from Judah, neither the commander's staff from between his feet, until Shiloh comes, and to him the obedience of the peoples will belong. (**Genesis 49:10**)
- In Yehowah's words to Israel after the Exodus.

- **And Moses went up to the true God, and Yehowah began to call to him out of the mountain, saying; This is what you are to say to the house of Jacob and to tell the sons of Israel. (Exodus 19:3)**
- **You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, that I might carry you on wings of eagles and bring you to myself. (Exodus 19:4)**
- **And now if you will strictly obey my voice and will indeed keep my covenant, then you will certainly become my special property out of all other peoples, because the whole earth belongs to me. (Exodus 19:5)**
- **And you yourselves will become to me a **kingdom** of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you are to say to the sons of Israel. (Exodus 19:6)**
- **In the terms of the Law covenant.**
- **When you eventually come into the land that Yehowah your God is giving you, and you have taken possession of it and have dwelt in it, and you have said; Let me set a king over myself like all the nations who are round about me. (Deuteronomy 17:14)**
- **You should without fail set over yourself a king whom Yehowah your God will choose. From among your brothers you should set a king over yourself. You will not be allowed to put over yourself a foreigner who is not your brother. (Deuteronomy 17:15)**
- **And even in part of the message God caused the prophet Balaam to speak.**
- **When Balaam raised his eyes and saw Israel tabernacling by his tribes, then the spirit of God came to be upon him. (Numbers 24:2)**
- **Hence he took up his proverbial utterance and said; The utterance of Balaam the son of Beor, and the utterance of the able-bodied man with the eye unsealed. (Numbers 24:3)**
- **The utterance of the one hearing the sayings of God, who got to see a vision of the Almighty while falling down with the eyes uncovered. (Numbers 24:4)**

- How good-looking are your tents, O Jacob, your tabernacles, O Israel! (**Numbers 24:5**)
- Like torrent valleys they have extended a long way, like gardens by the river. Like aloe plants that Yehowah has planted, like cedars by the waters. (**Numbers 24:6**)
- Water keeps trickling from his two leather buckets, and his seed is by many waters. His king also will be higher than Agag, and his **kingdom** will be lifted up. (**Numbers 24:7**)
- I shall see him, but not now. I shall behold him, but not near. A star will certainly step forth out of Jacob, and a scepter will indeed rise out of Israel. And he will certainly break apart the temples of Moab's head and the cranium of all the sons of tumult of war. (**Numbers 24:17**)
- Samuel's faithful mother Hannah expressed this hope in prayer.
- Yehowah is an Impoverisher and an Enricher, an Abaser, also an Exalter. (**1 Samuel 2:7**)
- A Raiser of a lowly one from the dust, from the ashpit he lifts up a poor one, to make them sit with nobles, and a throne of glory he gives to them as a possession. For to Yehowah belong earth's supports, and he places upon them the productive land. (**1 Samuel 2:8**)
- The feet of his loyal ones he guards. As for the wicked ones, they are silenced in darkness, for not by power does a man prove superior. (**1 Samuel 2:9**)
- As for Yehowah, those contending against him will be terrified, Against them he will thunder in the heavens. Yehowah himself will judge the ends of the earth, that he may give strength to his king, that he may exalt the horn of his anointed one. (**1 Samuel 2:10**)
- Nevertheless, Yehowah had not fully revealed his sacred secret regarding the **Kingdom** and had not indicated when his due time for its establishment would arrive nor what the structure and composition of that government would be whether it would be earthly or heavenly.

- **It was therefore presumptuous on the part of the people now to demand a human king.**
- **The menace of Philistine and Ammonite aggression evidently contributed to the Israelites desire for a visible royal commander-in-chief. They thus displayed a lack of faith in God's ability to protect, guide, and provide for them, as a nation or as individuals.**
- **In time all the older men of Israel collected themselves together and came to Samuel at Ramah. (1 Samuel 8:4)**
- **And said to him; Look! You yourself have grown old, but your own sons have not walked in your ways. Now do appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations. (1 Samuel 8:5)**
- **But the thing was bad in the eyes of Samuel inasmuch as they had said; Do give us a king to judge us, and Samuel began to pray to Yehowah. (1 Samuel 8:6)**
- **Then Yehowah said to Samuel; Listen to the voice of the people as respects all that they say to you, for it is not you whom they have rejected, but it is I whom they have rejected from being king over them. (1 Samuel 8:7)**
- **In accord with all their doings that they have done from the day of my bringing them up out of Egypt until this day in that they kept leaving me and serving other gods, that is the way they are doing also to you. (1 Samuel 8:8)**
- **The peoples motive was wrong, yet Yehowah God granted their request not for their sake primarily but to accomplish his own good purpose in the progressive revelation of the **sacred secret** of his future **Kingdom** by the **seed**.**
- **Human kingship would bring its problems and expense for Israel, however, and Yehowah laid the facts before the people.**
- **And now listen to their voice. Only this, that you should solemnly warn them, and you must tell them the rightful due of the king who will reign over them. (1 Samuel 8:9)**
- **So Samuel said all the words of Yehowah to the people who were asking a king of him. (1 Samuel 8:10)**

- **And he proceeded to say; This will become the rightful due of the king that will reign over you. Your sons he will take and put them as his in his chariots and among his horsemen, and some will have to run before his chariots. (1 Samuel 8:11)**
- **And to appoint for himself chiefs over thousands and chiefs over fifties, and some to do his plowing and to reap his harvest and to make his war instruments and his chariot instruments. (1 Samuel 8:12)**
- **And your daughters he will take for ointment mixers and cooks and bakers. (1 Samuel 8:13)**
- **And your fields and your vineyards and your olive groves, the best ones, he will take and actually give to his servants. (1 Samuel 8:14)**
- **And of your fields of seed and of your vineyards he will take the tenth, and he will certainly give them to his court officials and his servants. (1 Samuel 8:15)**
- **And your menservants and your maidservants and your best herds, and your asses he will take, and he will have to use them for his work. (1 Samuel 8:16)**
- **Of your flocks he will take the tenth, and you yourselves will become his as servants. (1 Samuel 8:17)**
- **And you will certainly cry out in that day by reason of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves, but Yehowah will not answer you in that day. (1 Samuel 8:18)**
- **However, the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel and said; No, but a king is what will come to be over us. (1 Samuel 8:19)**
- **And we must become, we also, like all the nations, and our king must judge us and go out before us and fight our battles. (1 Samuel 8:20)**
- **And Samuel gave a hearing to all the words of the people, then he spoke them in the ears of Yehowah. (1 Samuel 8:21)**
- **And Yehowah proceeded to say to Samuel; Listen to their voice,**

and you must cause a king to reign for them. Accordingly Samuel said to the men of Israel; Go each one to his city. (**1 Samuel 8:22**)

- **The kings thereafter appointed by Yehowah were to serve as God's earthly agents, not diminishing in the least Yehowah's own sovereignty over the nation. The throne was actually Yehowah's, and they sat thereon as deputy kings.**
- **And Solomon began to sit upon Yehowah's throne as king in place of David his father and to make a success of it, and all the Israelites were obedient to him. (**1 Chronicles 29:23**)**
- **Yehowah commanded the anointing of the first king, Saul.**
- **As for Yehowah, he had uncovered the ear of Samuel the day before Saul came, saying; (**1 Samuel 9:15**)**
- **Tomorrow about this time I shall send to you a man from the land of Benjamin, and you must anoint him as leader over my people Israel, and he must save my people from the hand of the Philistines, because I have seen the affliction of my people, for their outcry has come to me. (**1 Samuel 9:16**)**
- **And Samuel himself saw Saul, and Yehowah, for his part, answered him; Here is the man of whom I said to you; This is the one that will keep my people within bounds. (**1 Samuel 9:17**)**
- **At the same time exposing the lack of faith the nation had displayed.**
- **And Samuel proceeded to call the people together to Yehowah at Mizpah (**1 Samuel 10:17**)**
- **And to say to the sons of Israel; This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; It was I who brought Israel up out of Egypt and who went delivering you from the hand of Egypt and from the hand of all the **kingdoms** that were oppressing you. (**1 Samuel 10:18**)**
- **But you, today you have rejected your God who was a savior to you out of all your evils and your distresses, and you went on to say; No, but a king is what you should put over us. And now take your stand before Yehowah by your tribes and by your**

- thousands. (**1 Samuel 10:19**)
- Accordingly Samuel had all the tribes of Israel draw near, and the tribe of Benjamin came to be picked. (**1 Samuel 10:20**)
 - Then he had the tribe of Benjamin draw near by its families, and the family of the Matrites came to be picked. Finally Saul the son of Kish came to be picked. And they went looking for him, and he was not to be found. (**1 Samuel 10:21**)
 - Hence they inquired further of Yehowah; Has the man come here as yet? To this Yehowah said; Here he is, hidden among the luggage. (**1 Samuel 10:22**)
 - So they went running and took him from there. When he took his stand in the middle of the people, he was taller than all the other people from his shoulders upward. (**1 Samuel 10:23**)
 - Then Samuel said to all the people; Have you seen the one whom Yehowah has chosen, that there is none like him among all the people? And all the people began to shout and say; Let the king live! (**1 Samuel 10:24**)
 - Upon that Samuel spoke to the people about the rightful due of the kingship and wrote it in a book and deposited it before Yehowah. Then Samuel sent all the people away, each one to his house. (**1 Samuel 10:25**)
 - For the kingship to bring benefits, both king and nation must now respect God's authority. If they unrealistically looked to other sources for direction and protection, they and their king would be swept away.
 - Yehowah will march you and your king whom you will set up over you to a nation whom you have not known, neither you nor your forefathers, and there you will have to serve other gods, of wood and of stone. (**Deuteronomy 28:36**)
 - And now here is the king whom you have chosen, for whom you asked, and here Yehowah has put over you a king. (**1 Samuel 12:13**)
 - If you will fear Yehowah and actually serve him and obey his voice, and you will not rebel against the order of Yehowah, both

- you and the king who must reign over you will certainly prove to be followers of Yehowah your God. (1 Samuel 12:14)**
- **But if you will not obey the voice of Yehowah and you will actually rebel against the order of Yehowah, the hand of Yehowah will certainly prove to be against you and your fathers. (1 Samuel 12:15)**
 - **So Samuel said to the people; Do not be afraid. You, you have done all this evil. Only do not turn aside from following Yehowah, and you must serve Yehowah with all your heart. (1 Samuel 12:20)**
 - **And you must not turn aside to follow the unrealities that are of no benefit and that do not deliver, because they are unrealities. (1 Samuel 12:21)**
 - **For Yehowah will not desert his people for the sake of his great name, because Yehowah has taken it upon himself to make you his people. (1 Samuel 12:22)**
 - **As for me also, it is unthinkable, on my part, to sin against Yehowah by ceasing to pray in your behalf, and I must instruct you in the good and right way. (1 Samuel 12:23)**
 - **Only fear Yehowah, and you must serve him in truth with all your heart, for see what great things he has done for you. (1 Samuel 12:24)**
 - **But if you flagrantly do what is bad, you will be swept away, both you and your king. (1 Samuel 12:25)**
 - **The king was to avoid reliance on military strength, the multiplying of wives for himself, and being dominated by the lust for wealth.**
 - **His kingship was to operate entirely within the framework of the Law Covenant. He was under divine orders to write his own copy of that Law and read it daily, that he might keep a proper fear of the Sovereign Authority, stay humble, and hold to a righteous course.**
 - **Only he should not increase horses for himself, nor make the people go back to Egypt in order to increase horses, whereas Yehowah has said to you, you must never go back again by this**

way. (**Deuteronomy 17:16**)

- He should also not multiply wives for himself, that his heart may not turn aside, nor should he increase silver and gold for himself very much. (**Deuteronomy 17:17**)
- And it must occur that when he takes his seat on the throne of his **kingdom**, he must write in a book for himself a copy of this Law from that which is in the charge of the priests, the Levites. (**Deuteronomy 17:18**)
- And it must continue with him, and he must read in it all the days of his life, in order, that he may learn to fear Yehowah his God so as to keep all the words of this Law and these regulations by doing them. (**Deuteronomy 17:19**)
- That his heart may not exalt itself above his brothers and that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right or to the left, in order, that he may lengthen his days upon his **kingdom**, he and his sons in the midst of Israel. (**Deuteronomy 17:20**)
- To the extent that he did this, loving God wholeheartedly and loving his neighbor as himself, his rule would bring blessings, with no real cause for complaint due to oppression or hardship.
- But, as with the people, so now with their kings, Yehowah allowed the rulers to demonstrate what their hearts contained, their willingness or unwillingness to recognize God's own authority and will.

.. David's Exemplary Rule

- Disrespect by the Benjamite Saul for the superior authority and arrangements of the Excellency of Israel, brought divine disfavor and cost his family line the throne.
- And it came about that as soon as he had finished offering up the burnt sacrifice, why, there was Samuel coming in. So Saul went out to meet him and bless him. (**1 Samuel 13:10**)
- Then Samuel said; What is it you have done? To this Saul said; I saw that the people had been dispersed from me, and you, you did not come within the appointed days, and the Philistines were being collected together at Michmash. (**1 Samuel 13:11**)

- So I said to myself, Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and the face of Yehowah I have not softened. So I compelled myself and went offering up the burnt sacrifice. (**1 Samuel 13:12**)
- At this Samuel said to Saul; You have acted foolishly. You have not kept the commandment of Yehowah your God that he commanded you, because, if you had, Yehowah would have made your **kingdom** firm over Israel to time indefinite. (**1 Samuel 13:13**)
- And now your **kingdom** will not last. Yehowah will certainly find for himself a man agreeable to his heart, and Yehowah will commission him as a leader over his people, because you did not keep what Yehowah commanded you. (**1 Samuel 13:14**)
- And Samuel went on to say; Was it not when you were little in your own eyes that you were head of the tribes of Israel, and Yehowah proceeded to anoint you as king over Israel? (**1 Samuel 15:17**)
- Later Yehowah sent you on a mission and said; Go, and you must devote the sinners, the Amalekites, to destruction, and you must fight against them until you will have exterminated them. (**1 Samuel 15:18**)
- So why is it you did not obey the voice of Yehowah but went darting greedily at the spoil and doing what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah? (**1 Samuel 15:19**)
- However, Saul said to Samuel; But I have obeyed the voice of Yehowah in that I went on the mission on which Yehowah had sent me and I brought Agag the king of Amalek, but Amalek I have devoted to destruction. (**1 Samuel 15:20**)
- And the people went taking from the spoil sheep and cattle, the choicest of them as something devoted to destruction, to sacrifice to Yehowah your God in Gilgal. (**1 Samuel 15:21**)
- In turn Samuel said; Does Yehowah have as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of Yehowah? Look! To obey is better than a sacrifice, to pay attention than the fat of rams. (**1 Samuel 15:22**)

- **For rebelliousness is the same as the sin of divination, and pushing ahead presumptuously the same as using uncanny power and teraphim. Since you have rejected the word of Yehowah, he accordingly rejects you from being king. (1 Samuel 15:23)**
- **Then Saul said to Samuel; I have sinned. For I have overstepped the order of Yehowah and your words, because I feared the people and so obeyed their voice. (1 Samuel 15:24)**
- **And now, please, pardon my sin and return with me that I may prostrate myself to Yehowah. (1 Samuel 15:25)**
- **But Samuel said to Saul; I shall not return with you, for you have rejected the word of Yehowah, and Yehowah rejects you from continuing as king over Israel. (1 Samuel 15:26)**
- **As Samuel was turning about to go, he immediately grabbed hold of the skirt of his sleeveless coat, but it ripped away. (1 Samuel 15:27)**
- **At this Samuel said to him; Yehowah has ripped away the royal rule of Israel from off you today, and he will certainly give it to a fellowman of yours who is better than you. (1 Samuel 15:28)**
- **And, besides, the Excellency of Israel will not prove false, and He will not feel regrets, for He is not an earthling man so as to feel regrets. (1 Samuel 15:29)**
- **Thus Saul died for his unfaithfulness with which he had acted faithlessly against Yehowah concerning the word of Yehowah that he had not kept and also for asking of a spirit medium to make inquiry. (1 Chronicles 10:13)**
- **And he did not inquire of Yehowah. Consequently he put him to death and turned the kingship over to David the son of Jesse. (1 Chronicles 10:14)**
- **With the rule of Saul's successor, David of Judah, Jacob's deathbed prophecy saw further fulfillment.**
- **As for you, Judah, your brothers will laud you. Your hand will be on the back of the neck of your enemies. The sons of your father will prostrate themselves to you. (Genesis 49:8)**

- **A lion cub Judah is. From the prey, my son, you will certainly go up. He bowed down, he stretched himself out like a lion and, like a lion, who dares rouse him? (Genesis 49:9)**
- **The scepter will not turn aside from Judah, neither the commander's staff from between his feet, until Shiloh comes, and to him the obedience of the peoples will belong. (Genesis 49:10)**
- **Though David committed errors through human weakness, his rule was exemplary because of his heartfelt devotion to Yehowah God and his humble submission to divine authority.**
- **Show me favor, O God, according to your loving-kindness. According to the abundance of your mercies wipe out my transgressions. (Psalms 51:1)**
- **Thoroughly wash me from my error, and cleanse me even from my sin. (Psalms 51:2)**
- **For my transgressions I myself know, and my sin is in front of me constantly. (Psalms 51:3)**
- **Against you, you alone, I have sinned, and what is bad in your eyes I have done, in order, that you may prove to be righteous when you speak, that you may be in the clear when you judge. (Psalms 51:4)**
- **Here this day your eyes have seen how Yehowah gave you today into my hand in the cave, and someone said to kill you, but I felt sorry for you and said; I shall not thrust out my hand against my lord, for he is the anointed of Yehowah. (1 Samuel 24:10)**
- **And, my father, see, yes, see the skirt of your sleeveless coat in my hand, for when I cut off the skirt of your sleeveless coat I did not kill you. Know and see that there is no badness or revolt in my hand, and I have not sinned against you, while you are lying in wait for my soul to take it away. (1 Samuel 24:11)**
- **May Yehowah judge between me and you, and Yehowah must take vengeance for me from you, but my own hand will not come to be upon you. (1 Samuel 24:12)**
- **Just as the proverb of the ancients says; From the wicked ones**

wickedness will go forth, but my own hand will not come to be upon you. (**1 Samuel 24:13**)

- **After whom has the king of Israel gone out? After whom are you chasing? After a dead dog? After a single flea? (**1 Samuel 24:14**)**
- **And it came about in the time of Solomon's growing old that his wives themselves had inclined his heart to follow other gods, and his heart did not prove to be complete with Yehowah his God like the heart of David his father. (**1 Kings 11:4**)**
- **And Asa proceeded to do what was right in the eyes of Yehowah, like David his forefather. (**1 Kings 15:11**)**
- **And the high places he did not remove. Nevertheless, Asa's heart itself proved to be complete with Yehowah all his days. (**1 Kings 15:14**)**
- **At the time of receiving contributions for the temple construction, David prayed to God before the congregated people, saying;**
- **Consequently David blessed Yehowah before the eyes of all the congregation and David said; Blessed may you be, O Yehowah the God of Israel our father, from time indefinite even to time indefinite. (**1 Chronicles 29:10**)**
- **Yours, O Yehowah, are the greatness and the mightiness and the beauty and the excellency and the dignity, for everything in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the **kingdom**, O Yehowah, the One also lifting yourself up as head over all. (**1 Chronicles 29:11**)**
- **The riches and the glory are on account of you, and you are dominating everything, and in your hand there are power and mightiness, and in your hand is ability to make great and to give strength to all. (**1 Chronicles 29:12**)**
- **And now, O our God, we are thanking you and praising your beautiful name. (**1 Chronicles 29:13**)**
- **His final counsel to his son Solomon also illustrates David's fine viewpoint of the relationship between the earthly **kingship** and its divine Source.**

- **And the days of David gradually drew near for him to die, and he proceeded to command Solomon his son, saying; (1 Kings 2:1)**
- **I am going in the way of all the earth, and you must be strong and prove yourself to be a man. (1 Kings 2:2)**
- **And you must keep the obligation to Yehowah your God by walking in his ways, by keeping his statutes, his commandments and his judicial decisions and his testimonies, according to what is written in the Law of Moses, in order, that you may act prudently in everything that you do and everywhere that you turn. (1 Kings 2:3)**
- **In order, that Yehowah may carry out his word that he spoke respecting me, saying; If your sons will take care of their way by walking before me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there will not be cut off a man of yours from sitting upon the throne of Israel. (1 Kings 2:4)**
- **On the occasion of bringing the ark of the covenant, associated with Yehowah's presence, to the capital, Jerusalem, David sang; Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be joyful, and let them say among the nations, Yehowah himself has become king!**
- **Thus they brought the ark of the true God in and placed it inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and they began to present burnt offerings and communion sacrifices before the true God. (1 Chronicles 16:1)**
- **It was then on that day that David made a contribution for the first time to thank Yehowah by means of Asaph and his brothers. (1 Chronicles 16:7)**
- **Sing to Yehowah, all you of the earth! Announce from day to day the salvation he gives! (1 Chronicles 16:23)**
- **Relate among the nations his glory, among all the peoples his wonderful acts. (1 Chronicles 16:24)**
- **For Yehowah is great and very much to be praised, and he is to be feared more than all other gods. (1 Chronicles 16:25)**
- **For all the gods of the peoples are valueless gods. As for**

- Yehowah, he made the heavens. (1 Chronicles 16:26)
- Dignity and splendor are before him, strength and joy are at his place. (1 Chronicles 16:27)
 - Attribute to Yehowah, O families of peoples, attribute to Yehowah glory and strength. (1 Chronicles 16:28)
 - Attribute to Yehowah the glory of his name, carry a gift and come in before him. Bow down to Yehowah in holy adornment. (1 Chronicles 16:29)
 - Be in severe pains on account of him, all you people of the earth! Also the productive land is firmly established; Never will it be made to totter. (1 Chronicles 16:30)
 - Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be joyful, and let them say among the nations, Yehowah himself has become king! (1 Chronicles 16:31)
 - This illustrates the fact that, though Yehowah's rulership dates from the beginning of creation, he can make specific expressions of his rulership or establish certain agencies to represent him that allow for his being spoken of as **becoming king** at a particular time or occasion.

•• The Covenant For A Kingdom

- Yehowah made a covenant with David for a **kingdom** to be established everlastingly in his family line, saying;
 - When your days come to the full, and you must lie down with your forefathers, then I shall certainly raise up your seed after you, which will come out of your inward parts, and I shall indeed firmly establish his **kingdom**. (2 Samuel 7:12)
 - He is the one that will build a house for my name, and I shall certainly establish the throne of his **kingdom** firmly to time indefinite. (2 Samuel 7:13)
 - I myself shall become his father, and he himself will become my son. When he does wrong, I will also reprove him with the rod of men and with the strokes of the sons of Adam. (2 Samuel 7:14)
 - As for my loving-kindness, it will not depart from him the way I

- removed it from Saul, whom I removed on account of you. (**2 Samuel 7:15**)
- And your house and your **kingdom** will certainly be steadfast to time indefinite before you, your very throne will become one firmly established to time indefinite. (**2 Samuel 7:16**)
 - And it must occur that when your days have come to the full for you to go to be with your forefathers, I shall certainly raise up your seed after you that will come to be one of your sons, and I shall indeed firmly establish his kingship. (**1 Chronicles 17:11**)
 - He is the one that will build me a house, and I shall certainly establish his throne firmly to time indefinite. (**1 Chronicles 17:12**)
 - I myself shall become his father, and he himself will become my son, and my loving-kindness I shall not remove from him the way I removed it from the one that happened to be prior to you. (**1 Chronicles 17:13**)
 - And I will cause him to stand in my house and in my kingship to time indefinite, and his throne will itself become one lasting to time indefinite. (**1 Chronicles 17:14**)
 - This covenant in force toward the Davidic dynasty provided further evidence of the outworking of God's Edenic promise for his **Kingdom** by the foretold **seed**.
 - And I shall put enmity between you and the woman and between your **seed** and her **seed**. He will bruise you in the head and you will bruise him in the heel. (**Genesis 3:15**)
 - And supplied additional means for identifying that **seed** when he should come.
 - For there has been a child born to us, there has been a son given to us. The princely rule will come to be upon his shoulder. His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. (**Isaiah 9:6**)
 - To the abundance of the princely rule and to peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and upon his **kingdom** in order to establish it firmly and to sustain it by means of justice and by means of righteousness, from now on and to time indefinite. The

very zeal of Yehowah of armies will do this. (**Isaiah 9:7**)

- They kept on investigating what particular season or what sort of season the spirit in them was indicating concerning Christ when it was bearing witness beforehand about the sufferings for Christ and about the glories to follow these. (**1 Peter 1:11**)
- The kings appointed by God were anointed for their office, hence the term, **messiah**, meaning, **anointed one**, applied to them.
- Eventually Yehowah said to Samuel; For how long will you be mourning for Saul, while I, on the other hand, have rejected him from ruling as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and go. I shall send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, because I have provided among his sons a king for myself. (**1 Samuel 16:1**)
- For Yehowah has chosen Zion. He has longed for it as a dwelling for himself. (**Psalms 132:13**)
- There I shall cause the horn of David to grow. I have set in order a lamp for my **anointed one**. (**Psalms 132:17**)
- Clearly, then, the earthly **kingdom** Yehowah established over Israel served as a type or small-scale representation of the coming Kingdom by the Messiah, Jesus Christ, son of David.
- The book of the history of Jesus Christ, son of David, son of Abraham: (**Matthew 1:1**)

•• Decline And Fall Of The Israelite Kingdoms

- Because of failure to adhere to Yehowah's righteous ways, conditions at the end of just three reigns and the start of the fourth produced strong discontent that led to revolt and a split in the nation **997 B.C.E.**
- A northern **kingdom** and a southern one resulted. Yehowah's covenant with David nevertheless continued in force toward the kings of the southern kingdom of Judah.
- Over the centuries, faithful kings were rare in Judah, and were completely lacking in the northern kingdom of Israel. The northern kingdoms history was one of idolatry, intrigue, and assassinations, kings often following one another in rapid succession.

- **The people suffered injustice and oppression. About 250 years from its start, Yehowah allowed the king of Assyria to crush the northern kingdom, 740 B.C.E, because of its course of rebellion against God.**
- **Hear the word of Yehowah, O sons of Israel, for Yehowah has a legal case with the inhabitants of the land, for there is no truth nor loving-kindness nor knowledge of God in the land. (Hosea 4:1)**
- **There are the pronouncing of curses and practicing of deception and murdering and stealing and committing of adultery that have broken forth, and acts of bloodshed have touched other acts of bloodshed. (Hosea 4:2)**
- **This is what Yehowah has said; On account of three revolts of Israel, and on account of four, I shall not turn it back, on account of their selling someone righteous for mere silver, and someone poor for the price of a pair of sandals. (Amos 2:6)**
- **They are panting for the dust of the earth on the head of lowly persons, and the way of meek people they turn aside, and a man and his own father have gone to the same girl, for the purpose of profaning my holy name. (Amos 2:7)**
- **And on garments seized as a pledge they stretch themselves out beside every altar, and the wine of those who have been fined they drink at the house of their gods. (Amos 2:8)**
- **Though the **kingdom** of Judah enjoyed greater stability because of the Davidic dynasty, the southern kingdom eventually surpassed the northern kingdom in its moral corruption, despite the efforts of God-fearing kings, such as Hezekiah and Josiah, to roll back the decline toward idolatry and rejection of Yehowah's word and authority.**
- **The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz that he visioned concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. (Isaiah 1:1)**
- **Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth, for Yehowah himself has spoken; Sons I have brought up and raised, but they themselves have revolted against me. (Isaiah 1:2)**

- **A bull well knows its buyer, and the ass the manger of its owner, Israel itself has not known, my own people have not behaved understandingly. (Isaiah 1:3)**
- **Woe to the sinful nation, the people heavy with error, an evildoing seed, ruinous sons! They have left Yehowah, they have treated the Holy One of Israel with disrespect, they have turned backwards. (Isaiah 1:4)**
- **And the word of Yehowah proceeded to come to me, saying; (Ezekiel 23:1)**
- **Son of man, two women, the daughters of one mother, there happened to be. (Ezekiel 23:2)**
- **And they began to prostitute themselves in Egypt. In their youth they committed prostitution. There their breasts were squeezed, and there they pressed the bosoms of their virginity. (Ezekiel 23:3)**
- **And their names were Oholah the older one and Oholibah her sister, and they came to be mine and began to give birth to sons and daughters. And as for their names, Oholah is Samaria, and Oholibah is Jerusalem. (Ezekiel 23:4)**
- **When her sister Oholibah got to see it, then she exercised her sensual desire more ruinously than she, and her prostitution more than the fornication of her sister. (Ezekiel 23:11)**
- **Social injustice, tyranny, greed, dishonesty, bribes, sexual perversion, criminal attacks, and bloodshed, as well as religious hypocrisy that converted God's temple into a cave of robbers, all of these were decried by Yehowah's prophets in their warning messages delivered to rulers and people.**
- **And when you spread out your palms, I hide my eyes from you. Even though you make many prayers, I am not listening. With bloodshed your very hands have become filled. (Isaiah 1:15)**
- **Wash yourselves. Make yourselves clean. Remove the badness of your dealings from in front of my eyes. Cease to do bad. (Isaiah 1:16)**
- **Learn to do good. Search for justice. Set right the oppressor.**

Render judgment for the fatherless boy. Plead the cause of the widow. (**Isaiah 1:17**)

- In time the man Elkanah went up with all his household to sacrifice to Yehowah the yearly sacrifice and his vow offering. (**1 Samuel 1:21**)
- As for Hannah, she did not go up, for she had said to her husband; As soon as the boy is weaned, I must bring him, and he must appear before Yehowah and dwell there to time indefinite. (**1 Samuel 1:22**)
- At this Elkanah her husband said to her; Do what is good in your eyes. Stay at home until you wean him. Only may Yehowah carry out his word. So the woman stayed at home and kept nursing her son until she weaned him. (**1 Samuel 1:23**)
- Yehowah himself will enter into judgment with the elderly ones of his people and its princes. And you yourselves have burned down the vineyard. What was taken by robbery from the afflicted one is in your houses. (**Isaiah 3:14**)
- What do you men mean in that you crush my people, and that you grind the very faces of the afflicted ones? Is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord, Yehowah of armies. (**Isaiah 3:15**)
- Go roving about in the streets of Jerusalem and see, now, and know, and seek for yourselves in her public squares whether you can find a man, whether there exists anyone doing justice, anyone seeking faithfulness, and I shall forgive her. (**Jeremiah 5:1**)
- Even if they should say; As Yehowah is alive! They would thereby be swearing to sheer falsehood. (**Jeremiah 5:2**)
- How can I forgive you for this very thing? Your own sons have left me, and they keep swearing by what is no God. And I kept satisfying them, but they continued committing adultery, and to the house of a prostitute woman they go in troops. (**Jeremiah 5:7**)
- Horses seized with sexual heat, having strong testicles, they have become. They neigh each one to the wife of his companion. (**Jeremiah 5:8**)

- **For among my people there have been found wicked men. They keep peering, as when birdcatchers crouch down. They have set a ruinous trap. It is men that they catch. (Jeremiah 5:26)**
- **As a cage is full of flying creatures, so their houses are full of deception. That is why they have become great and they gain riches. (Jeremiah 5:27)**
- **They have grown fat, they have become shiny. They have also overflowed with bad things. No legal case have they pleaded, even the legal case of the fatherless boy, that they may gain success, and the judgment of the poor ones they have not taken up. (Jeremiah 5:28)**
- **The prophets themselves actually prophesy in falsehood, and as for the priests, they go subduing according to their powers. And my own people have loved it that way, and what will you men do in the finale of it? (Jeremiah 5:31)**
- **For this is what Yehowah of armies has said; Cut down wood and throw up against Jerusalem a siege rampart. She is the city with which an accounting must be held. She is nothing but oppression in the midst of her. (Jeremiah 6:6)**
- **As a cistern keeps its waters cool, so she has kept her badness cool. Violence and despoiling are heard in her, sickness and plague are before my face constantly. (Jeremiah 6:7)**
- **Here you are putting your trust in fallacious words, it will certainly be of no benefit at all. (Jeremiah 7:8)**
- **Can there be stealing, murdering and committing adultery and swearing falsely and making sacrificial smoke to Baal and walking after other gods whom you had not known. (Jeremiah 7:9)**
- **And must you come and stand before me in this house upon which my name has been called, and must you say; We shall certainly be delivered, in the face of doing all these detestable things? (Jeremiah 7:10)**
- **Has this house upon which my name has been called become a mere cave of robbers in your eyes? Here I myself also have seen**

it, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 7:11**)

- **Neither the support of apostate priests nor any political alliance made with other nations could avoid the coming crash of that unfaithful kingdom.**
- **For from the least one of them even to the greatest one of them, every one is making for himself unjust gain, and from the prophet even to the priest, each one is acting falsely. (**Jeremiah 6:13**)**
- **And they try to heal the breakdown of my people lightly, saying; There is peace! There is peace! When there is no peace. (**Jeremiah 6:14**)**
- **Did they feel shame because it was something detestable that they had done? For one thing, they positively do not feel any shame, for another thing, they have not come to know even how to feel humiliated. Therefore they will fall among those who are falling, in the time that I must hold an accounting with them they will stumble, Yehowah has said. (**Jeremiah 6:15**)**
- **This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; This is what you men should say to the king of Judah, the one sending you to me to inquire of me; Look! The military force of Pharaoh that is coming forth to you people for the purpose of assistance will have to go back to their land, Egypt. (**Jeremiah 37:7**)**
- **And the Chaldeans will certainly come back and fight against this city and capture it and burn it with fire. (**Jeremiah 37:8**)**
- **This is what Yehowah has said; Do not deceive your souls, saying; The Chaldeans will without fail go away from against us, because they will not go away. (**Jeremiah 37:9**)**
- **For if you men had struck down all the military force of the Chaldeans who are fighting you and there remained over among them men pierced through, they would each one in his tent rise up and actually burn this city with fire. (**Jeremiah 37:10**)**
- **The capital city, Jerusalem, was destroyed and Judah was laid waste by the Babylonians in 607 B.C.E.**
- **And it came about in the ninth year of his being king, in the tenth**

- month on the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon came, yes, he and all his military force, against Jerusalem and began camping against it and building against it a siege wall all around. (2 Kings 25:1)
- And the city came to be under siege until the eleventh year of King Zedekiah. (2 Kings 25:2)
 - On the ninth day of the fourth month the famine was severe in the city, and there proved to be no bread for the people of the land. (2 Kings 25:3)
 - And the city got to be breached, and all the men of war fled by night by the way of the gate between the double wall that is by the king's garden, while the Chaldeans were all around against the city, and the king began to go in the direction of the Arabah. (2 Kings 25:4)
 - And a military force of Chaldeans went chasing after the king, and they got to overtake him in the desert plains of Jericho, and all his own military force was scattered from his side. (2 Kings 25:5)
 - Then they seized the king and brought him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah, that they might pronounce a judicial decision upon him. (2 Kings 25:6)
 - And Zedekiah's sons they slaughtered before his eyes, and Zedekiah's eyes he blinded, after which he bound him with copper fetters and brought him to Babylon. (2 Kings 25:7)
 - And in the fifth month on the seventh day of the month, that is to say; the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan the chief of the bodyguard, the servant of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem. (2 Kings 25:8)
 - And he proceeded to burn the house of Yehowah and the king's house and all the houses of Jerusalem, and the house of every great man he burned with fire. (2 Kings 25:9)
 - And the walls of Jerusalem, all around, the entire military force of Chaldeans that were with the chief of the bodyguard pulled down. (2 Kings 25:10)

- **And the rest of the people that were left behind in the city and the deserters that had gone over to the king of Babylon and the rest of the crowd Nebuzaradan the chief of the bodyguard took into exile. (2 Kings 25:11)**
- **And some of the lowly people of the land the chief of the bodyguard let remain as vinedressers and compulsory laborers. (2 Kings 25:12)**
- **And the pillars of copper that were in the house of Yehowah, and the carriages and the copper sea that were in the house of Yehowah, the Chaldeans broke in pieces and went carrying the copper of them to Babylon. (2 Kings 25:13)**
- **And the censers and the shovels and the extinguishers and the cups and all the utensils of copper with which they used to minister they took. (2 Kings 25:14)**
- **And the chief of the bodyguard took the fire holders and the bowls that were of genuine gold and those that were of genuine silver. (2 Kings 25:15)**
- **As for the two pillars, the one sea and the carriages that Solomon had made for the house of Yehowah, there happened to be no way to tell the weight of the copper of all these utensils. (2 Kings 25:16)**
- **Eighteen cubits was the height of each pillar, and the capital upon it was of copper, and the height of the capital was three cubits, and the network and the pomegranates all around upon the capital, the whole of it, was copper, and the second pillar had the same as these upon the network. (2 Kings 25:17)**
- **Furthermore, the chief of the bodyguard took Seraiah the chief priest and Zephaniah the second priest and three doorkeepers. (2 Kings 25:18)**
- **And from the city he took one court official that had a command over the men of war, and five men from those having access to the king that were found in the city, and the secretary of the chief of the army, the one mustering the people of the land, and sixty men of the people of the land that were to be found in the city. (2 Kings 25:19)**

- **And Nebuzaradan the chief of the bodyguard then took them and conducted them to the king of Babylon at Riblah. (2 Kings 25:20)**
- **And the king of Babylon proceeded to strike them down and put them to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath. Thus Judah went into exile from off its soil. (2 Kings 25:21)**
- **As for the people left behind in the land of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had left behind, he now appointed over them Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan. (2 Kings 25:22)**
- **When all the chiefs of the military forces, they and their men, heard that the king of Babylon had appointed Gedaliah, they immediately came to Gedaliah at Mizpah, that is, Ishmael the son of Nethaniah and Johanan the son of Kareah and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth the Netophathite and Jaazaniah the son of the Maacathite, they and their men. (2 Kings 25:23)**
- **Then Gedaliah swore to them and their men and said to them; Do not be afraid of being servants to the Chaldeans. Dwell in the land and serve the king of Babylon, and it will go well with you. (2 Kings 25:24)**
- **And it came about in the seventh month that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah the son of Elishama of the royal offspring came, and also ten men with him, and they got to strike down Gedaliah, so that he died, and also the Jews and the Chaldeans that happened to be with him in Mizpah. (2 Kings 25:25)**
- **After that all the people, from small to great, and the chiefs of the military forces rose up and came into Egypt, for they had become afraid because of the Chaldeans. (2 Kings 25:26)**

·· Yehowah's Kingly Position Remains Unmarred

- **The destruction of the **kingdoms** of Israel and Judah in no way reflected on the quality of Yehowah God's own rulership, in no way did it indicate weakness on his part.**
- **Throughout the history of the Israelite nation, Yehowah made clear that his interest was in **willing** service and obedience.**
- **And now, O Israel, what is Yehowah your God asking of you, but**

- to fear Yehowah your God, so as to walk in all his ways and to love him and to serve Yehowah your God with all your heart and all your soul. (**Deuteronomy 10:12**)
- To keep the commandments of Yehowah and his statutes that I am commanding you today, for your good? (**Deuteronomy 10:13**)
 - Behold, to Yehowah your God belong the heavens, even the heavens of the heavens, the earth and all that is in it. (**Deuteronomy 10:14**)
 - Only to your forefathers did Yehowah get attached so as to love them, so that he chose their offspring after them, even you, out of all the peoples, as at this day. (**Deuteronomy 10:15**)
 - And you must circumcise the foreskin of your hearts and not harden your necks any longer. (**Deuteronomy 10:16**)
 - For Yehowah your God is the God of gods and the Lord of lords, the God great, mighty and fear-inspiring, who treats none with partiality nor accepts a bribe. (**Deuteronomy 10:17**)
 - Executing judgment for the fatherless boy and the widow and loving the alien resident so as to give him bread and a mantle. (**Deuteronomy 10:18**)
 - You too must love the alien resident, for you became alien residents in the land of Egypt. (**Deuteronomy 10:19**)
 - Yehowah your God you should fear. Him you should serve, and to him you should cling, and by his name you should make sworn statements. (**Deuteronomy 10:20**)
 - He is the One for you to praise, and he is your God, who has done with you these great and fear-inspiring things that your eyes have seen. (**Deuteronomy 10:21**)
 - And Yehowah your God will have to circumcise your heart and the heart of your offspring, that you may love Yehowah your God with all your heart and all your soul for the sake of your life. (**Deuteronomy 30:6**)
 - See, I do put before you today life and good, and death and bad. (**Deuteronomy 30:15**)

- **If you will listen to the commandments of Yehowah your God, which I am commanding you today, so as to love Yehowah your God, to walk in his ways and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judicial decisions, then you will be bound to keep alive and to multiply, and Yehowah your God must bless you in the land to which you are going to take possession of it. (Deuteronomy 30:16)**
- **But if your heart turns away and you do not listen, and you are actually seduced and bow down to other gods and serve them. (Deuteronomy 30:17)**
- **I do tell you today that you will positively perish. You will not lengthen your days on the ground to which you are crossing the Jordan to go to take possession of it. (Deuteronomy 30:18)**
- **I do take the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you today, that I have put life and death before you, the blessing and the malediction, and you must choose life in order, that you may keep alive, you and your offspring. (Deuteronomy 30:19)**
- **By loving Yehowah your God, by listening to his voice and by sticking to him, for he is your life and the length of your days, that you may dwell upon the ground that Yehowah swore to your forefathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob to give to them. (Deuteronomy 30:20)**
- **Come, now, you people, and let us set matters straight between us, says Yehowah. Though the sins of you people should prove to be as scarlet, they will be made white just like snow, though they should be red like crimson cloth, they will become even like wool. (Isaiah 1:18)**
- **If you people show willingness and do listen, the good of the land you will eat. (Isaiah 1:19)**
- **But if you people refuse and are actually rebellious, with a sword you will be eaten up, for the very mouth of Yehowah has spoken it. (Isaiah 1:20)**
- **And you people will certainly say; The way of Yehowah is not adjusted right. Hear, please, O house of Israel. Is not my own way adjusted right? Are not the ways of you people not adjusted**

right? (**Ezekiel 18:25**)

- **When someone righteous turns back from his righteousness and he actually does injustice and dies on account of them, for his injustice that he has done he will die. (**Ezekiel 18:26**)**
- **And when someone wicked turns back from his wickedness that he has committed and proceeds to execute justice and righteousness, he is the one that will preserve his own soul alive. (**Ezekiel 18:27**)**
- **When he sees and he turns back from all his transgressions that he has done, he will positively keep living. He will not die. (**Ezekiel 18:28**)**
- **And the house of Israel will certainly say; The way of Yehowah is not adjusted right. As for my ways, are they not adjusted right, O house of Israel? Are not the ways of you people the ones that are not adjusted right? (**Ezekiel 18:29**)**
- **Therefore each one according to his ways is how I shall judge you, O house of Israel, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah. Turn back, yes, cause a turning back from all your transgressions, and let nothing prove to be for you people a stumbling block causing error. (**Ezekiel 18:30**)**
- **Throw off from yourselves all your transgressions in which you have transgressed and make for yourselves a new heart and a new spirit, for why should you die, O house of Israel? (**Ezekiel 18:31**)**
- **For I do not take any delight in the death of someone dying, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah. So cause a turning back and keep living, O you people. (**Ezekiel 18:32**)**
- **He instructed, reprovved, disciplined, warned, and punished. But he did not use his power to force either the king or the people to follow a righteous course.**
- **The bad conditions that developed, the suffering experienced, the disaster that befell them, were all of their own making, because they stubbornly hardened their hearts and insisted on following an independent course, one that was stupidly damaging to their own best interests.**

- **Jerusalem has committed outright sin. That is why she has become a mere abhorrent thing. All who were honoring her have treated her as something cheap, for they have seen her nakedness. She herself is also sighing and turns her back. (Lamentations 1:8)**
- **Her uncleanness is in her skirts. She did not remember the future for her, and down she goes in a wondrous manner. No comforter does she have. O Yehowah, see my affliction, for the enemy has put on great airs. (Lamentations 1:9)**
- **However, they became disobedient and rebelled against you and kept casting your Law behind their back, and your own prophets they killed, who bore witness against them to bring them back to you, and they went on committing acts of great disrespect. (Nehemiah 9:26)**
- **For this you gave them into the hand of their adversaries, who kept causing them distress, but in the time of their distress they would cry out to you, and you yourself would hear from the very heavens, and in accord with your abundant mercy you would give them saviors who would save them out of the hand of their adversaries. (Nehemiah 9:27)**
- **But as soon as they were at rest, they would again do what is bad before you, and you would leave them to the hand of their enemies, who would tread them down. Then they would return and call to you for aid, and you yourself would hear from the very heavens and deliver them in accord with your abundant mercy, time and again. (Nehemiah 9:28)**
- **Although you would bear witness against them to bring them back to your law, they themselves even acted presumptuously and did not listen to your commandments, and against your own judicial decisions they sinned, which, if a man will do, he must also live by means of them. And they kept giving a stubborn shoulder, and their neck they hardened, and they did not listen. (Nehemiah 9:29)**
- **But you were indulgent with them for many years and kept bearing witness against them by your spirit by means of your prophets, and they did not give ear. Finally you gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands. (Nehemiah 9:30)**

- **And in your abundant mercy you did not make an extermination of them or leave them, for you are a God gracious and merciful. (Nehemiah 9:31)**
- **As for our kings, our princes, our priests and our forefathers, they have not performed your Law, nor paid attention to your commandments or to your testimonies with which you bore witness against them. (Nehemiah 9:34)**
- **And they themselves, during their **kingdom** and amid your abundant good things that you gave to them and in the broad and fat land that you made available for them, they did not serve you and did not turn back from their bad practices. (Nehemiah 9:35)**
- **Look! We are today slaves, and as for the land that you gave to our forefathers to eat its fruitage and its good things, look! We are slaves upon it. (Nehemiah 9:36)**
- **And its produce is abounding for the kings that you have put over us because of our sins, and over our bodies they are ruling and over our domestic animals, according to their liking, and we are in great distress. (Nehemiah 9:37)**
- **Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth, for Yehowah himself has spoken; Sons I have brought up and raised, but they themselves have revolted against me. (Isaiah 1:2)**
- **A bull well knows its buyer, and the ass the manger of its owner, Israel itself has not known, my own people have not behaved understandingly. (Isaiah 1:3)**
- **Woe to the sinful nation, the people heavy with error, an evildoing seed, ruinous sons! They have left Yehowah, they have treated the Holy One of Israel with disrespect, they have turned backwards. (Isaiah 1:4)**
- **Where else will you be struck still more, in that you add more revolt? The whole head is in a sick condition, and the whole heart is feeble. (Isaiah 1:5)**
- **From the sole of the foot even to the head there is no sound spot in it. Wounds and bruises and fresh stripes, they have not been**

squeezed out or bound up, nor has there been a softening with oil. (**Isaiah 1:6**)

- **Your land is a desolation, your cities are burned with fire, your ground, right in front of you strangers are eating it up, and the desolation is like an overthrow by strangers. (**Isaiah 1:7**)**
- **Why is it that this people, Jerusalem, is unfaithful with an enduring unfaithfulness? They have taken hold of trickiness, they have refused to turn back. (**Jeremiah 8:5**)**
- **I have paid attention, and I kept listening. It was not right the way they kept speaking. There was not a man repenting over his badness, saying; What have I done? Each one is going back into the popular course, like a horse that is dashing into the battle. (**Jeremiah 8:6**)**
- **Even the stork in the heavens, it well knows its appointed times, and the turtledove and the swift and the bulbul, they observe well the time of each ones coming in. But as for my people, they have not come to know the judgment of Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 8:7**)**
- **How can you men say; We are wise, and the Law of Yehowah is with us? Surely, now, the false stylus of the secretaries has worked in sheer falsehood. (**Jeremiah 8:8**)**
- **The wise ones have become ashamed. They have become terrified and will be caught. Look! They have rejected the very word of Yehowah, and what wisdom do they have? (**Jeremiah 8:9**)**
- **And the pride of Israel has testified to his face, and they have not returned to Yehowah their God, nor have they looked for him because of all this. (**Hosea 7:10**)**
- **And Ephraim proves to be like a simpleminded dove without heart. To Egypt they have called, to Assyria they have gone. (**Hosea 7:11**)**
- **Yehowah exhibited his Sovereign power by holding in abeyance the aggressive, rapacious powers of Assyria and Babylon until his own due time, even maneuvering them so that they acted in fulfillment of his prophecies.**

- **And the word of Yehowah continued to occur to me, saying; (Ezekiel 21:18)**
- **And as for you, O son of man, set for yourself two ways for the sword of the king of Babylon to enter. From the one land both of them should go forth, and an index hand should be cut out, at the head of the way to the city it should be cut out. (Ezekiel 21:19)**
- **A way you should set for the sword to enter against Rabbah of the sons of Ammon, and one against Judah, against Jerusalem fortified. (Ezekiel 21:20)**
- **For the king of Babylon stood still at the cross-ways, at the head of the two ways, in order to resort to divination. He has shaken the arrows. He has asked by means of the teraphim, he has looked into the liver. (Ezekiel 21:21)**
- **In his right hand the divination proved to be for Jerusalem, to set battering rams, to open ones mouth for a slaying, to raise the sound in an alarm signal, to set battering rams against gates, to throw up a siege rampart, to build a siege wall. (Ezekiel 21:22)**
- **And it has become to them like an untrue divination in their eyes, those who are sworn with oaths to them, and he is calling error to remembrance, in order for them to be caught. (Ezekiel 21:23)**
- **Aha, the Assyrian, the rod for my anger, and the stick that is in their hand for my denunciation! (Isaiah 10:5)**
- **Against an apostate nation I shall send him, and against the people of my fury I shall issue a command to him, to take much spoil and to take much plunder and to make it a trampling place like the clay of the streets. (Isaiah 10:6)**
- **Though he may not be that way, he will feel inclined, though his heart may not be that way, he will scheme, because to annihilate is in his heart, and to cut off nations not a few. (Isaiah 10:7)**
- **When Yehowah finally removed his defenses from around the nation, it was an expression of his righteous judgment as Sovereign Ruler.**
- **Therefore this is what Yehowah, the God of armies, the God of**

Israel, has said; Here I am bringing upon Judah and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the calamity that I have spoken against them, for the reason that I have spoken to them but they did not listen, and I kept calling to them but they did not answer. (Jeremiah 35:17)

- **The desolation of Israel and Judah came as no shocking surprise to God's obedient servants who were forewarned by his prophecies. The abasing of haughty rulers exalted Yehowah's own splendid superiority.**
- **The thing that Isaiah the son of Amoz visioned concerning Judah and Jerusalem. (Isaiah 2:1)**
- **Enter into the rock and hide yourself in the dust because of the dreadfulness of Yehowah, and from his splendid superiority. (Isaiah 2:10)**
- **The haughty eyes of earthling man must become low, and the loftiness of men must bow down, and Yehowah alone must be put on high in that day. (Isaiah 2:11)**
- **For it is the day belonging to Yehowah of armies. It is upon everyone self-exalted and lofty and upon everyone lifted up or low. (Isaiah 2:12)**
- **And upon all the cedars of Lebanon that are lofty and lifted up and upon all the massive trees of Bashan. (Isaiah 2:13)**
- **And upon all the lofty mountains and upon all the hills that are lifted up. (Isaiah 2:14)**
- **And upon every high tower and upon every fortified wall. (Isaiah 2:15)**
- **And upon all the ships of Tarshish and upon all desirable boats. (Isaiah 2:16)**
- **And the haughtiness of the earthling man must bow down, and the loftiness of men must become low, and Yehowah alone must be put on high in that day. (Isaiah 2:17)**
- **More than all of this, however, he had demonstrated his ability to protect and preserve individuals who looked to him as their King, even**

when they were surrounded by conditions of famine, disease, and wholesale slaughter, as well as when they were persecuted by those hating righteousness.

- **Therefore this is what Yehowah has said; You yourselves have not obeyed me in keeping on proclaiming liberty each one to his brother and each one to his companion. Here I am proclaiming to you a liberty, is the utterance of Yehowah, to the sword, to the pestilence and to the famine, and I shall certainly give you for a quaking to all the **kingdoms** of the earth. (**Jeremiah 34:17**)**
- **And I will give the men sidestepping my covenant, in that they did not carry out the words of the covenant that they concluded before me with the calf that they cut in two that they might pass between its pieces. (**Jeremiah 34:18**)**
- **Namely, the princes of Judah and the princes of Jerusalem, the court officials and the priests and all the people of the land who went passing between the pieces of the calf. (**Jeremiah 34:19**)**
- **Yes, I will give them into the hand of their enemies and into the hand of those seeking for their soul, and their dead bodies must become food for the flying creatures of the heavens and for the beasts of the earth. (**Jeremiah 34:20**)**
- **And Zedekiah the king of Judah and his princes I shall give into the hand of their enemies and into the hand of those seeking for their soul and into the hand of the military forces of the king of Babylon who are withdrawing from against you men. (**Jeremiah 34:21**)**
- **For I heard the bad report of many. There was fright all around. Tell out, that we may tell out about him. Every mortal man bidding me; Peace! They are watching for my limping. Perhaps he will be fooled, so that we may prevail against him and take our revenge upon him. (**Jeremiah 20:10**)**
- **But Yehowah was with me like a terrible mighty one. That is why the very ones persecuting me will stumble and not prevail. They will certainly be put to much shame, because they will not have prospered. Their indefinitely lasting humiliation will be one that will not be forgotten. (**Jeremiah 20:11**)**
- **And to the household of the Rechabites Jeremiah said; This is**

- what Yehowah of armies, the God of Israel, has said; For the reason that you have obeyed the commandment of Jehonadab your forefather and continue keeping all his commandments and doing according to all that he commanded you. (**Jeremiah 35:18**)
- Therefore this is what Yehowah of armies, the God of Israel, has said; There will not be cut off from Jonadab the son of Rechab a man to stand before me always. (**Jeremiah 35:19**)
 - Further, the king commanded Jerahmeel the son of the king and Seraiah the son of Azriel and Shelemiah the son of Abdeel to get Baruch the secretary and Jeremiah the prophet. But Yehowah kept them concealed. (**Jeremiah 36:26**)
 - Then Jeremiah said to King Zedekiah; In what way have I sinned against you and against your servants and against this people, so that you men have put me into the house of detention? (**Jeremiah 37:18**)
 - Where, now, are your prophets who prophesied to you, saying; The king of Babylon will not come against you men and against this land? (**Jeremiah 37:19**)
 - And now listen, please, O my lord the king. May my request for favor, please, fall before you, and do not send me back to the house of Jehonathan the secretary, that I may not die there. (**Jeremiah 37:20**)
 - Accordingly King Zedekiah commanded, and they then put Jeremiah in custody in the Courtyard of the Guard, and there was a giving of a round loaf of bread to him daily from the street of the bakers, until all the bread was exhausted from the city. And Jeremiah continued dwelling in the Courtyard of the Guard. (**Jeremiah 37:21**)
 - And Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, a man who was a eunuch and who was in the house of the king, got to hear that they had put Jeremiah into the cistern, and the king was sitting in the Gate of Benjamin. (**Jeremiah 38:7**)
 - So Ebed-melech went out of the house of the king and spoke to the king, saying; (**Jeremiah 38:8**)
 - O my lord the king, these men have done bad in all that they

have done to Jeremiah the prophet, whom they have thrown into the cistern, so that he will die where he is because of the famine. For there is no bread anymore in the city. (**Jeremiah 38:9**)

- Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, saying; Take in your charge from this place thirty men, and you must get Jeremiah the prophet up out of the cistern before he dies. (**Jeremiah 38:10**)
- Accordingly Ebed-melech took the men in his charge and went into the house of the king to beneath the treasury and took from there worn-out rags and worn-out pieces of cloth and let them down to Jeremiah into the cistern by means of the ropes. (**Jeremiah 38:11**)
- Then Ebed-melech the Ethiopian said to Jeremiah; Put, please, the worn-out rags and the pieces of cloth under your armpits beneath the ropes. Jeremiah now did so. (**Jeremiah 38:12**)
- Finally they drew out Jeremiah by means of the ropes and brought him up out of the cistern. And Jeremiah continued to dwell in the Courtyard of the Guard. (**Jeremiah 38:13**)
- Furthermore, Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon gave command concerning Jeremiah by means of Nebuzaradan the chief of the bodyguard, saying; (**Jeremiah 39:11**)
- And he was yet not one that would return, when Nebuzaradan said; Do return to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, whom the king of Babylon has commissioned over the cities of Judah, and dwell with him in the midst of the people, or to wherever it is right in your eyes to go, go. And the chief of the bodyguard then gave him a food allowance and a present and let him go. (**Jeremiah 40:5**)
- Israel's last king was warned of the coming removal of his crown, representing anointed kingship as Yehowah's royal representative. That anointed Davidic kingship would no longer be exercised until he comes who has the legal right, and I Yehowah must give it to him.
- And as for you, O deadly wounded, wicked chieftain of Israel, whose day has come in the time of the error of the end. (**Ezekiel 21:25**)

- This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Remove the turban, and lift off the crown. This will not be the same. Put on high even what is low, and bring low even the high one. (**Ezekiel 21:26**)
- A ruin, a ruin, a ruin I shall make it. As for this also, it will certainly become no one's until he comes who has the legal right, and I must give it to him. (**Ezekiel 21:27**)
- Thus, the typical **kingdom**, now in ruins, ceased to function, and attention was again directed forward, toward the coming, **seed**, the Messiah.
- Political nations, such as Assyria and Babylon, devastated the apostate **kingdoms** of Israel and Judah. Though God speaks of himself as raising up or bringing them against those condemned kingdoms.
- Yehowah will raise up against you a nation far away, from the end of the earth, just as an eagle pounces, a nation whose tongue you will not understand. (**Deuteronomy 28:49**)
- Here I am bringing in upon you men a nation from far away, O house of Israel, is the utterance of Yehowah. It is an enduring nation. It is a nation of long ago, a nation whose language you do not know, and you cannot hear understandingly what they speak. (**Jeremiah 5:15**)
- Therefore this is what Yehowah of armies has said; For the reason that you did not obey my words. (**Jeremiah 25:8**)
- Here I am sending and I will take all the families of the north, is the utterance of Yehowah, even sending to Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and I will bring them against this land and against its inhabitants and against all these nations round about, and I will devote them to destruction and make them an object of astonishment and something to whistle at and places devastated to time indefinite. (**Jeremiah 25:9**)
- And I will bring in the worst ones of the nations, and they will certainly take possession of their houses, and I will cause the pride of the strong ones to cease, and their sanctuaries must be profaned. (**Ezekiel 7:24**)

- **Look! I am raising up against you, O house of Israel, is the utterance of Yehowah the God of the armies, a nation, and they must oppress you people from the entering in of Hamath down to the torrent valley of the Arabah. (Amos 6:14)**
- **This was evidently in a sense similar to God's hardening the heart of Pharaoh. That is, God brought these attacking forces by permitting them to carry out the desire already in their heart.**
- **Though he may not be that way, he will feel inclined, though his heart may not be that way, he will scheme, because to annihilate is in his heart, and to cut off nations not a few. (Isaiah 10:7)**
- **At you all your enemies have opened their mouth. They have whistled and kept grinding the teeth. They have said; We will swallow her down. This indeed is the day that we have hoped for. We have found! We have seen! (Lamentations 2:16)**
- **And now there will certainly be gathered against you many nations, those who are saying; Let her be polluted, and may our eyes look upon Zion. (Micah 4:11)**
- **Removing his protective hand from over the objects of their ambitious greed.**
- **At that my anger will indeed blaze against them in that day, and I shall certainly forsake them and conceal my face from them, and they must become something to be consumed, and many calamities and distresses must come upon them, and they will be bound to say in that day; Is it not because our God is not in our midst that these calamities have come upon us? (Deuteronomy 31:17)**
- **As for me, I shall absolutely conceal my face in that day because of all the badness that they have done, because they have turned to other gods. (Deuteronomy 31:18)**
- **However, because our fathers irritated the God of the heavens, he gave them into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, the Chaldean, and he demolished this house and took the people into exile at Babylon. (Ezra 5:12)**
- **But as soon as they were at rest, they would again do what is bad before you, and you would leave them to the hand of their**

- enemies, who would tread them down. Then they would return and call to you for aid, and you yourself would hear from the very heavens and deliver them in accord with your abundant mercy, time and again. (**Nehemiah 9:28**)
- Although you would bear witness against them to bring them back to your law, they themselves even acted presumptuously and did not listen to your commandments, and against your own judicial decisions they sinned, which, if a man will do, he must also live by means of them. And they kept giving a stubborn shoulder, and their neck they hardened, and they did not listen. (**Nehemiah 9:29**)
 - But you were indulgent with them for many years and kept bearing witness against them by your spirit by means of your prophets, and they did not give ear. Finally you gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands. (**Nehemiah 9:30**)
 - And in your abundant mercy you did not make an extermination of them or leave them, for you are a God gracious and merciful. (**Nehemiah 9:31**)
 - This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; Go, and you must say to Zedekiah the king of Judah, yes, you must say to him; This is what Yehowah has said; Here I am giving this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he must burn it with fire. (**Jeremiah 34:2**)
 - The apostate Israelites, stubbornly refusing to subject themselves to Yehowah's Law and will, thus were given liberty to the sword, pestilence, and famine.
 - Therefore this is what Yehowah has said; You yourselves have not obeyed me in keeping on proclaiming liberty each one to his brother and each one to his companion. Here I am proclaiming to you a liberty, is the utterance of Yehowah, to the sword, to the pestilence and to the famine, and I shall certainly give you for a quaking to all the **kingdoms** of the earth. (**Jeremiah 34:17**)
 - But the attacking pagan nations did not thereby become approved of God, nor did they have clean hands before him in their ruthless destruction of the northern and southern **kingdoms**, the capital city of Jerusalem, and its sacred temple.

- Hence, Yehowah, the Judge of all the earth, could rightly denounce them for pillaging his inheritance and could doom them to suffer the same desolation they had wreaked on his covenant people.
- And it must occur that when Yehowah terminates all his work in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, I shall make an accounting for the fruitage of the insolence of the heart of the king of Assyria and for the self-importance of his loftiness of eyes. ([Isaiah 10:12](#))
- For he has said; With the power of my hand I shall certainly act, and with my wisdom, for I do have understanding, and I shall remove the boundaries of peoples, and their things stored up I shall certainly pillage, and I shall bring down the inhabitants just like a powerful one. ([Isaiah 10:13](#))
- And just as if a nest, my hand will reach the resources of the peoples, and just as when one gathers eggs that have been left, I myself will gather up even all the earth, and there will certainly be no one fluttering his wings or opening his mouth or chirping. ([Isaiah 10:14](#))
- The pronouncement against Babylon that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw in vision! ([Isaiah 13:1](#))
- Here I am arousing against them the Medes, who account silver itself as nothing and who, as respects gold, take no delight in it. ([Isaiah 13:17](#))
- And their bows will dash even young men to pieces. And the fruitage of the belly they will not pity, for sons their eye will not feel sorry. ([Isaiah 13:18](#))
- And Babylon, the decoration of **kingdoms**, the beauty of the pride of the Chaldeans, must become as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. ([Isaiah 13:19](#))
- She will never be inhabited, nor will she reside for generation after generation. And there the Arab will not pitch his tent, and no shepherds will let their flocks lie down there. ([Isaiah 13:20](#))
- And there the haunters of waterless regions will certainly lie down, and their houses must be filled with eagle owls. And there the ostriches must reside, and goat-shaped demons themselves will go skipping about there. ([Isaiah 13:21](#))

- **And jackals must howl in her dwelling towers, and the big snake will be in the palaces of exquisite delight. And the season for her is near to come, and her days themselves will not be postponed. (Isaiah 13:22)**
- **That you must raise up this proverbial saying against the king of Babylon and say; How has the one driving others to work come to a stop, the oppression come to a stop! (Isaiah 14:4)**
- **Yehowah has broken the rod of the wicked ones, the staff of the ruling ones. (Isaiah 14:5)**
- **The one striking peoples in fury with a stroke incessantly, the one subduing nations in sheer anger with a persecution without restraint. (Isaiah 14:6)**
- **O how you have fallen from heaven, you shining one, son of the dawn! How you have been cut down to the earth, you who were disabling the nations! (Isaiah 14:12)**
- **As for you, you have said in your heart; To the heavens I shall go up. Above the stars of God I shall lift up my throne, and I shall sit down upon the mountain of meeting, in the remotest parts of the north. (Isaiah 14:13)**
- **I shall go up above the high places of the clouds, I shall make myself resemble the Most High. (Isaiah 14:14)**
- **This is the counsel that is counseled against all the earth, and this is the hand that is stretched out against all the nations. (Isaiah 14:26)**
- **For Yehowah of armies himself has counseled, and who can break it up? And his hand is the one stretched out, and who can turn it back? (Isaiah 14:27)**
- **Sit down silently and come into the darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans, for you will not experience again that people call you Mistress of **Kingdoms**. (Isaiah 47:5)**
- **I grew indignant at my people. I profaned my inheritance, and I proceeded to give them into your hand. You showed them no mercies. Upon the old man you made your yoke very heavy.**

(Isaiah 47:6)

- **And you kept saying; To time indefinite I shall prove to be Mistress, forever. You did not take these things to your heart; You did not remember the finale of the matter. (Isaiah 47:7)**
- **And now hear this, you pleasure-given woman, the one sitting in security, the one saying in her heart; I am, and there is nobody else. I shall not sit as a widow, and I shall not know the loss of children. (Isaiah 47:8)**
- **But to you these two things will come suddenly, in one day, loss of children and widowhood. In their complete measure they must come upon you, for the abundance of your sorceries, for the full might of your spells, exceedingly. (Isaiah 47:9)**
- **And you kept trusting in your badness. You have said; There is no one seeing me. Your wisdom and your knowledge, this is what has led you away, and you keep saying in your heart; I am, and there is nobody else. (Isaiah 47:10)**
- **And upon you calamity must come. You will know no charming against it. And upon you adversity will fall. You will not be able to avert it. And upon you there will suddenly come a ruin that you are not accustomed to know. (Isaiah 47:11)**
- **For you men kept rejoicing, for you men kept exulting when pillaging my own inheritance. For you kept pawing like a heifer in the tender grass, and you kept neighing like stallions. (Jeremiah 50:11)**
- **Array yourselves against Babylon on every side, all you who are treading the bow. Shoot at her. Spare no arrow, for it is against Yehowah that she has sinned. (Jeremiah 50:14)**
- **Israel is a scattered sheep. Lions themselves have done the dispersing. In the first instance the king of Assyria has devoured him, and in this latter instance Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon has gnawed on his bones. (Jeremiah 50:17)**
- **Therefore this is what Yehowah of armies, the God of Israel, has said; Here I am turning my attention upon the king of Babylon and upon his land in the same way that I turned my attention upon the king of Assyria. (Jeremiah 50:18)**

- **And I will bring Israel back to his pasture ground, and he will certainly graze on Carmel and on Bashan, and in the mountainous region of Ephraim and of Gilead his soul will be satisfied. (Jeremiah 50:19)**
- **O how the forge hammer of all the earth has been cut down and gets broken! O how Babylon has become a mere object of astonishment among the nations! (Jeremiah 50:23)**
- **I have laid a snare for you and you have also been caught, O Babylon, and you yourself did not know it. You were found and also taken hold of, for it was against Yehowah that you excited yourself. (Jeremiah 50:24)**
- **Yehowah has opened his storehouse, and he brings forth the weapons of his denunciation. For there is a work that the Sovereign Lord, Yehowah of armies, has in the land of the Chaldeans. (Jeremiah 50:25)**
- **Come in to her from the farthest part. Open up her granaries. Bank her up, just like those making heaps, and devote her to destruction. May she not come to have any remaining ones. (Jeremiah 50:26)**
- **Massacre all her young bulls. May they go down to the slaughter. Woe to them, for their day has come, the time for their being given attention! (Jeremiah 50:27)**
- **There is the sound of those fleeing and those escaping from the land of Babylon to tell out in Zion the vengeance of Yehowah our God, the vengeance for his temple. (Jeremiah 50:28)**
- **Summon against Babylon archers, all who are treading the bow. Encamp against her all around. May there prove to be no escapees. Pay back to her according to her activity. According to all that she has done, do to her. For it is against Yehowah that she has acted presumptuously, against the Holy One of Israel. (Jeremiah 50:29)**

See Also FOREKNOWLEDGE, FOREORDINATION (Concerning individuals)

.. Visions Of Kingdom Of God In Daniel's Day

- The prophecy of Daniel in its entirety emphatically stresses the theme of the Universal Sovereignty of God, further clarifying Yehowah's purpose.
- Living in exile in the capital of the world power that overthrew Judah, Daniel was used by God to reveal the significance of a vision had by the Babylonian monarch, a vision that foretold the march of world powers and their eventual demolition by the everlasting **Kingdom** of Yehowah's own establishment.
- Doubtless to the amazement of his royal court, Nebuchadnezzar, the very conqueror of Jerusalem, was now moved to prostrate himself in homage to Daniel the exile and to acknowledge Daniel's God as a Lord of kings. ([Daniel Chapter 4](#))
- This is the dream, and its interpretation we shall say before the king. ([Daniel 2:36](#))
- You, O king, the king of kings, you to whom the God of heaven has given the **kingdom**, the might, and the strength and the dignity. ([Daniel 2:37](#))
- And into whose hand he has given, wherever the sons of mankind are dwelling, the beasts of the field and the winged creatures of the heavens, and whom he has made ruler over all of them, you yourself are the head of gold. ([Daniel 2:38](#))
- And after you there will rise another **kingdom** inferior to you, and another kingdom, a third one, of copper, that will rule over the whole earth. ([Daniel 2:39](#))
- And as for the fourth **kingdom**, it will prove to be strong like iron. Forasmuch as iron is crushing and grinding everything else, so, like iron that shatters, it will crush and shatter even all these. ([Daniel 2:40](#))
- And whereas you beheld the feet and the toes to be partly of molded clay of a potter and partly of iron, the **kingdom** itself will prove to be divided, but somewhat of the hardness of iron will prove to be in it, forasmuch as you beheld the iron mixed with moist clay. ([Daniel 2:41](#))
- And as for the toes of the feet being partly of iron and partly of

molded clay, the **kingdom** will partly prove to be strong and will partly prove to be fragile. ([Daniel 2:42](#))

- Whereas you beheld iron mixed with moist clay, they will come to be mixed with the offspring of mankind, but they will not prove to be sticking together, this one to that one, just as iron is not mixing with molded clay. ([Daniel 2:43](#))
- And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a **kingdom** that will never be brought to ruin. And the kingdom itself will not be passed on to any other people. It will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, and it itself will stand to times indefinite. ([Daniel 2:44](#))
- Forasmuch as you beheld that out of the mountain a stone was cut not by hands, and that it crushed the iron, the copper, the molded clay, the silver and the gold. The grand God himself has made known to the king what is to occur after this. And the dream is reliable, and the interpretation of it is trustworthy. ([Daniel 2:45](#))
- At that time King Nebuchadnezzar himself fell down upon his face, and to Daniel he paid homage, and he said to offer even a present and incense to him. ([Daniel 2:46](#))
- The king was answering Daniel and saying; Truly the God of you men is a God of gods and a Lord of kings and a Revealer of secrets, because you were able to reveal this secret. ([Daniel 2:47](#))
- Again, by Nebuchadnezzar's dream vision of the chopped-down tree, Yehowah forcefully made known that, the Most High is Ruler in the **kingdom** of mankind and that to the one whom he wants to, he gives it and he sets up over it even the lowliest one of mankind.
- Through the fulfillment of the dream as it related to him, imperial ruler Nebuchadnezzar once more was brought to recognize Daniel's God as, **the King of the heavens**, the One who is doing according to his own will among the army of the heavens and the inhabitants of the earth. And there exists no one that can check his hand or that can say to him, What have you been doing?

See Also APPOINTED TIMES OF THE NATIONS.

- And at the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted up to the heavens my eyes, and my own understanding began to return to me, and I blessed the Most High himself, and the One living to time indefinite I praised and glorified, because his rulership is a rulership to time indefinite and his **kingdom** is for generation after generation. ([Daniel 4:34](#))
- And all the inhabitants of the earth are being considered as merely nothing, and he is doing according to his own will among the army of the heavens and the inhabitants of the earth. And there exists no one that can check his hand or that can say to him, What have you been doing? ([Daniel 4:35](#))
- At the same time my understanding itself began to return to me, and for the dignity of my **kingdom** my majesty and my brightness themselves began to return to me, and for me even my high royal officers and my grandees began eagerly searching, and I was reestablished upon my own kingdom, and greatness extraordinary was added to me. ([Daniel 4:36](#))
- Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, am praising and exalting and glorifying the King of the heavens, because all his works are truth and his ways are justice, and because those who are walking in pride he is able to humiliate. ([Daniel 4:37](#))
- Toward the close of Babylon's international dominance, Daniel saw prophetic visions of successive empires, beastlike in their characteristics, he saw also Yehowah's majestic heavenly Court in session, passing judgment on the world powers, decreeing them unworthy of rulership, and he beheld, someone like a son of man being given rulership and dignity and **kingdom**, that the peoples, national groups and languages should all serve even him, in his indefinitely lasting rulership that will not pass away.
- He witnessed as well the war waged against, the holy ones, by the final world power, calling for its annihilation, and the giving of the **kingdom and the rulership and the grandeur of the kingdoms under all the heavens** to the people who are the holy ones of the Supreme One, Yehowah God. ([Daniel Chapters 7,8](#))
- Thus, it became evident that the promised **seed** would involve a **governmental body** with not only a kingly head, the Son Of Man, but also associate rulers, the holy ones of the Supreme One.

•• Toward Babylon And Medo-Persia

- **God's inexorable decree against mighty Babylon was carried out suddenly and unexpectedly, her days were numbered and brought to a finish.**
- **At that time Daniel was answering and saying before the king; Let your gifts prove to be to you yourself, and your presents do you give to others. However, I shall read the writing itself to the king, and the interpretation I shall make known to him. (Daniel 5:17)**
- **As for you, O king, the Most High God himself gave to Nebuchadnezzar your father the **kingdom** and the greatness and the dignity and the majesty. (Daniel 5:18)**
- **And because of the greatness that He gave him, all peoples, national groups and languages proved to be quaking and showing fear before him. Whom he happened to want to, he was killing, and whom he happened to want to, he was striking, and whom he happened to want to, he was exalting, and whom he happened to want to, he was humiliating. (Daniel 5:19)**
- **But when his heart became haughty and his own spirit became hard, so as to act presumptuously, he was brought down from the throne of his **kingdom**, and his own dignity was taken away from him. (Daniel 5:20)**
- **And from the sons of mankind he was driven away, and his very heart was made like that of a beast, and with the wild asses his dwelling was. Vegetation they would give him to eat just like bulls, and with the dew of the heavens his own body got to be wet, until he knew that the Most High God is Ruler in the **kingdom** of mankind, and that the one whom he wants to, he sets up over it. (Daniel 5:21)**
- **And as for you, his son Belshazzar, you have not humbled your heart, although you knew all this. (Daniel 5:22)**
- **But against the Lord of the heavens you exalted yourself, and they brought before you even the vessels of his house, and you yourself and your grandees, your concubines and your secondary wives have been drinking wine from them, and you have praised mere gods of silver and of gold, copper, iron, wood and stone,**

- that are beholding nothing or hearing nothing or knowing nothing, but the God in whose hand your breath is and to whom all your ways belong you have not glorified. (**Daniel 5:23**)
- Consequently from before him there was being sent the back of a hand, and this very writing was inscribed. (**Daniel 5:24**)
 - And this is the writing that was inscribed. Mene, Mene, Tekel and Parsin. (**Daniel 5:25**)
 - This is the interpretation of the word, Mene, God has numbered the days of your **kingdom** and has finished it. (**Daniel 5:26**)
 - Tekel, you have been weighed in the balances and have been found deficient. (**Daniel 5:27**)
 - Peres, your **kingdom** has been divided and given to the Medes and the Persians. (**Daniel 5:28**)
 - At that time Belshazzar commanded, and they clothed Daniel with purple, with a necklace of gold about his neck, and they heralded concerning him that he was to become the third ruler in the **kingdom**. (**Daniel 5:29**)
 - In that very night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was killed (**Daniel 5:30**)
 - During the Medo-Persian rule that followed, Yehowah made further revelation concerning the Messianic **Kingdom**, pointing to the time of Messiah's appearance, foretelling his being, cut off, as well as a second destruction of the city of Jerusalem and its holy place.
 - In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus of the seed of the Medes, who had been made king over the **kingdom** of the Chaldeans. (**Daniel 9:1**)
 - There are seventy weeks that have been determined upon your people and upon your holy city, in order to terminate the transgression, and to finish off sin, and to make atonement for error, and to bring in righteousness for times indefinite, and to imprint a seal upon vision and prophet, and to anoint the Holy of Holies. (**Daniel 9:24**)
 - And you should know and have the insight that from the going

- forth of the word to restore and to rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Leader, there will be seven weeks, also sixty-two weeks. She will return and be actually rebuilt, with a public square and moat, but in the straits of the times. (**Daniel 9:25**)
- **And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah will be cut off, with nothing for himself. And the city and the holy place the people of a leader that is coming will bring to their ruin. And the end of it will be by the flood. And until the end there will be war, what is decided upon is desolations. (**Daniel 9:26**)**
 - **And he must keep the covenant in force for the many for one week, and at the half of the week he will cause sacrifice and gift offering to cease. And upon the wing of disgusting things there will be the one causing desolation, and until an extermination, the very thing decided upon will go pouring out also upon the one lying desolate. (**Daniel 9:27**)**
 - **And, as he had done during the Babylonian rule, Yehowah God again demonstrated his ability to protect those recognizing his sovereignty in the face of official anger and the threat of death, exhibiting his power over both earthly elements and wild beasts.**
 - **At that time Nebuchadnezzar, in a rage and fury, said to bring in Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. Consequently these able-bodied men were brought in before the king. (**Daniel 3:13**)**
 - **Nebuchadnezzar was answering and saying to them; Is it really so, O Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you are not serving my own gods, and the image of gold that I have set up you are not worshipping? (**Daniel 3:14**)**
 - **Now if you are ready so that when you hear the sound of the horn, the pipe, the zither, the triangular harp, the stringed instrument, and the bagpipe and all sorts of musical instruments, you fall down and worship the image that I have made, all right. But if you do not worship, at that same moment you will be thrown into the burning fiery furnace. And who is that god that can rescue you out of my hands? (**Daniel 3:15**)**
 - **Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego answered, and they were saying to the king; O Nebuchadnezzar, we are under no necessity in this regard to say back a word to you. (**Daniel 3:16**)**

- **If it is to be, our God whom we are serving is able to rescue us. Out of the burning fiery furnace and out of your hand, O king, he will rescue us. (Daniel 3:17)**
- **But if not, let it become known to you, O king, that your gods are not the ones we are serving, and the image of gold that you have set up we will not worship. (Daniel 3:18)**
- **Then it was that Nebuchadnezzar himself got filled with fury, and the very expression of his face was changed toward Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. He was answering and saying to heat up the furnace seven times more than it was customary to heat it up. (Daniel 3:19)**
- **And to certain able-bodied men of vital energy who were in his military force he said to bind Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, in order to throw them into the burning fiery furnace. (Daniel 3:20)**
- **Then it was that these able-bodied men were bound in their mantles, their garments and their caps and their other clothing and were thrown into the burning fiery furnace. (Daniel 3:21)**
- **Just because the king's word was harsh and the furnace was heated to excess, these able-bodied men that took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were the ones that the fiery flame killed. (Daniel 3:22)**
- **But these other able-bodied men, the three of them, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, fell down bound in the midst of the burning fiery furnace. (Daniel 3:23)**
- **At that time Nebuchadnezzar the king himself became frightened and he rose up in a hurry. He was answering and saying to his high royal officials; Was it not three able-bodied men that we threw bound into the midst of the fire? They were answering and saying to the king; Yes, O king. (Daniel 3:24)**
- **He was answering and saying; Look! I am beholding four able-bodied men walking about free in the midst of the fire, and there is no hurt to them, and the appearance of the fourth one is resembling a son of the gods. (Daniel 3:25)**
- **Then it was that Nebuchadnezzar approached the door of the**

- burning fiery furnace. He was answering and saying; Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, you servants of the Most High God, step out and come here! At that time Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were stepping out from the midst of the fire. ([Daniel 3:26](#))
- And the satraps, the prefects and the governor's and the high officials of the king that were assembled were beholding these able-bodied men, that the fire had had no power over their bodies, and not a hair of their head had been singed, and even their mantles had not been changed and the smell of fire itself had not come onto them. ([Daniel 3:27](#))
 - Nebuchadnezzar was answering and saying; Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who sent his angel and rescued his servants that trusted in him and that changed the very word of the king and gave over their bodies, because they would not serve and would not worship any god at all except their own God. ([Daniel 3:28](#))
 - And from me an order is being put through, that any people, national group or language that says anything wrong against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego should be dismembered, and its house should be turned into a public privy, forasmuch as there does not exist another god that is able to deliver like this one. ([Daniel 3:29](#))
 - Then it was that they approached and were saying before the king concerning the interdict of the king; Is there not an interdict that you have signed that any man that asks a petition from any god or man for thirty days except from you, O king, he should be thrown to the lions pit? The king was answering and saying; The matter is well established according to the Law of the Medes and the Persians, which is not annulled. ([Daniel 6:12](#))
 - Immediately they answered, and they were saying before the king; Daniel, who is of the exiles of Judah, has paid no regard to you, O king, nor to the interdict that you signed, but three times in a day he is making his petition. ([Daniel 6:13](#))
 - Consequently the king, as soon as he heard the word, it was very displeasing to him, and toward Daniel he set his mind in order to rescue him, and till the setting of the sun he kept on striving to deliver him. ([Daniel 6:14](#))

- **Finally these able-bodied men themselves entered as a throng to the king, and they were saying to the king; Take note, O king, that the law belonging to the Medes and the Persians is that any interdict or statute that the king himself establishes is not to be changed. (Daniel 6:15)**
- **Accordingly the king himself commanded, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the pit of the lions. The king was answering and saying to Daniel; Your God whom you are serving with constancy, he himself will rescue you. (Daniel 6:16)**
- **And a stone was brought and placed on the mouth of the pit, and the king sealed it with his signet ring and with the signet ring of his grandees, in order, that nothing should be changed in the case of Daniel. (Daniel 6:17)**
- **At that time the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting, and no musical instruments were brought in before him, and his very sleep fled from him. (Daniel 6:18)**
- **Finally the king himself, at dawn, proceeded to get up in the daylight, and in a hurry he went right to the lions pit. (Daniel 6:19)**
- **And as he got near to the pit, he cried out with a sad voice even to Daniel. The king was speaking up and saying to Daniel; O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you are serving with constancy been able to rescue you from the lions? (Daniel 6:20)**
- **Immediately Daniel himself spoke even with the king; O king, live on even to times indefinite. (Daniel 6:21)**
- **My own God sent his angel and shut the mouth of the lions, and they have not brought me to ruin, forasmuch as before him innocence itself was found in me, and also before you, O king, no hurtful act have I done. (Daniel 6:22)**
- **Then it was that the king himself became very glad, and Daniel himself he commanded to be lifted up out of the pit. And Daniel was lifted up out of the pit, and there was no hurt at all found on him, because he had trusted in his God. (Daniel 6:23)**

- **And the king commanded, and they brought these able-bodied men who had accused Daniel, and into the lions pit they threw them, their sons and their wives, and they had not reached the bottom of the pit before the lions had got the mastery over them, and all their bones they crushed. (Daniel 6:24)**
- **Then it was that Darius the king himself wrote to all the peoples, the national groups and the tongues that are dwelling in all the earth; May your peace grow very much! (Daniel 6:25)**
- **From before me there has been put through an order that, in every dominion of my **kingdom**, people are to be quaking and fearing before the God of Daniel. For he is the living God and One enduring to times indefinite, and his kingdom is one that will not be brought to ruin, and his dominion is forever. (Daniel 6:26)**
- **He is rescuing and delivering and performing signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth, for he has rescued Daniel from the paw of the lions. (Daniel 6:27)**
- **He caused Babylon's gates to swing wide open on schedule, allowing his covenant people to have the freedom to return to their own land and rebuild Yehowah's house there.**
- **Furthermore, he carried off those remaining from the sword captive to Babylon, and they came to be servants to him and his sons until the royalty of Persia began to reign. (2 Chronicles 36:20)**
- **To fulfill Yehowah's word by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had paid off its Sabbaths. All the days of lying desolated it kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy years. (2 Chronicles 36:21)**
- **And in the first year of Cyrus the king of Persia, that Yehowah's word by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, Yehowah roused the spirit of Cyrus the king of Persia, so that he caused a cry to pass through all his **kingdom**, and also in writing, saying; (2 Chronicles 36:22)**
- **This is what Cyrus the king of Persia has said; All the **kingdoms** of the earth Yehowah the God of the heavens has given me, and he himself has commissioned me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, Yehowah his God be with him. So let him go up. (2**

Chronicles 36:23)

- **Because of his act of liberating his people, the announcement could be made to Zion, **Your God has become king!****
- **How comely upon the mountains are the feet of the one bringing Good News, the one publishing peace, the one bringing Good News of something better, the one publishing salvation, the one saying to Zion: **Your God has become king!** (Isaiah 52:7)**
- **Listen! Your own watchmen have raised their voice. In unison they keep crying out joyfully, for it will be eye into eye that they will see when Yehowah gathers back Zion. (Isaiah 52:8)**
- **Become cheerful, cry out joyfully in unison, you devastated places of Jerusalem, for Yehowah has comforted his people, he has repurchased Jerusalem. (Isaiah 52:9)**
- **Yehowah has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth must see the salvation of our God. (Isaiah 52:10)**
- **Turn away, turn away, get out of there, touch nothing unclean, get out from the midst of her, keep yourselves clean, you who are carrying the utensils of Yehowah. (Isaiah 52:11)**
- **Thereafter, conspiracies against his people were thwarted and misrepresentation by subordinate officials and adverse governmental decrees were overcome, as Yehowah moved various Persian kings to cooperate with the carrying out of his own sovereign will. (Ezra Chapters 4-7)(Nehemiah Chapters 2,4,6) (Esther Chapters 3-9)**

See Also SEVENTY WEEKS

- **Thus, for thousands of years the changeless, irresistible purpose of Yehowah God moved forward. Regardless of the turn of events on earth, he proved to be ever in command of the situation, always ahead of opposing man and devil.**
- **Nothing was allowed to interfere with the perfect outworking of his purpose, his will. The nation of Israel and its history, while serving to form prophetic types and forecasts of the future dealings of God with men, also illustrated that without wholehearted recognition and**

submission to divine headship there can be no lasting harmony, peace, and happiness.

· **The Israelites enjoyed the benefits of having in common such things as ancestry, language, and country. They also faced common foes. But only as long as they loyally and faithfully worshiped and served Yehowah God did they have unity, strength, justice, and genuine enjoyment of life. When the bonds of relationship with Yehowah God weakened, the nation deteriorated rapidly.**

·· The Kingdom Of God Draws Near

· **Since the Messiah was to be a descendant of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, a member of the tribe of Judah, and a son of David, he had to have a human birth, he had to be, as Daniel's prophecy declared, a Son Of Man.**

· **When the full limit of the time arrived, Yehowah God sent forth his Son, who was born of a woman and who fulfilled all the legal requirements for the inheritance of the throne of David his father.**

· **But when the full limit of the time arrived, God sent forth his Son, who came to be out of a woman and who came to be under Law. (Galatians 4:4)**

· **In her sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent forth from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth. (Luke 1:26)**

· **To a virgin promised in marriage to a man named Joseph of David's house, and the name of the virgin was Mary. (Luke 1:27)**

· **And when he went in before her he said; Good day, highly favored one, Yehowah is with you. (Luke 1:28)**

· **But she was deeply disturbed at the saying and began to reason out what sort of greeting this might be. (Luke 1:29)**

· **So the angel said to her; Have no fear, Mary, for you have found favor with God. (Luke 1:30)**

· **And, look! You will conceive in your womb and give birth to a son, and you are to call his name Jesus. (Luke 1:31)**

· **This one will be great and will be called Son of the Most High,**

and Yehowah God will give him the throne of David his father.
([Luke 1:32](#))

- And he will rule as king over the house of Jacob forever, and there will be no end of his **kingdom**. ([Luke 1:33](#))
- **Six months before his birth, John, who became the Baptizer and who was to be Jesus forerunner, had been born.**
- However, the angel said to him; Have no fear, Zechariah, because your supplication has been favorably heard, and your wife Elizabeth will become mother to a son to you, and you are to call his name John. ([Luke 1:13](#))
- And you will have joy and great gladness, and many will rejoice over his birth. ([Luke 1:14](#))
- For he will be great before Yehowah. But he must drink no wine and strong drink at all, and he will be filled with Holy Spirit right from his mother's womb. ([Luke 1:15](#))
- And many of the sons of Israel will he turn back to Yehowah their God. ([Luke 1:16](#))
- Also, he will go before him with Elijah's spirit and power, to turn back the hearts of fathers to children and the disobedient ones to the practical wisdom of righteous ones, to get ready for Yehowah a prepared people. ([Luke 1:17](#))
- And, look! Elizabeth your relative has also herself conceived a son, in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her, the so-called barren woman. ([Luke 1:36](#))
- **The expressions of the parents of these sons showed they were living in eager anticipation of divine acts of rulership.**
- Well, as Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the infant in her womb leaped, and Elizabeth was filled with Holy Spirit. ([Luke 1:41](#))
- And she called out with a loud cry and said; Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ([Luke 1:42](#))

- So how is it that this privilege is mine, to have the mother of my Lord come to me? (**Luke 1:43**)
- For, look! As the sound of your greeting fell upon my ears, the infant in my womb leaped with great gladness. (**Luke 1:44**)
- Happy too is she that believed, because there will be a complete performance of those things spoken to her from Yehowah. (**Luke 1:45**)
- And Mary said; My soul magnifies Yehowah. (**Luke 1:46**)
- And my spirit cannot keep from being overjoyed at God my Savior. (**Luke 1:47**)
- Because he has looked upon the low position of his slave girl. For, look! From now on all generations will pronounce me happy. (**Luke 1:48**)
- Because the powerful One has done great deeds for me, and holy is his name. (**Luke 1:49**)
- And for generations after generations his mercy is upon those who fear him. (**Luke 1:50**)
- He has performed mightily with his arm, he has scattered abroad those who are haughty in the intention of their hearts. (**Luke 1:51**)
- He has brought down men of power from thrones and exalted lowly ones. (**Luke 1:52**)
- He has fully satisfied hungry ones with good things and he has sent away empty those who had wealth. (**Luke 1:53**)
- He has come to the aid of Israel his servant, to call to mind mercy. (**Luke 1:54**)
- Just as he told to our forefathers, to Abraham and to his seed, forever. (**Luke 1:55**)
- Blessed be Yehowah the God of Israel, because he has turned his attention and performed deliverance toward his people. (**Luke 1:68**)

- **And he has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of David his servant. (Luke 1:69)**
- **Just as he, through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, has spoken. (Luke 1:70)**
- **Of a salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all those hating us. (Luke 1:71)**
- **To perform the mercy in connection with our forefathers and to call to mind his holy covenant. (Luke 1:72)**
- **The oath that he swore to Abraham our forefather. (Luke 1:73)**
- **To grant us, after we have been rescued from the hands of enemies, the privilege of fearlessly rendering sacred service to him (Luke 1:74)**
- **With loyalty and righteousness before him all our days. (Luke 1:75)**
- **But as for you, young child, you will be called a prophet of the Most High, for you will go in advance before Yehowah to make his ways ready. (Luke 1:76)**
- **To give knowledge of salvation to his people by forgiveness of their sins. (Luke 1:77)**
- **Because of the tender compassion of our God. With this compassion a daybreak will visit us from on high. (Luke 1:78)**
- **To give light to those sitting in darkness and death's shadow, to direct our feet prosperously in the way of peace. (Luke 1:79)**
- **At Jesus birth, the words of the angelic deputation sent to announce the meaning of the event also pointed to glorious acts by God.**
- **And suddenly Yehowah's angel stood by them, and Yehowah's glory gleamed around them, and they became very fearful. (Luke 2:9)**
- **But the angel said to them; Have no fear, for, look! I am**

declaring to you Good News of a great joy that all the people will have. (Luke 2:10)

- Because there was born to you today a Savior, who is Christ the Lord, in David's city. (Luke 2:11)
- And this is a sign for you. You will find an infant bound in cloth bands and lying in a manger. (Luke 2:12)
- And suddenly there came to be with the angel a multitude of the heavenly army, praising God and saying; (Luke 2:13)
- Glory in the heights above to God, and upon earth peace among men of goodwill. (Luke 2:14)
- So, too, the words of Simeon and Anna at the temple expressed hope in saving acts and liberation.
- And, look! There was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon, and this man was righteous and reverent, waiting for Israel's consolation, and Holy Spirit was upon him. (Luke 2:25)
- Furthermore, it had been divinely revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Christ of Yehowah. (Luke 2:26)
- Under the power of the spirit he now came into the temple, and as the parents brought the young child Jesus in to do for it according to the customary practice of the Law. (Luke 2:27)
- He himself received it into his arms and blessed God and said. (Luke 2:28)
- Now, Sovereign Lord, you are letting your slave go free in peace according to your declaration. (Luke 2:29)
- Because my eyes have seen your means of saving. (Luke 2:30)
- That you have made ready in the sight of all the peoples. (Luke 2:31)
- A light for removing the veil from the nations and a glory of your people Israel. (Luke 2:32)

- **And its father and mother continued wondering at the things being spoken about it. (Luke 2:33)**
- **Also, Simeon blessed them, but said to Mary its mother; Look! This one is laid for the fall and the rising again of many in Israel and for a sign to be talked against. (Luke 2:34)**
- **Yes, a long sword will be run through the soul of you yourself, in order, that the reasonings of many hearts may be uncovered. (Luke 2:35)**
- **Now there was Anna a prophetess, Phanuel's daughter, of Asher's tribe, this woman was well along in years, and had lived with a husband for seven years from her virginity. (Luke 2:36)**
- **And she was a widow now eighty-four years old, who was never missing from the temple, rendering sacred service night and day with fastings and supplications. (Luke 2:37)**
- **And in that very hour she came near and began returning thanks to God and speaking about the child to all those waiting for Jerusalem's deliverance. (Luke 2:38)**
- **Both the Biblical record and secular evidence reveal that a general feeling of expectation prevailed among the Jews that the coming of the Messiah was drawing near. With many, however, interest was primarily in gaining freedom from the heavy yoke of Roman domination.**

See Also MESSIAH

See Also GENEALOGY OF JESUS CHRIST

- **John's commission was to turn back the hearts of persons to Yehowah, to his covenants, to the privilege of fearlessly rendering sacred service to him with loyalty and righteousness, thereby getting ready for Yehowah a prepared people.**
- **And many of the sons of Israel will he turn back to Yehowah their God. (Luke 1:16)**
- **Also, he will go before him with Elijah's spirit and power, to turn back the hearts of fathers to children and the disobedient ones to the practical wisdom of righteous ones, to get ready for Yehowah a prepared people. (Luke 1:17)**

- To perform the mercy in connection with our forefathers and to call to mind his holy covenant. (**Luke 1:72**)
- The oath that he swore to Abraham our forefather. (**Luke 1:73**)
- To grant us, after we have been rescued from the hands of enemies, the privilege of fearlessly rendering sacred service to him. (**Luke 1:74**)
- With loyalty and righteousness before him all our days. (**Luke 1:75**)
- He told the people in no uncertain terms that they were facing a time of judgment by God, that the **kingdom** of the heavens had drawn near, making urgent their turning away repentantly from their course of disobedience to God's will and Law.
- This again emphasized Yehowah's standard of **having only willing subjects, persons who both recognize and appreciate the rightness of his ways and Laws.**
- In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea. (**Matthew 3:1**)
- Saying; Repent, for the **kingdom** of the heavens has drawn near. (**Matthew 3:2**)
- When he caught sight of many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to the baptism, he said to them; You offspring of vipers, who has intimated to you to flee from the coming wrath? (**Matthew 3:7**)
- So then produce fruit that befits repentance. (**Matthew 3:8**)
- And do not presume to say to yourselves; As a father we have Abraham. For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. (**Matthew 3:9**)
- Already the ax is lying at the root of the trees, every tree, then, that does not produce fine fruit is to be cut down and thrown into the fire. (**Matthew 3:10**)
- I, for my part, baptize you with water because of your

repentance, but the one coming after me is stronger than I am, whose sandals I am not fit to take off. That one will baptize you people with Holy Spirit and with fire. (**Matthew 3:11**)

- His winnowing shovel is in his hand, and he will completely clean up his threshing floor, and will gather his wheat into the storehouse, but the chaff he will burn up with fire that cannot be put out. (**Matthew 3:12**)
- **The Messiah came when Jesus presented himself to John for baptism and was then anointed by God's Holy Spirit.**
- Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, in order to be baptized by him. (**Matthew 3:13**)
- But the latter tried to prevent him, saying; I am the one needing to be baptized by you, and are you coming to me? (**Matthew 3:14**)
- In reply Jesus said to him; Let it be, this time, for in that way it is suitable for us to carry out all that is righteous. Then he quit preventing him. (**Matthew 3:15**)
- After being baptized Jesus immediately came up from the water, and, look! The heavens were opened up, and he saw descending like a dove God's spirit coming upon him. (**Matthew 3:16**)
- Look! Also, there was a voice from the heavens that said; This is my Son, the beloved, whom I have approved. (**Matthew 3:17**)
- **He thereby became the King-Designate, the One recognized by Yehowah's Court as having the legal right to the Davidic throne, a right that had not been exercised during the preceding six centuries.**
- **But Yehowah additionally brought this approved Son into a covenant for a heavenly Kingdom, in which Jesus would be both King and Priest, as Melchizedek of ancient Salem had been.**
- The utterance of Yehowah to my Lord is; Sit at my right hand until I place your enemies as a stool for your feet. (**Psalms 110:1**)
- The rod of your strength Yehowah will send out of Zion, saying; Go subduing in the midst of your enemies. (**Psalms 110:2**)

- **Your people will offer themselves willingly on the day of your military force. In the splendors of holiness, from the womb of the dawn, you have your company of young men just like dewdrops. (Psalms 110:3)**
- **Yehowah has sworn, and he will feel no regret: You are a priest to time indefinite according to the manner of Melchizedek! (Psalms 110:4)**
- **And I make a covenant with you, just as my Father has made a covenant with me, for a **kingdom**. (Luke 22:29)**
- **Also, a man takes this honor, not of his own accord, but only when he is called by God, just as Aaron also was. (Hebrews 5:4)**
- **So too the Christ did not glorify himself by becoming a High Priest, but was glorified by him who spoke with reference to him: You are my son. I, today, I have become your father. (Hebrews 5:5)**
- **Just as he says also in another place: You are a priest forever according to the manner of Melchizedek. (Hebrews 5:6)**
- **For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him (Hebrews 7:1)**
- **And to whom Abraham apportioned a tenth from all things, is first of all, by translation, **King of Righteousness**, and is then also king of Salem, that is, **King of Peace**. (Hebrews 7:2)**
- **In being fatherless, motherless, without genealogy, having neither a beginning of days nor an end of life, but having been made like the Son of God, he remains a priest perpetually. (Hebrews 7:3)**
- **Now as to the things being discussed this is the main point. We have such a High Priest as this, and he has sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens. (Hebrews 8:1)**
- **As the promised seed of Abraham, this heavenly King-Priest would be God's Chief Agent for blessing persons of all nations.**
- **And Yehowah's angel proceeded to call to Abraham the second**

time out of the heavens. ([Genesis 22:15](#))

- **And to say; By myself I do swear, is the utterance of Yehowah, that by reason of the fact that you have done this thing and you have not withheld your son, your only one. ([Genesis 22:16](#))**
- **I shall surely bless you and I shall surely multiply your seed like the stars of the heavens and like the grains of sand that are on the seashore, and your seed will take possession of the gate of his enemies. ([Genesis 22:17](#))**
- **And by means of your seed all nations of the earth will certainly bless themselves due to the fact that you have listened to my voice. ([Genesis 22:18](#))**
- **The purpose was that the blessing of Abraham might come to be by means of Jesus Christ for the nations, that we might receive the promised spirit through our faith. ([Galatians 3:14](#))**
- **Whereas you killed the Chief Agent of life. But God raised him up from the dead, of which fact we are witnesses. ([Acts of Apostles 3:15](#))**

See Also JESUS CHRIST (His Baptism)

See Also COVENANT

- **Early in his Son's earthly life, Yehowah had manifested his kingly power on Jesus behalf. God diverted the Oriental astrologers who were going to inform tyrannical King Herod of the young child's whereabouts, and he caused Jesus' parents to slip away into Egypt before Herod's agents carried out the massacre of infants in Bethlehem.**
- **After Jesus had been born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, look! Astrologers from eastern parts came to Jerusalem. ([Matthew 2:1](#))**
- **Saying; Where is the one born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when we were in the east, and we have come to do him obeisance. ([Matthew 2:2](#))**
- **At hearing this King Herod was agitated, and all Jerusalem along with him. ([Matthew 2:3](#))**

- **And on gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people he began to inquire of them where the Christ was to be born. (Matthew 2:4)**
- **They said to him; In Bethlehem of Judea. For this is how it has been written through the prophet. (Matthew 2:5)**
- **And you, O Bethlehem of the land of Judah, are by no means the most insignificant city among the governor's of Judah, for out of you will come forth a governing one, who will shepherd my people, Israel. (Matthew 2:6)**
- **Then Herod secretly summoned the astrologers and carefully ascertained from them the time of the stars appearing. (Matthew 2:7)**
- **And, when sending them to Bethlehem, he said; Go make a careful search for the young child, and when you have found it report back to me, that I too may go and do it obeisance. (Matthew 2:8)**
- **When they had heard the king, they went their way, and, look! The star they had seen when they were in the east went ahead of them, until it came to a stop above where the young child was. (Matthew 2:9)**
- **On seeing the star they rejoiced very much indeed. (Matthew 2:10)**
- **And when they went into the house they saw the young child with Mary its mother, and, falling down, they did obeisance to it. They also opened their treasures and presented it with gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. (Matthew 2:11)**
- **However, because they were given divine warning in a dream not to return to Herod, they withdrew to their country by another way. (Matthew 2:12)**
- **After they had withdrawn, look! Yehowah's angel appeared in a dream to Joseph, saying; Get up, take the young child and its mother and flee into Egypt, and stay there until I give you word, for Herod is about to search for the young child to destroy it. (Matthew 2:13)**

- So he got up and took along the young child and its mother by night and withdrew into Egypt. ([Matthew 2:14](#))
- And he stayed there until the decease of Herod, for that to be fulfilled which was spoken by Yehowah through his prophet, saying; Out of Egypt I called my son. ([Matthew 2:15](#))
- Then Herod, seeing he had been outwitted by the astrologers, fell into a great rage, and he sent out and had all the boys in Bethlehem and in all its districts done away with, from two years of age and under, according to the time that he had carefully ascertained from the astrologers. ([Matthew 2:16](#))
- Since the original prophecy in Eden had foretold enmity between the promised **seed** and the seed of the serpent, this attempt on Jesus life could only mean that God's Adversary, Satan the Devil, was trying, however futilely, to frustrate Yehowah's purpose.
- And I shall put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed. He will bruise you in the head and you will bruise him in the heel. ([Genesis 3:15](#))
- After some 40 days in the Judean Wilderness, the baptized Jesus was confronted by this principal opponent of Yehowah's sovereignty. By some means, the spirit Adversary conveyed to Jesus certain subtle suggestions designed to draw him into acts violating Yehowah's expressed will and word.
- Satan even offered to give to the anointed Jesus dominion over all earthly **kingdoms without a struggle and without any need for suffering on Jesus part** in exchange for one act of worship toward himself. When Jesus refused, acknowledging Yehowah as the one true Sovereign from whom authority rightly proceeds and to whom worship goes, God's Adversary began drawing up other plans of war strategy against Yehowah's Representative, resorting to the use of human agents in various ways, as he had done long before in the case of Job.
- And Yehowah went on to say to Satan; Have you set your heart upon my servant Job, that there is no one like him in the earth, a man blameless and upright, fearing God and turning aside from bad? ([Job 1:8](#))
- At that Satan answered Yehowah and said; Is it for nothing that Job has feared God? ([Job 1:9](#))

- **Have not you yourself put up a hedge about him and about his house and about everything that he has all around? The work of his hands you have blessed, and his livestock itself has spread abroad in the earth. (Job 1:10)**
- **But, for a change, thrust out your hand, please, and touch everything he has and see whether he will not curse you to your very face. (Job 1:11)**
- **Accordingly Yehowah said to Satan; Look! Everything that he has is in your hand. Only against him himself do not thrust out your hand! So Satan went out away from the person of Yehowah. (Job 1:12)**
- **Now it came to be the day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in the house of their brother the firstborn. (Job 1:13)**
- **And there came a messenger to Job, and he proceeded to say; The cattle themselves happened to be plowing and the she-asses were grazing at the side of them (Job 1:14)**
- **When the Sabeans came making a raid and taking them, and the attendants they struck down with the edge of the sword, and I got to escape, only I by myself, to tell you. (Job 1:15)**
- **While this one was yet speaking that one came and proceeded to say; The very fire of God fell from the heavens and went blazing among the sheep and the attendants and eating them up, and I got to escape, only I by myself, to tell you. (Job 1:16)**
- **While that one was yet speaking another one came and proceeded to say; The Chaldeans made up three bands and went dashing against the camels and taking them, and the attendants they struck down with the edge of the sword, and I got to escape, only I by myself, to tell you. (Job 1:17)**
- **While this other one was yet speaking, still another one came and proceeded to say; Your sons and your daughters were eating and drinking wine in the house of their brother the firstborn. (Job 1:18)**
- **Then Jesus was led by the spirit up into the wilderness to be**

- tempted by the Devil. (**Matthew 4:1**)
- After he had fasted forty days and forty nights, then he felt hungry. (**Matthew 4:2**)
 - Also, the Tempter came and said to him; If you are a son of God, tell these stones to become loaves of bread. (**Matthew 4:3**)
 - But in reply he said; It is written: Man must live, not on bread alone, but on every utterance coming forth through Yehowah's mouth. (**Matthew 4:4**)
 - Then the Devil took him along into the holy city, and he stationed him upon the battlement of the temple. (**Matthew 4:5**)
 - And said to him; If you are a son of God, hurl yourself down. For it is written: He will give his angels a charge concerning you, and they will carry you on their hands, that you may at no time strike your foot against a stone. (**Matthew 4:6**)
 - Jesus said to him; Again it is written: You must not put Yehowah your God to the test. (**Matthew 4:7**)
 - Again the Devil took him along to an unusually high mountain, and showed him all the **kingdoms** of the world and their glory. (**Matthew 4:8**)
 - And he said to him; All these things I will give you if you fall down and do an act of worship to me. (**Matthew 4:9**)
 - Then Jesus said to him; Go away, Satan! For it is written: It is Yehowah your God you must worship, and it is to him alone you must render sacred service. (**Matthew 4:10**)
 - Then the Devil left him, and, look! Angels came and began to minister to him. (**Matthew 4:11**)
 - Now Jesus, full of Holy Spirit, turned away from the Jordan, and he was led about by the spirit in the wilderness. (**Luke 4:1**)
 - For forty days, while being tempted by the Devil. Furthermore, he ate nothing in those days, and so, when they were concluded, he felt hungry. (**Luke 4:2**)

- **At this the Devil said to him; If you are a son of God, tell this stone to become a loaf of bread. (Luke 4:3)**
- **But Jesus replied to him; It is written: Man must not live by bread alone. (Luke 4:4)**
- **So he brought him up and showed him all the **kingdoms** of the inhabited earth in an instant of time. (Luke 4:5)**
- **And the Devil said to him; I will give you all this authority and the glory of them, because it has been delivered to me, and to whomever I wish I give it. (Luke 4:6)**
- **You, therefore, if you do an act of worship before me, it will all be yours. (Luke 4:7)**
- **In reply Jesus said to him; It is written: It is Yehowah your God you must worship, and it is to him alone you must render sacred service. (Luke 4:8)**
- **Now he led him into Jerusalem and stationed him upon the battlement of the temple and said to him; If you are a son of God, hurl yourself down from here. (Luke 4:9)**
- **For it is written: He will give his angels a charge concerning you, to preserve you. (Luke 4:10)**
- **And, They will carry you on their hands, that you may at no time strike your foot against a stone. (Luke 4:11)**
- **In answer Jesus said to him; It is said; You must not put Yehowah your God to the test. (Luke 4:12)**
- **So the Devil, having concluded all the temptation, retired from him until another convenient time. (Luke 4:13)**
- **And it stood still upon the sand of the sea. And I saw a wild beast ascending out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, and upon its horns ten diadems, but upon its heads blasphemous names. (Revelation 13:1)**
- **Now the wild beast that I saw was like a leopard, but its feet were as those of a bear, and its mouth was as a lion's mouth. And the dragon gave to the beast its power and its throne and**

great authority. (**Revelation 13:2**)

· How Was God's Kingdom Then In Their Midst

· Trusting in Yehowah's power to protect him and grant him success, Jesus entered his public ministry, announcing to Yehowah's covenant people that the appointed time has been fulfilled, resulting in the **approach of the Kingdom of God**.

· Now after John was put under arrest Jesus went into Galilee, preaching the Good News of God. (**Mark 1:14**)

· And saying; The appointed time has been fulfilled, and the **kingdom of God** has drawn near. Be repentant, you people, and have faith in the Good News. (**Mark 1:15**)

· In determining in what sense the **Kingdom** was **near**, his words to certain Pharisees may be noted, namely, that **the kingdom of God is in your midst**.

· Neither will people be saying; See here! Or, There! For, look! the **kingdom** of God is in your midst. (**Luke 17:21**)

· Commenting on this text, *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible* observes: **Although frequently cited as an example of Jesus mysticism or inwardness, this interpretation rests chiefly upon the old translation, within you, KJ, Dy, understood in the unfortunate modern sense of you as singular, the you *hy-mon'* is plural Jesus is addressing the Pharisees.**

· But on being asked by the Pharisees when the **kingdom** of God was coming, he answered them and said; The kingdom of God is not coming with striking observableness. (**Luke 17:20**)

· The theory that the kingdom of God is an inner state of mind, or of personal salvation, runs counter to the context of this verse, and also to the whole NT presentation of the idea. [Edited by G. A. Buttrick, 1962, Vol. 2, p. 883]

· Since **kingdom**, *ba-si-lei'a* can refer to the **royal dignity**, it is evident that Jesus meant that he, God's royal representative, the one anointed by God for the kingship, was in their midst.

· Not only was he present in this capacity but he also had authority to perform works manifesting God's kingly power and to prepare

candidates for positions within his coming Kingdom rule. Hence the nearness of the Kingdom, it was a time of tremendous opportunity.

• Government With Power And Authority

- Jesus disciples understood the **Kingdom** to be an actual government of God, though they did not comprehend the reach of its domain. Nathanael said to Jesus; Rabbi, you are the Son of God, you are King of Israel.
- Nathanael answered him; Rabbi, you are the Son of God, you are King of Israel. (**John 1:49**)
- They knew the things foretold about the holy ones in the prophecy of Daniel.
- But the holy ones of the Supreme One will receive the **kingdom**, and they will take possession of the kingdom for time indefinite, even for time indefinite upon times indefinite. (**Daniel 7:18**)
- And the **kingdom** and the rulership and the grandeur of the kingdoms under all the heavens were given to the people who are the holy ones of the Supreme One. Their kingdom is an indefinitely lasting kingdom, and all the rulerships will serve and obey even them. (**Daniel 7:27**)
- Jesus directly promised his apostolic followers that they would occupy thrones.
- Jesus said to them; Truly I say to you, in the re-creation, when the Son of man sits down upon his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also yourselves sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. (**Matthew 19:28**)
- James and John sought certain privileged positions in the Messianic government, and Jesus acknowledged that there would be such privileged positions, but he stated that the assigning of these rested with his Father, the Sovereign Ruler.
- Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee approached him with her sons, doing obeisance and asking for something from him. (**Matthew 20:20**)
- He said to her; What do you want? She said to him; Give the

- word that these my two sons may sit down, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your **kingdom**. (**Matthew 20:21**)
- Jesus said in answer; You men do not know what you are asking for. Can you drink the cup that I am about to drink? They said to him; We can. (**Matthew 20:22**)
 - He said to them; You will indeed drink my cup, but this sitting down at my right hand and at my left is not mine to give, but it belongs to those for whom it has been prepared by my Father. (**Matthew 20:23**)
 - And James and John, the two sons of Zebedee, stepped up to him and said to him; Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever it is we ask you for. (**Mark 10:35**)
 - He said to them; What do you want me to do for you? (**Mark 10:36**)
 - They said to him; Grant us to sit down, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory. (**Mark 10:37**)
 - But Jesus said to them; You do not know what you are asking for. Are you able to drink the cup which I am drinking, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am being baptized? (**Mark 10:38**)
 - They said to him; We are able. At that Jesus said to them; The cup I am drinking you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am being baptized you will be baptized. (**Mark 10:39**)
 - However, this sitting down at my right or at my left is not mine to give, but it belongs to those for whom it has been prepared. (**Mark 10:40**)
 - So, whereas his disciples mistakenly limited Messiah's kingly rule to earth and specifically to fleshly Israel, even doing so on the day of the resurrected Jesus ascension.
 - When, now, they had assembled, they went asking him; Lord, are you restoring the **kingdom** to Israel at this time? (**Acts of Apostles 1:6**)

- **They correctly understood that it referred to a governmental arrangement.**
- **Tell the daughter of Zion; Look! Your King is coming to you, mild-tempered, and mounted upon an ass, yes, upon a colt, the offspring of a beast of burden. (Matthew 21:5)**
- **And they brought the colt to Jesus, and they put their outer garments upon it, and he sat on it. (Mark 11:7)**
- **Also, many spread their outer garments on the road, but others cut down foliage from the fields. (Mark 11:8)**
- **And those going in front and those coming behind kept crying out; Save, we pray! Blessed is he that comes in Yehowah's name! (Mark 11:9)**
- **Blessed is the coming **kingdom** of our father David! Save, we pray, in the heights above! (Mark 11:10)**
- **Yehowah's kingly power toward his earthly creation was visibly demonstrated in many ways by his royal Representative. By God's spirit, or active force, his Son exercised control over wind and sea, vegetation, fish, and even over the organic elements in food, causing the food to be multiplied.**
- **These powerful works caused his disciples to develop deep respect for the authority that he had.**
- **Eventually, having sent the crowds away, he went up into the mountain by himself to pray. Though it became late, he was there alone. (Matthew 14:23)**
- **By now the boat was many hundreds of yards away from land, being hard put to it by the waves, because the wind was against them. (Matthew 14:24)**
- **But in the fourth watch period of the night he came to them, walking over the sea. (Matthew 14:25)**
- **When they caught sight of him walking on the sea, the disciples were troubled, saying; It is an apparition! And they cried out in their fear. (Matthew 14:26)**

- **But at once Jesus spoke to them with the words; Take courage, it is I, have no fear. (Matthew 14:27)**
- **In reply Peter said to him; Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you over the waters. (Matthew 14:28)**
- **He said; Come! Thereupon Peter, getting down off the boat, walked over the waters and went toward Jesus. (Matthew 14:29)**
- **But looking at the windstorm, he got afraid and, after starting to sink, he cried out; Lord, save me! (Matthew 14:30)**
- **Immediately stretching out his hand Jesus caught hold of him and said to him; You with little faith, why did you give way to doubt? (Matthew 14:31)**
- **And after they got up into the boat, the windstorm abated. (Matthew 14:32)**
- **Then those in the boat did obeisance to him, saying; You are really God's Son. (Matthew 14:33)**
- **So, after they had dismissed the crowd, they took him in the boat, just as he was, and there were other boats with him. (Mark 4:36)**
- **Now a great violent windstorm broke out, and the waves kept dashing into the boat, so that the boat was close to being swamped. (Mark 4:37)**
- **But he was in the stern, sleeping upon a pillow. So they woke him up and said to him; Teacher, do you not care that we are about to perish? (Mark 4:38)**
- **With that he roused himself and rebuked the wind and said to the sea; Hush! Be quiet! And the wind abated, and a great calm set in. (Mark 4:39)**
- **So he said to them; Why are you fainthearted? Do you not yet have any faith? (Mark 4:40)**
- **But they felt an unusual fear, and they would say to one another; Who really is this, because even the wind and the sea obey him? (Mark 4:41)**

- **The next day, when they had come out from Bethany, he became hungry. (Mark 11:12)**
- **And from a distance he caught sight of a fig tree that had leaves, and he went to see whether he would perhaps find something on it. But, on coming to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season of figs. (Mark 11:13)**
- **So, in response, he said to it; Let no one eat fruit from you anymore forever. And his disciples were listening. (Mark 11:14)**
- **But when they were passing by early in the morning, they saw the fig tree already withered up from the roots. (Mark 11:20)**
- **So Peter, remembering it, said to him; Rabbi, see! The fig tree that you cursed has withered up. (Mark 11:21)**
- **And in reply Jesus said to them; Have faith in God. (Mark 11:22)**
- **Truly I say to you, that whoever tells this mountain; Be lifted up and thrown into the sea. And does not doubt in his heart, but has faith that what he says is going to occur, he will have it so. (Mark 11:23)**
- **When he ceased speaking, he said to Simon; Pull out to where it is deep, and you men let down your nets for a catch. (Luke 5:4)**
- **But Simon in reply said; Instructor, for a whole night we toiled and took nothing, but at your bidding I will lower the nets. (Luke 5:5)**
- **Well, when they did this, they enclosed a great multitude of fish. In fact, their nets began ripping apart. (Luke 5:6)**
- **So they motioned to their partners in the other boat to come and assist them, and they did come, and they filled both boats, so that these began to sink. (Luke 5:7)**
- **Seeing this, Simon Peter fell down at the knees of Jesus, saying; Depart from me, because I am a sinful man, Lord. (Luke 5:8)**
- **For at the catch of fish which they took up astonishment overwhelmed him and all those with him. (Luke 5:9)**

- **And likewise both James and John, Zebedee's sons, who were sharers with Simon. But Jesus said to Simon; Stop being afraid. From now on you will be catching men alive. (Luke 5:10)**
- **So they brought the boats back to land, and abandoned everything and followed him. (Luke 5:11)**
- **When, therefore, Jesus raised his eyes and observed that a great crowd was coming to him, he said to Philip; Where shall we buy loaves for these to eat? (John 6:5)**
- **However, he was saying this to test him, for he himself knew what he was about to do. (John 6:6)**
- **Philip answered him; Two hundred denarii worth of loaves is not enough for them, so that each one may get a little. (John 6:7)**
- **One of his disciples, Andrew the brother of Simon Peter, said to him. (John 6:8)**
- **Here is a little boy that has five barley loaves and two small fishes. But what are these among so many? (John 6:9)**
- **Jesus said; Have the men recline as at meal. Now there was a lot of grass in the place. Therefore the men reclined, about five thousand in number. (John 6:10)**
- **So Jesus took the loaves and, after giving thanks, he distributed them to those reclining, likewise also as much of the small fishes as they wanted. (John 6:11)**
- **But when they had their fill he said to his disciples; Gather together the fragments that remain over, so that nothing is wasted. (John 6:12)**
- **Therefore they gathered them together, and they filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves, which were left over by those who had eaten. (John 6:13)**
- **Hence when the men saw the signs he performed, they began to say; This is for a certainty the prophet that was to come into the world. (John 6:14)**

- Therefore Jesus, knowing they were about to come and seize him to make him king, withdrew again into the mountain all alone. **(John 6:15)**
- Even more profoundly impressive was his exercise of God's power over human bodies, healing afflictions ranging from blindness to leprosy, and restoring the dead to life.
- And Jesus set out on a tour of all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the Good News of the **kingdom** and curing every sort of disease and every sort of infirmity. **(Matthew 9:35)**
- And, look! Two blind men sitting beside the road, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, saying; Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David! **(Matthew 20:30)**
- But the crowd sternly told them to keep silent, yet they cried all the louder, saying; Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David! **(Matthew 20:31)**
- So Jesus stopped, called them and said; What do you want me to do for you? **(Matthew 20:32)**
- They said to him; Lord, let our eyes be opened. **(Matthew 20:33)**
- Moved with pity, Jesus touched their eyes, and immediately they received sight, and they followed him. **(Matthew 20:34)**
- On a further occasion while he was in one of the cities, look! A man full of leprosy! When he caught sight of Jesus he fell upon his face and begged him, saying; Lord, if you just want to, you can make me clean. **(Luke 5:12)**
- And so, stretching out his hand, he touched him, saying; I want to. Be made clean. And immediately the leprosy vanished from him. **(Luke 5:13)**
- Closely following this he traveled to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd were traveling with him. **(Luke 7:11)**
- As he got near the gate of the city, why, look! There was a dead man being carried out, the only-begotten son of his mother. Besides, she was a widow. A considerable crowd from the city

- was also with her. (Luke 7:12)
- And when the Lord caught sight of her, he was moved with pity for her, and he said to her; Stop weeping. (Luke 7:13)
 - With that he approached and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still, and he said; Young man, I say to you; Get up! (Luke 7:14)
 - And the dead man sat up and started to speak, and he gave him to his mother. (Luke 7:15)
 - Now fear seized them all, and they began to glorify God, saying; A great prophet has been raised up among us, and, God has turned his attention to his people. (Luke 7:16)
 - And this news concerning him spread out into all Judea and all the surrounding country. (Luke 7:17)
 - Jesus said; Take the stone away. Martha, the sister of the deceased, said to him; Lord, by now he must smell, for it is four days. (John 11:39)
 - Jesus said to her; Did I not tell you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God? (John 11:40)
 - Therefore they took the stone away. Now Jesus raised his eyes heavenward and said; Father, I thank you that you have heard me. (John 11:41)
 - True, I knew that you always hear me, but on account of the crowd standing around I spoke, in order, that they might believe that you sent me forth. (John 11:42)
 - And when he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice; Lazarus, come on out! (John 11:43)
 - The man that had been dead came out with his feet and hands bound with wrappings, and his countenance was bound about with a cloth. Jesus said to them; Loose him and let him go. (John 11:44)
 - Therefore many of the Jews that had come to Mary and that beheld what he did put faith in him. (John 11:45)

- **But some of them went off to the Pharisees and told them the things Jesus did. (John 11:46)**
- **Consequently the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the Sanhedrin together and began to say; What are we to do, because this man performs many signs? (John 11:47)**
- **Healed lepers he sent to report to the divinely authorized, but generally unbelieving, priesthood, as a witness to them.**
- **And he gave the man orders to tell nobody; But go off and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering in connection with your cleansing, just as Moses directed, for a witness to them. (Luke 5:14)**
- **And when he got sight of them he said to them; Go and show yourselves to the priests. Then as they were going off their cleansing occurred. (Luke 17:14)**
- **Finally, he showed God's power over superhuman spirits. The demons recognized the authority invested in Jesus and, rather than risk a decisive test of the power backing him up, they acceded to his orders to release persons possessed by them.**
- **When he got to the other side, into the country of the Gadarenes, there met him two demon-possessed men coming out from among the memorial tombs, unusually fierce, so that nobody had the courage to pass by on that road. (Matthew 8:28)**
- **And, look! they screamed, saying; What have we to do with you, Son of God? Did you come here to torment us before the appointed time? (Matthew 8:29)**
- **But a long way off from them a herd of many swine was at pasture. (Matthew 8:30)**
- **So the demons began to entreat him, saying; If you expel us, send us forth into the herd of swine. (Matthew 8:31)**
- **Accordingly he said to them; Go! They came out and went off into the swine, and, look! The entire herd rushed over the precipice into the sea and died in the waters. (Matthew 8:32)**

- Now when they were leaving, look! People brought him a dumb man possessed of a demon. (**Matthew 9:32**)
- And after the demon had been expelled the dumb man spoke. Well, the crowds felt amazement and said; Never was anything like this seen in Israel. (**Matthew 9:33**)
- You believe there is one God, do you? You are doing quite well. And yet the demons believe and shudder. (**James 2:19**)
- Since this powerful expulsion of demons was by God's spirit, this meant that the **Kingdom** of God had really overtaken his listeners.
- Knowing their thoughts, he said to them; Every **kingdom** divided against itself comes to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. (**Matthew 12:25**)
- In the same way, if Satan expels Satan, he has become divided against himself, how, then, will his **kingdom** stand? (**Matthew 12:26**)
- Moreover, if I expel the demons by means of Beelzebub, by means of whom do your sons expel them? This is why they will be judges of you. (**Matthew 12:27**)
- But if it is by means of God's spirit that I expel the demons, the **kingdom** of God has really overtaken you. (**Matthew 12:28**)
- Or how can anyone invade the house of a strong man and seize his movable goods, unless first he binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house. (**Matthew 12:29**)
- But even as he was approaching, the demon dashed him to the ground and violently convulsed him. However, Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit and healed the boy and delivered him to his father. (**Luke 9:42**)
- Well, they all began to be astounded at the majestic power of God. Now as they were all marveling at all the things he was doing, he said to his disciples. (**Luke 9:43**)
- All of this was solid proof that Jesus had kingly authority and that this authority came from no earthly, human, political source.

- Jesus answered; My **kingdom** is no part of this world. If my kingdom were part of this world, my attendants would have fought that I should not be delivered up to the Jews. But, as it is, my kingdom is not from this source. (**John 18:36**)
- For there has been a child born to us, there has been a son given to us. The princely rule will come to be upon his shoulder. His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. (**Isaiah 9:6**)
- To the abundance of the princely rule and to peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and upon his **kingdom** in order to establish it firmly and to sustain it by means of justice and by means of righteousness, from now on and to time indefinite. The very zeal of Yehowah of armies will do this. (**Isaiah 9:7**)
- **Messengers from the imprisoned John the Baptizer, as witnesses of these powerful works, were instructed by Jesus to go back to John and tell him what they had seen and heard as confirmation that Jesus was indeed the Coming One.**
- But John, having heard in jail about the works of the Christ, sent by means of his own disciples (**Matthew 11:2**)
- And said to him; Are you the Coming One, or are we to expect a different one? (**Matthew 11:3**)
- In reply Jesus said to them; Go your way and report to John what you are hearing and seeing. (**Matthew 11:4**)
- The blind are seeing again, and the lame are walking about, the lepers are being cleansed and the deaf are hearing, and the dead are being raised up, and the poor are having the Good News declared to them. (**Matthew 11:5**)
- And happy is he that finds no cause for stumbling in me. (**Matthew 11:6**)
- Now John's disciples reported to him about all these things. (**Luke 7:18**)
- So John summoned a certain two of his disciples and sent them to the Lord to say; Are you the Coming One or are we to expect a different one? (**Luke 7:19**)

- When they came up to him the men said; John the Baptist dispatched us to you to say; Are you the Coming One or are we to expect another? ([Luke 7:20](#))
- In that hour he cured many of sicknesses and grievous diseases and wicked spirits, and granted many blind persons the favor of seeing. ([Luke 7:21](#))
- Hence in answer he said to the two; Go your way, report to John what you saw and heard. The blind are receiving sight, the lame are walking, the lepers are being cleansed and the deaf are hearing, the dead are being raised up, the poor are being told the Good News. ([Luke 7:22](#))
- And happy is he who has not stumbled over me. ([Luke 7:23](#))
- But I have the witness greater than that of John, for the very works that my Father assigned me to accomplish, the works themselves that I am doing, bear witness about me that the Father dispatched me. ([John 5:36](#))
- Jesus disciples were seeing and hearing the evidence of **Kingdom** authority that the prophets had longed to witness.
- However, happy are your eyes because they behold, and your ears because they hear. ([Matthew 13:16](#))
- For I truly say to you, many prophets and righteous men desired to see the things you are beholding and did not see them, and to hear the things you are hearing and did not hear them. ([Matthew 13:17](#))
- Moreover, Jesus was able to delegate authority to his disciples so that they could exercise similar powers as his appointed deputies, thereby giving force and weight to their proclamation, The **kingdom of the heavens** has drawn near.
- So he summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, in order to expel these and to cure every sort of disease and every sort of infirmity. ([Matthew 10:1](#))
- As you go, preach, saying; The **kingdom of the heavens** has drawn near. ([Matthew 10:7](#))

- Cure sick people, raise up dead persons, make lepers clean, expel demons. You received free, give free. (**Matthew 10:8**)
- At this, astonishment fell upon all, and they began to converse with one another, saying; What sort of speech is this, because with authority and power he orders the unclean spirits, and out they come? (**Luke 4:36**)
- Also, wherever you enter into a city and they receive you, eat the things set before you. (**Luke 10:8**)
- And cure the sick ones in it, and go on telling them; The **kingdom** of God has come near to you. (**Luke 10:9**)
- But wherever you enter into a city and they do not receive you, go out into its broad ways and say; (**Luke 10:10**)
- Even the dust that got stuck to our feet from your city we wipe off against you. Nevertheless, keep this in mind, that the **kingdom of God has come near.** (**Luke 10:11**)
- I tell you that it will be more endurable for Sodom in that day than for that city. (**Luke 10:12**)
- Why did you not eat the sin offering in the place that is holy, since it is something most holy and he has given it to you that you may answer for the error of the assembly so as to make atonement for them before Yehowah? (**Leviticus 10:17**)

•• Entrance Into The Kingdom

- Jesus emphasized the special period of opportunity that had thus arrived. Of his forerunner John the Baptizer, Jesus said; Among those born of women there has not been raised up a greater than John the Baptist, but a person that is a lesser one in the **kingdom of the heavens** is greater than he is.
- But from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of the heavens is the goal toward which men press *bi-a'ze-tai*, and those pressing forward *bi-a-stai'* are seizing it. Compare **AT**, also the **Zürcher Bibel German**. **For all, the Prophets and the Law, prophesied until John.**
- This is he concerning whom it is written: Look! I myself am

- sending forth my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way ahead of you! (**Matthew 11:10**)
- Truly I say to you people, Among those born of women there has not been raised up a greater than John the Baptist, but a person that is a lesser one in the **kingdom** of the heavens is greater than he is. (**Matthew 11:11**)
 - But from the days of John the Baptist until now the **kingdom** of the heavens is the goal toward which men press, and those pressing forward are seizing it. (**Matthew 11:12**)
 - For all, the Prophets and the Law, prophesied until John. (**Matthew 11:13**)
 - Thus, the days of John's ministry, which were soon to end with his execution, marked the close of one period, the start of another. Of the **Greek verb *bi-a'zo-mai*** used in this text, **Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words** says, **The verb suggests forceful Endeavour.** [1981, Vol. 3, p. 208] **Regarding;**
 - But from the days of John the Baptist until now the **kingdom** of the heavens is the goal toward which men press, and those pressing forward are seizing it. (**Matthew 11:12**)
 - **German scholar Heinrich Meyer states: In this way is described that eager, irresistible striving and struggling after the approaching Messianic kingdom . . . So eager and energetic, no longer calm and expectant, is the interest in regard to the kingdom. The *bi-a-stai'* are, accordingly, believers not enemy attackers struggling hard for its possession.**[**Meyers Critical and Exegetical Hand-Book to the Gospel of Matthew, 1884, p. 225**]
 - **Membership in the Kingdom of God, therefore, would not be easy to gain, not like approaching an open city with little or nothing to make entrance difficult. Rather, the Sovereign, Yehowah God, had placed barriers to shut out any not worthy.**
 - **No man can come to me unless the Father, who sent me, draws him, and I will resurrect him in the last day. (John 6:44)**
 - **What! Do you not know that unrighteous persons will not inherit God's kingdom? Do not be misled! Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men kept for unnatural purposes,**

nor men who lie with men. (1 Corinthians 6:9)

- **Nor thieves, nor greedy persons, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit God's kingdom. (1 Corinthians 6:10)**
- **And yet that is what some of you were. But you have been washed clean, but you have been sanctified, but you have been declared righteous in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and with the spirit of our God. (1 Corinthians 6:11)**
- **Now the works of the flesh are manifest, and they are fornication, uncleanness, loose conduct. (Galatians 5:19)**
- **Idolatry, practice of spiritism, enmities, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, contentions, divisions, sects. (Galatians 5:20)**
- **Envies, drunken bouts, revelries, and things like these. As to these things I am forewarning you, the same way as I did forewarn you, that those who practice such things will not inherit God's kingdom. (Galatians 5:21)**
- **For you know this, recognizing it for yourselves, that no fornicator or unclean person or greedy person, which means being an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of the Christ and of God. (Ephesians 5:5)**
- **Those who would enter must traverse a narrow road, find the narrow gate, keep on asking, keep on seeking, keep on knocking, and the way would be opened. They would find the way to be narrow in that it restricts those who follow it from doing things that would result in injury to themselves or others.**
- **Keep on asking, and it will be given you. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and it will be opened to you. (Matthew 7:7)**
- **For everyone asking receives, and everyone seeking finds, and to everyone knocking it will be opened. (Matthew 7:8)**
- **Go in through the narrow gate, because broad and spacious is the road leading off into destruction, and many are the ones going in through it. (Matthew 7:13)**
- **Whereas narrow is the gate and cramped the road leading off**

into life, and few are the ones finding it. (**Matthew 7:14**)

- For this reason, brothers, all the more do your utmost to make the calling and choosing of you sure for yourselves. For if you keep on doing these things, you will by no means ever fail. (**2 Peter 1:10**)
- In fact, thus there will be richly supplied to you the entrance into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (**2 Peter 1:11**)
- They might figuratively have to lose an eye or a hand to gain entrance.
- And if ever your hand makes you stumble, cut it off, it is finer for you to enter into life maimed than with two hands to go off into Gehenna, into the fire that cannot be put out. (**Mark 9:43**)
- And if your foot makes you stumble, cut it off, it is finer for you to enter into life lame than with two feet to be pitched into Gehenna. (**Mark 9:45**)
- And if your eye makes you stumble, throw it away, it is finer for you to enter one-eyed into the **kingdom of God** than with two eyes to be pitched into Gehenna. (**Mark 9:47**)
- The **Kingdom** would be no plutocracy in which one could buy the King's favor. It would be a difficult thing for a rich man, Greek, *plou'si-ou* to enter.
- Jesus looked at him and said; How difficult a thing it will be for those having money to make their way into the **kingdom of God!** (**Luke 18:24**)
- It is easier, in fact, for a camel to get through the eye of a sewing needle than for a rich man to get into the **kingdom of God.** (**Luke 18:25**)
- It would be no worldly aristocracy, prominent position among men would not count.
- Then Jesus spoke to the crowds and to his disciples, saying; (**Matthew 23:1**)

- The scribes and the Pharisees have seated themselves in the seat of Moses. (**Matthew 23:2**)
- Serpents, offspring of vipers, how are you to flee from the judgment of Gehenna? (**Matthew 23:33**)
- They like the most prominent place at evening meals and the front seats in the synagogues. (**Matthew 23:6**)
- And the greetings in the marketplaces and to be called Rabbi by men. (**Matthew 23:7**)
- But you, do not you be called Rabbi, for one is your teacher, whereas all you are brothers. (**Matthew 23:8**)
- Moreover, do not call anyone your father on earth, for one is your Father, the heavenly One. (**Matthew 23:9**)
- Neither be called leaders, for your Leader is one, the Christ. (**Matthew 23:10**)
- But the greatest one among you must be your minister. (**Matthew 23:11**)
- Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted. (**Matthew 23:12**)
- Now the Pharisees, who were money lovers, were listening to all these things, and they began to sneer at him. (**Luke 16:14**)
- Consequently he said to them; You are those who declare yourselves righteous before men, but God knows your hearts, because what is lofty among men is a disgusting thing in God's sight. (**Luke 16:15**)
- The Law and the Prophets were until John. From then on the **kingdom** of God is being declared as Good News, and every sort of person is pressing forward toward it. (**Luke 16:16**)
- Those apparently **first**, having an impressive religious background and record, would be **last**, and the **last** would be **first** to receive the favored privileges connected with that **Kingdom**.
- But many that are first will be last and the last first. (**Matthew**

19:30)

- **In this way the last ones will be first, and the first ones last. (Matthew 20:16)**
- **The prominent but hypocritical Pharisees, confident of their advantageous position, would see reformed harlots and tax collectors enter the **Kingdom** before them.**
- **Which of the two did the will of his father? They said; The latter. Jesus said to them; Truly I say to you that the tax collectors and the harlots are going ahead of you into the **kingdom** of God. (Matthew 21:31)**
- **For John came to you in a way of righteousness, but you did not believe him. However, the tax collectors and the harlots believed him, and you, although you saw this, did not feel regret afterwards so as to believe him. (Matthew 21:32)**
- **Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you shut up the **kingdom of the heavens** before men. For you yourselves do not go in, neither do you permit those on their way in to go in. (Matthew 23:13)**
- **Though calling Jesus Lord, Lord, all hypocritical persons disrespecting the word and will of God as revealed through Jesus would be turned away with the words; I never knew you! Get away from me, you workers of lawlessness.**
- **Be on the watch for the false prophets that come to you in sheep's covering, but inside they are ravenous wolves. (Matthew 7:15)**
- **By their fruits you will recognize them. Never do people gather grapes from thorns or figs from thistles, do they? (Matthew 7:16)**
- **Likewise every good tree produces fine fruit, but every rotten tree produces worthless fruit. (Matthew 7:17)**
- **A good tree cannot bear worthless fruit, neither can a rotten tree produce fine fruit. (Matthew 7:18)**
- **Every tree not producing fine fruit gets cut down and thrown into the fire. (Matthew 7:19)**

- **Really, then, by their fruits you will recognize those men. (Matthew 7:20)**
- **Not everyone saying to me, Lord, Lord, will enter into the **kingdom** of the heavens, but the one doing the will of my Father who is in the heavens will. (Matthew 7:21)**
- **Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and expel demons in your name, and perform many powerful works in your name? (Matthew 7:22)**
- **And yet then I will confess to them; I never knew you! Get away from me, you workers of lawlessness. (Matthew 7:23)**
- **Those gaining entrance would be those putting material interests secondary and seeking first the **Kingdom** and God's righteousness.**
- **So never be anxious and say; What are we to eat? Or; What are we to drink? Or; What are we to put on? (Matthew 6:31)**
- **For all these are the things the nations are eagerly pursuing. For your heavenly Father knows you need all these things. (Matthew 6:32)**
- **Keep on, then, seeking first the **kingdom** and his righteousness, and all these other things will be added to you. (Matthew 6:33)**
- **So, never be anxious about the next day, for the next day will have its own anxieties. Sufficient for each day is its own badness. (Matthew 6:34)**
- **Like God's anointed King, Christ Jesus, they would love righteousness and hate wickedness.**
- **But with reference to the Son; God is your throne forever and ever, and the scepter of your **kingdom** is the scepter of uprightness. (Hebrews 1:8)**
- **You loved righteousness, and you hated lawlessness. That is why God, your God, anointed you with the oil of exultation more than your partners. (Hebrews 1:9)**

- Spiritually minded, merciful, purehearted, peaceable persons, though the objects of reproach and persecution by men, would become prospective members of the **Kingdom**.
- Happy are those conscious of their spiritual need, since the **kingdom** of the heavens belongs to them. (**Matthew 5:3**)
- Happy are those who mourn, since they will be comforted. (**Matthew 5:4**)
- Happy are the mild-tempered ones, since they will inherit the earth. (**Matthew 5:5**)
- Happy are those hungering and thirsting for righteousness, since they will be filled. (**Matthew 5:6**)
- Happy are the merciful, since they will be shown mercy. (**Matthew 5:7**)
- Happy are the pure in heart, since they will see God. (**Matthew 5:8**)
- Happy are the peaceable, since they will be called sons of God. (**Matthew 5:9**)
- Happy are those who have been persecuted for righteousness sake, since the **kingdom of the heavens** belongs to them. (**Matthew 5:10**)
- Rejoice in that day and leap, for, look! Your reward is great in heaven, for those are the same things their forefathers used to do to the prophets. (**Luke 6:23**)
- The **yoke** Jesus invited such ones to take upon themselves meant submission to his kingly authority. It was a kindly yoke, however, with a light load for those who were mild-tempered and lowly in heart as was the **King**.
- Come to me, all you who are toiling and loaded down, and I will refresh you. (**Matthew 11:28**)
- Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am mild-tempered and lowly in heart, and you will find refreshment for your souls. (**Matthew 11:29**)

- **For my yoke is kindly and my load is light. (Matthew 11:30)**
- **And Jeroboam and all the people proceeded to come to Rehoboam on the third day, just as the king had spoken, saying; Return to me on the third day. (1 Kings 12:12)**
- **And the king began to answer the people harshly, and to leave the counsel of the older men who had counseled him. (1 Kings 12:13)**
- **And he went on to speak to them according to the counsel of the young men, saying; My father, for his part, made your yoke heavy, but I, for my part, shall add to your yoke. My father, for his part, chastised you with whips, but I, for my part, shall chastise you with scourges. (1 Kings 12:14)**
- **In the beginning of the **kingdom** of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, the king of Judah, this word occurred to Jeremiah from Yehowah, saying; (Jeremiah 27:1)**
- **This is what Yehowah has said to me; Make for yourself bands and yoke bars, and you must put them upon your neck. (Jeremiah 27:2)**
- **And you must send them to the king of Edom and to the king of Moab and to the king of the sons of Ammon and to the king of Tyre and to the king of Sidon by the hand of the messengers who are coming to Jerusalem to Zedekiah the king of Judah. (Jeremiah 27:3)**
- **And you must give them a command for their masters, saying; This is what Yehowah of armies, the God of Israel, has said; This is what you should say to your masters. (Jeremiah 27:4)**
- **I myself have made the earth, mankind and the beasts that are upon the surface of the earth by my great power and by my stretched-out arm, and I have given it to whom it has proved right in my eyes. (Jeremiah 27:5)**
- **And now I myself have given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and even the wild beasts of the field I have given him to serve him. (Jeremiah 27:6)**

- **And all the nations must serve even him and his son and his grandson until the time even of his own land comes, and many nations and great kings must exploit him as a servant. (Jeremiah 27:7)**
- **This should have had a heartwarming effect on his listeners, assuring them that his rule would have none of the undesirable qualities of many earlier rulers, both Israelite and non-Israelite.**
- **It gave them reason to believe that his rule would bring no burdensome taxation, forced servitude, or forms of exploitation.**
- **So Samuel said all the words of Yehowah to the people who were asking a king of him. (1 Samuel 8:10)**
- **And he proceeded to say; This will become the rightful due of the king that will reign over you, your sons he will take and put them as his in his chariots and among his horsemen, and some will have to run before his chariots. (1 Samuel 8:11)**
- **And to appoint for himself chiefs over thousands and chiefs over fifties, and some to do his plowing and to reap his harvest and to make his war instruments and his chariot instruments. (1 Samuel 8:12)**
- **And your daughters he will take for ointment mixers and cooks and bakers. (1 Samuel 8:13)**
- **And your fields and your vineyards and your olive groves, the best ones, he will take and actually give to his servants. (1 Samuel 8:14)**
- **And of your fields of seed and of your vineyards he will take the tenth, and he will certainly give them to his court officials and his servants. (1 Samuel 8:15)**
- **And your menservants and your maidservants and your best herds, and your asses he will take, and he will have to use them for his work. (1 Samuel 8:16)**
- **Of your flocks he will take the tenth, and you yourselves will become his as servants. (1 Samuel 8:17)**

- **And you will certainly cry out in that day by reason of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves, but Yehowah will not answer you in that day. (1 Samuel 8:18)**
- **You should without fail set over yourself a king whom Yehowah your God will choose. From among your brothers you should set a king over yourself. You will not be allowed to put over yourself a foreigner who is not your brother. (Deuteronomy 17:15)**
- **Only he should not increase horses for himself, nor make the people go back to Egypt in order to increase horses, whereas Yehowah has said to you, you must never go back again by this way. (Deuteronomy 17:16)**
- **He should also not multiply wives for himself, that his heart may not turn aside, nor should he increase silver and gold for himself very much. (Deuteronomy 17:17)**
- **that his heart may not exalt itself above his brothers and that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right or to the left, in order, that he may lengthen his days upon his kingdom, he and his sons in the midst of Israel. (Deuteronomy 17:20)**
- **For you know this, recognizing it for yourselves, that no fornicator or unclean person or greedy person, which means being an idolater, has any inheritance in the **kingdom** of the Christ and of God. (Ephesians 5:5)**
- **As Jesus later words showed, not only would the Head of the coming **Kingdom** government prove his unselfishness to the point of giving his life for his people but all those associated with him in that government would also be persons who sought to serve rather than be served.**
- **But Jesus, calling them to him, said; You know that the rulers of the nations lord it over them and the great men wield authority over them. (Matthew 20:25)**
- **This is not the way among you. Whoever wants to become great among you, must be your minister. (Matthew 20:26)**
- **And whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave. (Matthew 20:27)**

- Just as the Son of man came, not to be ministered to, but to minister and to give his soul a ransom in exchange for many. (**Matthew 20:28**)

See Also JESUS CHRIST (His Works and Personal Qualities)

·· Willing Submission Vital

- Jesus himself had the deepest respect for the Sovereign will and authority of his Father.
- I cannot do a single thing of my own initiative, just as I hear, I judge. The judgment that I render is righteous, because I seek, not my own will, but the will of him that sent me. (**John 5:30**)
- Because I have come down from heaven to do, not my will, but the will of him that sent me. (**John 6:38**)
- And going a little way forward, he fell upon his face, praying and saying; My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass away from me. Yet, not as I will, but as you will. (**Matthew 26:39**)
- As long as the Law covenant was in effect, his Jewish followers were to practice and advocate obedience to it, any taking an opposite course would be rejected as regards his **Kingdom**.
- This respect and obedience, however, must be from the heart, not a mere formal or one-sided observing of the Law with emphasis on specific acts required, but the observing of basic principles inherent therein involving justice, mercy, and faithfulness.
- Do not think I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I came, not to destroy, but to fulfill. (**Matthew 5:17**)
- For truly I say to you that sooner would heaven and earth pass away than for one smallest letter or one particle of a letter to pass away from the Law by any means and not all things take place. (**Matthew 5:18**)
- Whoever, therefore, breaks one of these least commandments and teaches mankind to that effect, he will be called, least, in relation to the **kingdom of the heavens**. As for anyone who does them and teaches them, this one will be called great in relation to the **kingdom of the heavens**. (**Matthew 5:19**)

- For I say to you that if your righteousness does not abound more than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter into the **kingdom of the heavens**. (**Matthew 5:20**)
- Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you give the tenth of the mint and the dill and the cumin, but you have disregarded the weightier matters of the Law, namely, justice and mercy and faithfulness. These things it was binding to do, yet not to disregard the other things. (**Matthew 23:23**)
- Blind guides, who strain out the gnat but gulp down the camel! (**Matthew 23:24**)
- To the scribe who acknowledged Yehowah's unique position and who recognized that loving him with ones whole heart and with ones whole understanding and with ones whole strength and this loving ones neighbor as oneself is worth far more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices, Jesus said; You are not far from the **kingdom of God**.
- Now one of the scribes that had come up and heard them disputing, knowing that he had answered them in a fine way, asked him; Which commandment is first of all? (**Mark 12:28**)
- Jesus answered; The first is, Hear, O Israel, Yehowah our God is one Yehowah. (**Mark 12:29**)
- And you must love Yehowah your God with your whole heart and with your whole soul and with your whole mind and with your whole strength. (**Mark 12:30**)
- The second is this, You must love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these. (**Mark 12:31**)
- The scribe said to him; Teacher, you well said in line with truth, He is One, and there is no other than He. (**Mark 12:32**)
- And this loving him with ones whole heart and with ones whole understanding and with ones whole strength and this loving ones neighbor as oneself is worth far more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices. (**Mark 12:33**)

- At this Jesus, discerning he had answered intelligently, said to him; You are not far from the **kingdom** of God. But nobody had the courage anymore to question him. (**Mark 12:34**)
- Thus, in all respects Jesus made clear that Yehowah God seeks only willing subjects, those who prefer his righteous ways and desire fervently to live under his Sovereign authority.

·· **Covenant Relationship**

- On his last night with his disciples, Jesus spoke to them of a **New Covenant** to become operative toward his followers as a result of his ransom sacrifice
- Also, he took a loaf, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to them, saying; This means my body which is to be given in your behalf. Keep doing this in remembrance of me. (**Luke 22:19**)
- Also, the cup in the same way after they had the evening meal, he saying; This cup means the New Covenant by virtue of my blood, which is to be poured out in your behalf. (**Luke 22:20**)
- Have no fear, little flock, because your Father has approved of giving you the **kingdom**. (**Luke 12:32**)
- he himself would serve as the Mediator of that covenant between Yehowah the Sovereign and Jesus followers.
- For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, a man, Christ Jesus. (**1 Timothy 2:5**)
- And Jesus the mediator of a New Covenant, and the blood of sprinkling, which speaks in a better way than Abel's blood. (**Hebrews 12:24**)
- Additionally, Jesus made a personal covenant with his followers **for a kingdom**, that they might join him in his royal privileges.
- However, you are the ones that have stuck with me in my trials. (**Luke 22:28**)
- And I make a covenant with you, just as my Father has made a covenant with me, for a **kingdom**. (**Luke 22:29**)

- That you may eat and drink at my table in my **kingdom**, and sit on thrones to judge the twelve tribes of Israel. (**Luke 22:30**)

See Also COVENANT

.. Conquest Of The World

- **Although Jesus subsequent arrest, trials, and execution made his kingly position appear weak, in reality it marked a powerful fulfillment of God's prophecies and was allowed by God for that reason.**
- **Hence Pilate said to him; Are you not speaking to me? Do you not know I have authority to release you and I have authority to impale you? (**John 19:10**)**
- **Jesus answered him; You would have no authority at all against me unless it had been granted to you from above. This is why the man that handed me over to you has greater sin. (**John 19:11**)**
- **And he said to them; What things? They said to him; The things concerning Jesus the Nazarene, who became a prophet powerful in work and word before God and all the people. (**Luke 24:19**)**
- **And how our chief priests and rulers handed him over to the sentence of death and impaled him. (**Luke 24:20**)**
- **But we were hoping that this man was the one destined to deliver Israel, yes, and besides all these things, this makes the third day since these things occurred. (**Luke 24:21**)**
- **Moreover, certain women from among us also astonished us, because they had been early to the memorial tomb. (**Luke 24:22**)**
- **But did not find his body and they came saying they had also seen a supernatural sight of angels, who said he is alive. (**Luke 24:23**)**
- **Further, some of those with us went off to the memorial tomb, and they found it so, just as the women had said, but they did not see him. (**Luke 24:24**)**
- **So he said to them; O senseless ones and slow in heart to believe on all the things the prophets spoke! (**Luke 24:25**)**

- **Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into his glory? (Luke 24:26)**
- **And commencing at Moses and all the Prophets he interpreted to them things pertaining to himself in all the Scriptures. (Luke 24:27)**
- **He now said to them; These are my words which I spoke to you while I was yet with you, that all the things written in the Law of Moses and in the Prophets and Psalms about me must be fulfilled. (Luke 24:44)**
- **By his loyalty and integrity until death, Jesus proved that the ruler of the world, God's Adversary, Satan, had no hold on him and that Jesus had indeed conquered the world.**
- **So now I have told you before it occurs, in order, that, when it does occur, you may believe. (John 14:29)**
- **I shall not speak much with you anymore, for the ruler of the world is coming. And he has no hold on me. (John 14:30)**
- **But, in order for the world to know that I love the Father, even as the Father has given me commandment to do, so I am doing. Get up, let us go from here. (John 14:31)**
- **I have said these things to you that by means of me you may have peace. In the world you are having tribulation, but take courage! I have conquered the world. (John 16:33)**
- **Additionally, even while his Son was impaled on the stake, Yehowah gave evidence of his superior power; The light of the sun was blacked out for a time, there was also a strong earthquake and the ripping in two of the large curtain in the temple.**
- **And, look! The curtain of the sanctuary was rent in two, from top to bottom, and the earth quaked, and the rock-masses were split. (Matthew 27:51)**
- **And the memorial tombs were opened and many bodies of the holy ones that had fallen asleep were raised up. (Matthew 27:52)**
- **And persons, coming out from among the memorial tombs after**

his being raised up, entered into the holy city, and they became visible to many people. ([Matthew 27:53](#))

- **But the army officer and those with him watching over Jesus, when they saw the earthquake and the things happening, grew very much afraid, saying; Certainly this was God's Son. ([Matthew 27:54](#))**
- **Well, by now it was about the sixth hour, and yet a darkness fell over all the earth until the ninth hour. ([Luke 23:44](#))**
- **Because the sunlight failed, then the curtain of the sanctuary was rent down the middle. ([Luke 23:45](#))**
- **On the third day thereafter, he gave far greater evidence of his Sovereignty when he resurrected his Son to spirit life, despite the puny efforts of men to prevent the resurrection by posting guards before Jesus sealed tomb.**
- **After the Sabbath, when it was growing light on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to view the grave. ([Matthew 28:1](#))**
- **And, notice! A great earthquake had taken place, for Yehowah's angel had descended from heaven and approached and rolled away the stone, and was sitting on it. ([Matthew 28:2](#))**
- **His outward appearance was as lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. ([Matthew 28:3](#))**
- **Yes, for fear of him the watchmen trembled and became as dead men. ([Matthew 28:4](#))**
- **But the angel in answer said to the women; Do not you be fearful, for I know you are looking for Jesus who was impaled. ([Matthew 28:5](#))**
- **He is not here, for he was raised up, as he said. Come, see the place where he was lying. ([Matthew 28:6](#))**
- **And go quickly and tell his disciples that he was raised up from the dead, and, look! He is going ahead of you into Galilee, there you will see him. Look! I have told you. ([Matthew 28:7](#))**

· The Kingdom Of The Son Of His Love

· **Ten days after Jesus ascension to heaven, on Pentecost of 33 C.E, his disciples had evidence that he had been exalted to the right hand of God when Jesus poured out Holy Spirit upon them.**

· **But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit arrives upon you, and you will be witnesses of me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the most distant part of the earth. (Acts of Apostles 1:8)**

· **And after he had said these things, while they were looking on, he was lifted up and a cloud caught him up from their vision. (Acts of Apostles 1:9)**

· **Now while the day of the festival of Pentecost was in progress they were all together at the same place. (Acts of Apostles 2:1)**

· **And suddenly there occurred from heaven a noise just like that of a rushing stiff breeze, and it filled the whole house in which they were sitting. (Acts of Apostles 2:2)**

· **And tongues as if of fire became visible to them and were distributed about, and one sat upon each one of them. (Acts of Apostles 2:3)**

· **And they all became filled with Holy Spirit and started to speak with different tongues, just as the spirit was granting them to make utterance. (Acts of Apostles 2:4)**

· **Men, brothers, it is allowable to speak with freeness of speech to you concerning the family head David, that he both deceased and was buried and his tomb is among us to this day. (Acts of Apostles 2:29)**

· **Therefore, because he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath that he would seat one from the fruitage of his loins upon his throne. (Acts of Apostles 2:30)**

· **He saw beforehand and spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that neither was he forsaken in Hades nor did his flesh see corruption. (Acts of Apostles 2:31)**

· **This Jesus God resurrected, of which fact we are all witnesses.**

(Acts of Apostles 2:32)

- Therefore because he was exalted to the right hand of God and received the promised Holy Spirit from the Father, he has poured out this which you see and hear. **(Acts of Apostles 2:33)**
- **The New Covenant thus became operative toward them, and they became the nucleus of a new holy nation, Spiritual Israel.**
- But you have approached a Mount Zion and a city of the living God, heavenly Jerusalem, and myriads of angels. **(Hebrews 12:22)**
- In general assembly, and the congregation of the firstborn who have been enrolled in the heavens, and God the Judge of all, and the spiritual lives of righteous ones who have been made perfect. **(Hebrews 12:23)**
- And Jesus the mediator of a New Covenant, and the blood of sprinkling, which speaks in a better way than Abel's blood. **(Hebrews 12:24)**
- But you are, a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for special possession, that you should declare abroad the excellencies, of the one that called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. **(1 Peter 2:9)**
- For you were once not a people, but are now God's people; You were those who had not been shown mercy, but are now those who have been shown mercy. **(1 Peter 2:10)**
- And all those who will walk orderly by this rule of conduct, upon them be peace and mercy, even upon the Israel of God. **(Galatians 6:16)**
- **Christ was now sitting at his Father's right hand and was the Head over this congregation.**
- Because a husband is head of his wife as the Christ also is head of the congregation, he being a savior of this body. **(Ephesians 5:23)**
- He is the reflection of his glory and the exact representation of his very being, and he sustains all things by the word of his

power, and after he had made a purification for our sins he sat down on the right hand of the Majesty in lofty places. (**Hebrews 1:3**)

- For this very reason also God exalted him to a superior position and kindly gave him the name that is above every other name. (**Philippians 2:9**)
- So that in the name of Jesus every knee should bend of those in heaven and those on earth and those under the ground. (**Philippians 2:10**)
- And every tongue should openly acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. (**Philippians 2:11**)
- The Scriptures show that from Pentecost **33 C.E.** onward, a spiritual **kingdom** was set up over his disciples. When writing to **First Century** Christians at Colossae, the apostle Paul referred to Jesus Christ as already having a kingdom. God delivered us from the authority of the darkness and transferred us **into the kingdom of the Son of his love.**
- He delivered us from the authority of the darkness and transferred us into the **kingdom of the Son of his love.** (**Colossians 1:13**)
- When they did not find them they dragged Jason and certain brothers to the city rulers, crying out; These men that have overturned the inhabited earth are present here also. (**Acts of Apostles 17:6**)
- And Jason has received them with hospitality. And all these men act in opposition to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king, Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 17:7**)
- Christ's **kingdom** from **Pentecost of 33 C.E.** onward has been a spiritual one ruling over Spiritual Israel, Christians who have been begotten by God's spirit to become the spiritual children of God.
- In answer Jesus said to him; Most truly I say to you, unless anyone is born again, he cannot see the **kingdom** of God. (**John 3:3**)
- Jesus answered; Most truly I say to you, unless anyone is born

from water and spirit, he cannot enter into the **kingdom** of God. (John 3:5)

- What has been born from the flesh is flesh, and what has been born from the spirit is spirit. (John 3:6)
- When such spirit-begotten Christians receive their heavenly reward, they will no longer be earthly subjects of the spiritual **kingdom** of Christ, but they will be kings with Christ in heaven.
- And they sing a new song, saying; You are worthy to take the scroll and open its seals, because you were slaughtered and with your blood you bought persons for God out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation. (Revelation 5:9)
- And you made them to be a **kingdom** and priests to our God, and they are to rule as kings over the earth. (Revelation 5:10)

•• Kingdom Of Our Lord And Of His Christ

- The apostle John, writing toward the close of the **First Century C.E.**, foresaw through a divine revelation the future time when Yehowah God, by means of his Son, would make a new expression of divine rulership.
- At that time, as in the time of David's bringing the Ark up to Jerusalem, it would be said that Yehowah has taken his great power and begun ruling as king. This would be the time for loud voices in heaven to proclaim; The **kingdom** of the world did become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will rule as king forever and ever.
- And the seventh angel blew his trumpet. And loud voices occurred in heaven, saying; The **kingdom** of the world did become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will rule as king forever and ever. (Revelation 11:15)
- Saying; We thank you, Yehowah God, the Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and begun ruling as king. (Revelation 11:17)
- Thus they brought the ark of the true God in and placed it inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and they began to present burnt offerings and communion sacrifices before the true God. (1

Chronicles 16:1)

- Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be joyful, and let them say among the nations, Yehowah himself has become king! (**1 Chronicles 16:31**)
- It is our Lord, the Sovereign Lord Yehowah, who asserts his authority over the **kingdom of the world**, setting up a new expression of his sovereignty toward our earth.
- He gives to his Son, Jesus Christ, a subsidiary share in that Kingdom, so that it is termed, **the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ**. This Kingdom is of greater proportions and bigger dimensions than the kingdom of the Son of his love, spoken of at;
- He delivered us from the authority of the darkness and transferred us into the **kingdom of the Son of his love**. (**Colossians 1:13**)
- The **kingdom of the Son of his love**, began at Pentecost **33 C.E.** and has been over Christ's anointed disciples, **the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ**, is brought forth at the end of the appointed times of the nations and is over all mankind on earth.
- And they will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive into all the nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled on by the nations, until the appointed times of the nations are fulfilled. (**Luke 21:24**)
- Upon receiving a share in the **kingdom of the world**, Jesus Christ takes necessary measures to clean out opposition to God's sovereignty.
- The initial action takes place in the heavenly realm, Satan and his demons are defeated and cast down to the earthly realm. This results in the proclamation. Now have come to pass the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ.
- And a great sign was seen in heaven, a woman arrayed with the sun, and the moon was beneath her feet, and on her head was a crown of twelve stars. (**Revelation 12:1**)
- And she was pregnant. And she cries out in her pains and in her agony to give birth. (**Revelation 12:2**)

- **And another sign was seen in heaven, and, look! A great fiery-colored dragon, with seven heads and ten horns and upon its heads seven diadems. (Revelation 12:3)**
- **And its tail drags a third of the stars of heaven, and it hurled them down to the earth. And the dragon kept standing before the woman who was about to give birth, that, when she did give birth, it might devour her child. (Revelation 12:4)**
- **And she gave birth to a son, a male, who is to shepherd all the nations with an iron rod. And her child was caught away to God and to his throne. (Revelation 12:5)**
- **And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and sixty days. (Revelation 12:6)**
- **And war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels battled with the dragon, and the dragon and its angels battled (Revelation 12:7)**
- **But it did not prevail, neither was a place found for them any longer in heaven. (Revelation 12:8)**
- **So down the great dragon was hurled, the original serpent, the one called Devil and Satan, who is misleading the entire inhabited earth, he was hurled down to the earth, and his angels were hurled down with him. (Revelation 12:9)**
- **And I heard a loud voice in heaven say; Now have come to pass the salvation and the power and the **kingdom of our God** and the authority of his Christ, because the accuser of our brothers has been hurled down, who accuses them day and night before our God! (Revelation 12:10)**
- **During the short period of time remaining to him, this principal Adversary, Satan, continues to fulfill the prophecy at;**
- **And I shall put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed. He will bruise you in the head and you will bruise him in the heel. (Genesis 3:15)**
- **By warring against, the remaining ones, of the **seed** of the woman, the holy ones due to govern with Christ.**

- **Now when the dragon saw that it was hurled down to the earth, it persecuted the woman that gave birth to the male child. (Revelation 12:13)**
- **But the two wings of the great eagle were given the woman, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, there is where she is fed for a time and times and half a time away from the face of the serpent. (Revelation 12:14)**
- **And the serpent disgorged water like a river from its mouth after the woman, to cause her to be drowned by the river. (Revelation 12:15)**
- **But the earth came to the woman's help, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the river that the dragon disgorged from its mouth. (Revelation 12:16)**
- **And the dragon grew wrathful at the woman, and went off to wage war with the remaining ones of her seed, who observe the commandments of God and have the work of bearing witness to Jesus. (Revelation 12:17)**
- **And they worshiped the dragon because it gave the authority to the wild beast, and they worshiped the wild beast with the words. Who is like the wild beast, and who can do battle with it? (Revelation 13:4)**
- **And a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies was given it, and authority to act forty-two months was given it. (Revelation 13:5)**
- **And it opened its mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme his name and his residence, even those residing in heaven. (Revelation 13:6)**
- **And there was granted it to wage war with the holy ones and conquer them, and authority was given it over every tribe and people and tongue and nation. (Revelation 13:7)**
- **I kept on beholding when that very horn made war upon the holy ones, and it was prevailing against them. (Daniel 7:21)**
- **Until the Ancient of Days came and judgment itself was given in**

- favor of the holy ones of the Supreme One, and the definite time arrived that the holy ones took possession of the **kingdom** itself. (**Daniel 7:22**)
- This is what he said; As for the fourth beast, there is a fourth **kingdom** that will come to be on the earth, that will be different from all the other kingdoms, and it will devour all the earth and will trample it down and crush it. (**Daniel 7:23**)
 - And as for the ten horns, out of that **kingdom** there are ten kings that will rise up, and still another one will rise up after them, and he himself will be different from the first ones, and three kings he will humiliate. (**Daniel 7:24**)
 - And he will speak even words against the Most High, and he will harass continually the holy ones themselves of the Supreme One. And he will intend to change times and law, and they will be given into his hand for a time, and times and half a time. (**Daniel 7:25**)
 - And the Court itself proceeded to sit, and his own rulership they finally took away, in order to annihilate him and to destroy him totally. (**Daniel 7:26**)
 - And the **kingdom** and the rulership and the grandeur of the kingdoms under all the heavens were given to the people who are the holy ones of the Supreme One. Their kingdom is an indefinitely lasting kingdom, and all the rulerships will serve and obey even them. (**Daniel 7:27**)
 - **Yehowah's righteous decrees are made manifest, nevertheless, and his expressions of judgment come as plagues upon those opposing him, resulting in the destruction of mystic Babylon the Great, the prime persecutor on earth of God's servants.**
 - **Who will not really fear you, Yehowah, and glorify your name, because you alone are loyal? For all the nations will come and worship before you, because your righteous decrees have been made manifest. (**Revelation 15:4**)**
 - **And I heard a loud voice out of the sanctuary say to the seven angels; Go and pour out the seven bowls of the anger of God into the earth. (**Revelation 16:1**)**

- **And I heard what was as a voice of a great crowd and as a sound of many waters and as a sound of heavy thunders. They said; Praise Yah, you people, because Yehowah our God, the Almighty, has begun to rule as king. (Revelation 19:6)**
- **Thereafter, the **kingdom** of our Lord and of his Christ, sends its heavenly armies against the rulers of all earthly kingdoms and their armies in an Armageddon fight, bringing them to an end.**
- **They are, in fact, expressions inspired by demons and perform signs, and they go forth to the kings of the entire inhabited earth, to gather them together to the war of the great day of God the Almighty. (Revelation 16:14)**
- **Look! I am coming as a thief. Happy is the one that stays awake and keeps his outer garments, that he may not walk naked and people look upon his shamefulness. (Revelation 16:15)**
- **And they gathered them together to the place that is called in Hebrew Har–Magedon. (Revelation 16:16)**
- **And I saw the heaven opened, and, look! A white horse. And the one seated upon it is called Faithful and True, and he judges and carries on war in righteousness. (Revelation 19:11)**
- **His eyes are a fiery flame, and upon his head are many diadems. He has a name written that no one knows, but he himself. (Revelation 19:12)**
- **And he is arrayed with an outer garment sprinkled with blood, and the name he is called is The Word of God. (Revelation 19:13)**
- **Also, the armies that were in heaven were following him on white horses, and they were clothed in white, clean, fine linen. (Revelation 19:14)**
- **And out of his mouth there protrudes a sharp long sword, that he may strike the nations with it, and he will shepherd them with a rod of iron. He treads too the winepress of the anger of the wrath of God the Almighty. (Revelation 19:15)**
- **And upon his outer garment, even upon his thigh, he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords. (Revelation 19:16)**

- I saw also an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice and said to all the birds that fly in midheaven; Come here, be gathered together to the great evening meal of God. **(Revelation 19:17)**
- That you may eat the fleshy parts of kings and the fleshy parts of military commanders and the fleshy parts of strong men and the fleshy parts of horses and of those seated upon them, and the fleshy parts of all, of freemen as well as of slaves and of small ones and great. **(Revelation 19:18)**
- And I saw the wild beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to wage the war with the one seated on the horse and with his army. **(Revelation 19:19)**
- And the wild beast was caught, and along with it the false prophet that performed in front of it the signs with which he misled those who received the mark of the wild beast and those who render worship to its image. While still alive, they both were hurled into the fiery lake that burns with sulphur. **(Revelation 19:20)**
- But the rest were killed off with the long sword of the one seated on the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth. And all the birds were filled from the fleshy parts of them. **(Revelation 19:21)**
- This is the answer to the petition to God. Let your **kingdom** come. Let your will take place, as in heaven, also upon earth.
- Let your **kingdom** come. Let your will take place, as in heaven, also upon earth. **(Matthew 6:10)**
- Satan is then abyssed and a thousand-year period begins in which Christ Jesus and his associates rule as kings and priests over earth's inhabitants.
- And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven with the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. **(Revelation 20:1)**
- Happy and holy is anyone having part in the first resurrection, over these the second death has no authority, but they will be priests of God and of the Christ, and will rule as kings with him for the thousand years. **(Revelation 20:6)**

· Christ Hands Over The Kingdom

- The apostle Paul also describes the rule of Christ during his presence. After Christ resurrects his followers from death, he proceeds to bring to nothing all government and all authority and power, logically referring to all government, authority, and power in opposition to God's sovereign will.
- Then, at the end of his Millennial Reign, he hands over the **kingdom** to his God and Father, subjecting himself to the One who subjected all things to him, that God may be all things to everyone.
- For since death is through a man, resurrection of the dead is also through a man. (1 Corinthians 15:21)
- For just as in Adam all are dying, so also in the Christ all will be made alive. (1 Corinthians 15:22)
- But each one in his own rank. Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who belong to the Christ during his presence. (1 Corinthians 15:23)
- Next, the end, when he hands over the **kingdom** to his God and Father, when he has brought to nothing all government and all authority and power. (1 Corinthians 15:24)
- For he must rule as king until God has put all enemies under his feet. (1 Corinthians 15:25)
- As the last enemy, death is to be brought to nothing. (1 Corinthians 15:26)
- For God subjected all things under his feet. But when he says that all things have been subjected, it is evident that it is with the exception of the one who subjected all things to him. (1 Corinthians 15:27)
- But when all things will have been subjected to him, then the Son himself will also subject himself to the One who subjected all things to him, that God may be all things to everyone. (1 Corinthians 15:28)

- Since Christ hands over the **kingdom** to his God and Father, in what sense is his **Kingdom everlasting**, as repeatedly stated in the Scriptures?
- In fact, thus there will be richly supplied to you the entrance into the **everlasting kingdom** of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 1:11)
- To the abundance of the princely rule and to peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and upon his **kingdom** in order to establish it firmly and to sustain it by means of justice and by means of righteousness, from now on and to time indefinite. The very zeal of Yehowah of armies will do this. (Isaiah 9:7)
- And to him there were given rulership and dignity and **kingdom**, that the peoples, national groups and languages should all serve even him. His rulership is an **indefinitely lasting rulership** that will not pass away, and his **kingdom** one that will not be brought to ruin. (Daniel 7:14)
- And he will rule as king over the house of Jacob forever, and there will be **no end of his kingdom**. (Luke 1:33)
- And the seventh angel blew his trumpet. And loud voices occurred in heaven, saying; The **kingdom** of the world did become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will rule as king forever and ever. (Revelation 11:15)
- His **Kingdom**, will never be brought to ruin, its accomplishments will endure forever, he will eternally be honored for his role as Messianic King.
- And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a **kingdom** that will never be brought to ruin. And the kingdom itself will not be passed on to any other people. It will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, and it itself will stand to times indefinite. (Daniel 2:44)
- During the Thousand Year Reign, Christ's rule toward earth involves priestly action toward obedient mankind.
- And they sing a new song, saying; You are worthy to take the scroll and open its seals, because you were slaughtered and with your blood you bought persons for God out of every tribe and

- tongue and people and nation. (**Revelation 5:9**)
- **And you made them to be a **kingdom** and priests to our God, and they are to rule as kings over the earth. (**Revelation 5:10**)**
 - **Happy and holy is anyone having part in the first resurrection, over these the second death has no authority, but they will be priests of God and of the Christ, and will rule as kings with him for the thousand years. (**Revelation 20:6**)**
 - **And I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea is no more. (**Revelation 21:1**)**
 - **I saw also the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God and prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. (**Revelation 21:2**)**
 - **With that I heard a loud voice from the throne say; Look! The tent of God is with mankind, and he will reside with them, and they will be his peoples. And God himself will be with them. (**Revelation 21:3**)**
 - **By this means the dominion of sin and death as kings over obedient mankind, subjected to their **law**, thus ends, undeserved kindness and righteousness are the ruling factors.**
 - **Nevertheless, death ruled as king from Adam down to Moses, even over those who had not sinned after the likeness of the transgression by Adam, who bears a resemblance to him that was to come. (**Romans 5:14**)**
 - **For if by the trespass of the one man death ruled as king through that one, much more will those who receive the abundance of the undeserved kindness and of the free gift of righteousness rule as kings in life through the one person, Jesus Christ. (**Romans 5:17**)**
 - **To what end? That, just as sin ruled as king with death, likewise also undeserved kindness might rule as king through righteousness with everlasting life in view through Jesus Christ our Lord. (**Romans 5:21**)**
 - **Since sin and death are to be completely removed from earth's inhabitants, this also brings to an end the need for Jesus serving as a**

helper with the Father in the sense of providing propitiation for the sins of imperfect human's.

- My little children, I am writing you these things that you may not commit a sin. And yet, if anyone does commit a sin, we have a helper with the Father, Jesus Christ, a righteous one. (**1 John 2:1**)
- And he is a propitiatory sacrifice for our sins, yet not for ours only but also for the whole world's. (**1 John 2:2**)
- That brings mankind back to the original status enjoyed when the perfect man Adam was in Eden. Adam while perfect needed no one to stand between him and God to make propitiation.
- So, too, at the termination of **Jesus Thousand Year Rule**, earth's inhabitants will be both in position and under responsibility to answer for their course of action before Yehowah God as the Supreme Judge, without recourse to anyone as legal intermediary, or helper.
- Yehowah, the Sovereign Power, thus becomes all things to everyone. This means that God's purpose to gather all things together again in the Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, will have been fully realized.
- But when all things will have been subjected to him, then the Son himself will also subject himself to the One who subjected all things to him, that God may be all things to everyone. (**1 Corinthians 15:28**)
- In that he made known to us the sacred secret of his will. It is according to his good pleasure which he purposed in himself (**Ephesians 1:9**)
- For an administration at the full limit of the appointed times, namely, to gather all things together again in the Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth. Yes, in him. (**Ephesians 1:10**)
- Jesus Millennial Rule will have fully accomplished its purpose. Earth, once a focus of rebellion, will have been restored to a full, clean, and undisputed position in the realm, or domain, of the Universal Sovereign. No subsidiary **kingdom** will remain between Yehowah and obedient mankind.

- Following this, however, a final test is made of the integrity and devotion of all such earthly subjects. Satan is loosed from his restraint in the abyss. Those yielding to his seduction do so on the same issue raised in Eden, **the rightfulness of God's sovereignty.**

- This is seen by their attacking, the camp of the holy ones and the beloved city. Since that issue has been judicially settled and declared closed by the Court of heaven, no prolonged rebellion is permitted in this case.

- Those failing to stand loyally on God's side will not be able to appeal to Christ Jesus as a propitiatory helper, but Yehowah God will be all things to them, with no appeal or mediation possible. All rebels, spirit and human, receive the divine sentence of destruction in the second death.

- Now as soon as the thousand years have been ended, Satan will be let loose out of his prison. (**Revelation 20:7**)

- And he will go out to mislead those nations in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war. The number of these is as the sand of the sea. (**Revelation 20:8**)

- And they advanced over the breadth of the earth and encircled the camp of the holy ones and the beloved city. But fire came down out of heaven and devoured them. (**Revelation 20:9**)

- And the Devil who was misleading them was hurled into the lake of fire and sulphur, where both the wild beast and the false prophet already were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. (**Revelation 20:10**)

- And I saw a great white throne and the one seated on it. From before him the earth and the heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. (**Revelation 20:11**)

- And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. But another scroll was opened, it is the scroll of life. And the dead were judged out of those things written in the scrolls according to their deeds. (**Revelation 20:12**)

- And the sea gave up those dead in it, and death and Hades gave

up those dead in them, and they were judged individually according to their deeds. (**Revelation 20:13**)

- **And death and Hades were hurled into the lake of fire. This means the second death, the lake of fire. (Revelation 20:14)**
- **Furthermore, whoever was not found written in the book of life was hurled into the lake of fire. (Revelation 20:15)**