

## David's Throne – Where is it today?

In Ezekiel 21:25-27 we read of David's throne being overturned three times – what does this mean and how can we find that throne today both from the scriptures and ancient records. *'And you, profane wicked prince of Israel, [ King Zedekiah] whose day is come, when iniquity shall have an end, Thus says the Lord GOD; Remove the turban, and take off the crown: this shall not remain the same: exalt him that is low, and abase him that is high. I will overturn, overturn, overturn, it: and it shall be no more, until he comes whose right it is; and I will give it to him.'*

Before those events happened we need to go back into the scriptures to find out about David's throne and what God says about it. In chapter 49: 1 of Genesis, God is prophesying the futures of all of the 12 sons of Jacob - *'And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you **in the last days.***' God then tells us in verse 10 that - *'The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, **until Shiloh comes; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.***' Judah was just one of the 12 sons of Jacob (who was later re-named Israel by God), and David's line came from that tribe. In 2 Samuel 7:16, David's throne is prophesied by God, through Nathan the prophet, to remain forever on the earth, *'And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you: **your throne shall be established forever.***'

Verse 10, of the same chapter says *'Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and **will plant them,** that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as before,'*

Psalms 89 also has references to the continuance of the royal line through David's family. Verses 3-4, *'I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant, **Your seed will I establish forever, and build up your throne to all generations. His descendants also will I make to endure forever, and his throne as the days of heaven.***' And also verses 29-37, *'If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments; If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments; Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes. Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor allow my faithfulness to fail. My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips. Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David. **His descendants shall endure forever, and his throne as the sun before me. It shall be established forever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven.*** Selah.'

In 1 Kings 9:5, God says to Solomon, David's son - *'Then I will establish the throne of your kingdom upon Israel forever, **as I promised to David your father,** saying, There shall not fail you a man upon the throne of Israel.'*

So, we have established from God's word that the throne of David is always going to be on this earth until the return of Jesus Christ.

Now, back into history. The Israelites rejected the theocracy of God and requested a king to rule over them. Saul, from the tribe of Benjamin was chosen, but proved unsatisfactory, and David of the tribe of Judah was chosen instead. This happened about 400 years after Israel entered the Promised Land, in about 1040BC. After David's death, his son Solomon ruled and then his son Rehoboam inherited the throne and was harsh and foolish, and caused the nation to divide. The Southern tribes of Judah

and Benjamin, stayed with Rehoboam, but the other 10 tribes of Israel, in the North, chose Jeroboam to become their king and they began to follow pagan gods. These northern tribes were taken captive by the Assyrians and when they, in turn were defeated by Babylon, Israel moved West to the coasts of Europe.

There is an interesting account of the travels of a major part of Israel, the ten Northern tribes, after their captors the Assyrians were defeated by the Babylonians. We find it in one of those historical books which have been discontinued from the Bible – the Apocrypha, which is still recognised as part of the Deuterocanonical Scripture by the Roman Catholic, Greek and Russian orthodox Churches, 2 Esdras :40-46,

*‘ These are the ten tribes which were led away from their own land into captivity in the days of King Hoshea, whom Shalmaneser the King of the Assyrians led captive; he took them across the river, and they were taken into another land. But they formed this plan for themselves, that they would leave the multitude of the nations and go to a more distant region, where mankind had never lived, that there at least they might keep their statutes which they had not kept in their own land. And they went in by the narrow passages of the Euphrates river. For at that time the Most High performed signs for them, and stopped the channels of the river until they had passed over. Through that region there was a long way to go, a journey of a year and a half; and that country is called Arzareth [that is- Another Land]. Then they dwelt there until the last times...’*

This account tallies with the fact that it is known that the ten tribes dwelt in what we call Asia Minor or Turkey, for a while, before moving North and West into the coasts and islands off Europe.’

In 585 BC Judah (the Southern Kingdom) was taken into captivity by Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, and Zedekiah was the king at that time. His eyes were put out after he had just seen all his sons killed, but Nebuchadnezzar had no knowledge of the law of Israel which said the daughters could inherit, as we can read in this story in Numbers 27:7-8, *‘The daughters of Zelophehad speak right: you shall surely give them a possession of an inheritance among their father's brethren; and you shall cause the inheritance of their father to pass unto them. And you shall speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If a man dies, and has no son, then you shall cause his inheritance to pass unto his daughter. And if he has no daughter, then you shall give his inheritance unto his brethren.’*

Zedekiah had daughters and the prophet Jeremiah escaped to Egypt with them, and tradition says he also took a harp, the Ark and a ‘stone’ - Jacob’s pillar stone, upon which all the Kings of Israel had always been crowned.

Jeremiah 43: 5-7, *‘But Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces, took all the remnant of Judah, that were returned from all nations, where they had been driven, to dwell in the land of Judah; Even men, and women, and children, and the king's daughters, and every person that Nebuzar-adan the captain of the guard had left with Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Jeremiah the prophet, and Baruch the son of Neriah. So they came into the land of Egypt: for they obeyed not the voice of the LORD: thus came they even to Tahpanhes.’*

The princesses were under the care and protection of the prophet Jeremiah and Baruch the scribe - taking with them the harp, Ark and Stone [of Scone] which Jacob had anointed with oil at Bethel (Gen 35:14). The Bible tells us no more, but there is a lot of evidence in ancient stories and poems which continue the story for us. In Egypt they met an Irish Prince who subsequently married Tea

Tephi, one of the daughters. They travelled from Egypt to Ireland, via Spain. The harp is still pictured on the Irish flag today.'

This was the **first overturning** of David's throne.

**The second overturning** was to Scotland and by Fergus, a descendant who invaded its Western coasts, and the Scots surrendered their kingdom to him. He sent for the Stone to be crowned upon, as tradition had always dictated. This was in about AD 500, and the stone resided in Scone, in Scotland, in an ancient abbey, where it continued to be used in the coronation of all future kings of Scotland.

**The third overturning** was in 1296AD when Edward 1 of England invaded and removed it to Westminster Abbey in England. It also came along with a golden sceptre, the crown of Scotland and some crown jewels. To show his respect for the Stone, Edward had a beautiful chair made to house it, and the chair is still in the Abbey today. The present Queen was crowned sitting upon it, and though the stone is now kept in Scotland, it will be returned for the coronation of her heirs. The Royal Standard of Britain is supported by a unicorn on the left, the symbol of the leading tribe in Israel, Ephraim, and a lion on the right, the symbol of the tribe of Judah, from which the monarch is descended, through that princess Tea Tephi.

So God's promise to David continues, with one of his heirs still ruling over a major part of Israel over three thousand years later. Moreover, that throne is found in a nation called Britain, the land of the British, from two Hebrew words, Strongs no. 128 - bryyth, meaning covenant , and Strongs no.376 - iysh, meaning man.

Ezekiel 17:22-24,, *'Thus says the Lord GOD; I will also take of the highest branch of the high cedar, and will set it; I will crop off from the top of his young twigs a tender one, and will plant it upon a high and prominent mountain: **In the mountain of the height of Israel** will I plant it: and it shall bring forth boughs, and bear fruit, **and be a splendid cedar:** and under it shall dwell **all fowl of every sort** [Commonwealth]; in the shadow of its branches shall they dwell. And all the trees of the field shall know that I the LORD have brought down the high tree, have exalted the low tree, have dried up the green tree, and have made the dry tree to flourish: I the LORD have spoken and have done it.'*

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