

Kings Norton Baptist Church

Sunday 1st September 2024 10 am

God's great plan of the promised King

Welcome to all

Opening Scripture Psalm 43:3-4a

Hymn MP 109 Crown him with many crowns

Scripture Psalm 45:1-9, Psalm 47 (page 569)

Prayer of praise and thanksgiving.

Children's talk The footsteps are closing (Christ's return)

Chorus MP 454 Majesty / Jesus is the King

Prayer

Notices Evening service 5pm, Fellowship lunch last Sunday,
Google Translate code,
Goodbye to Moji Ade, Peace, Prestige and ?

Prayer and Lord's prayer

Reading Genesis 49:1-12 (page 55)

Hymn MP 366 Jesus is King

Sermon God's great plan

Hymn MP1000 King of Kings Majesty

Closing prayer : "Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen." 1 Timothy 1:17

Prayer

You and I live in a world of despair and death. But far away in the heavenly realms, and far back even before time began - the Lord God planned a rescue – a rescuer to bring us from death to life - and from despair to hope. Today we look at this great plan.

Here, at the end of Genesis, we find Jacob at the end of his life. He's on his deathbed..

- When my friend John died his family were gathered around the bed. His wife said "What more could you ask for". Most today see that as the best way 'to go'.
- However, it's not a moment that always bring out the best in the children, particularly if they're grown up. Jealousies and greed arise. "What will I get" goes the thinking.
- The worst of this is seen in the movie 'knives out' starring Daniel Craig. Here the whole family gather to see what the wealthy father has left to who.

1 "Gather round so that I can tell you what will happen to you in days to come", says Jacob to his children. He is now to make his Will known. There they are the twelve sons around the bed in order of their age. 2 "Assemble and listen, sons of Jacob; listen to your father Israel".

The great day for receiving their inheritance has arrived. What will I get? x2

Would Jacob's children be thinking about all that material prosperity the family had accrued? Or would they instead have their minds set on the hope of the Lord's spiritual blessing, for Jacob is no ordinary father, he is Abraham's grandson, God's friend. Jas 2:23

⇒ How about you? What is your heart set on? Is it on the world's fleeting treasures? Or the Lord's eternal favour?

The sermon title is 'God's great plan' x2. It is a plan birthed before the creation of the world and before time began in the eternal counsel of the triune God. This plan was first made know to us in Gen 3:15 where the Lord God promises One to come who **will crush** the **head** of Satan, the arch enemy of God, and the one who tempts us all to sin against God.

The promise had been made. A great victory over the accuser of our souls would one day take place. The Lord's favour can then come to the peoples of the world. This deliverer would come from the seed of Abram. This was given to him in a promise to him in Genesis 12. This promise or covenant was repeated to him in Genesis 15. Then again in Ch 17. It was repeated to Abraham's son Isaac in Genesis 26:4. It was given again to Isaac's son Jacob in Genesis 28:14.

First revealed to Abraham and then his family, today we trace this royal line as it runs through the scriptures pointing forward to Jesus the fulfillment and centre of God's purposes. The devil did his best to thwart it. He is deceiving people today - so ask yourself the question "Am I in God's saving plan?"

Here in this chapter 49 we see a key confirmation of this plan. God had made promises to Abraham that his son would be a blessing to the world. Who would this be? Was it Isaac? No. How about Jacob? No. Now Jacob had twelve sons, which one would it be? Surely it is Reuben the firstborn?

3 **Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, the first sign of my strength, excelling in honour, excelling in power.** Yes Reuben was his father's joy. How welcome he was to his parents his name means 'see, a son', to him belonged the pre-eminent position and power over his brothers.

But 4 **Turbulent as the waters, you will no longer excel, for you went up onto your father's bed, onto my couch and defiled it.** Reuben, was to receive that 'double portion' due to the firstborn, and yet he did something, he sinned in a way that made him forfeit his position. ... **you will no longer excel.**

No judge, no prophet, nor prince, is found of that tribe, nor any person of renown only Dathan and Abiram noted for their rebellion against Moses. That tribe seems to have lost all influence ending up away on the other side of the Jordan. Reuben himself was unstable. Here's a man who could not govern himself and his own appetites. Moral weakness ruins a man. It was forty years ago that he had been guilty of this sin, yet now it is remembered against him. Beware, your sin will find you out.

How about Simeon? v5 **Simeon and Levi are brothers—their swords are weapons of violence. Let me not enter their council, let me not join their assembly, for they have killed men in their anger and hamstringed oxen as they pleased. Cursed be their anger, so fierce, and their fury so cruel**

Simeon and Levi are put together - for together they displayed their cruelty in the destruction of Shechem. You can read all about that in Genesis 34 (recent sermon). **I will scatter them.** This was a destiny opposite to Levi's name which means 'attached' 29:34. They were restrained in two ways: Levi's cities were distributed among other tribes. Simeon surrounded. Map.

No it was not these three. Their lives provided a dark page against which Judah's glory bursts forth. 8 **Judah, your brothers will praise you; your hand will be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons will bow down to you.** More is written, we will come back to this passage in a moment.

13 **Zebulun will live by the seashore and become a haven for ships; his border will extend towards Sidon.** This was later fulfilled when, after two or three hundred years, the land of Canaan was divided by lot and the border of Zebulun went up towards the sea, Jos 19:11.

14 **Issachar is a scrawny donkey lying down between two saddlebags. When he sees how good is his resting place and how pleasant is his land, he will bend his shoulder to the burden and submit to forced labour.** The men of that tribe were strong and industrious, in a good and pleasant land.

16 **Dan will provide justice for his people as one of the tribes of Israel. Dan will be a serpent by the roadside, a viper along the path, that bites the horse's heels so that its rider tumbles backwards.** Here are people who like a serpent suddenly bit the heel of the traveller, maybe this was fulfilled in Samson who was of that tribe and delivered Israel out of the hands of the Philistines by catching them out in trickery, finally pulling down their temple on them.

19 **Gad will be attacked by a band of raiders, but he will attack them at their heels.** Gad signifies a troop. Jacob foresees the warlike character of the tribe, as they turned out to be, and beat their enemies in many skirmishes.

20 **Asher's food will be rich; he will provide delicacies fit for a king.** It was a very rich tribe, and whose area was considered the garden state of Israel.

21 **Naphtali is a doe set free that bears beautiful fawns.** a tribe that carries struggles in its name; signifying a doe wrestling and finding the blessing of freedom. A tribe affable and courteous, with language refined.

There is more written about 22 **Joseph** who is described as a **fruitful vine**. Sufficient for now to note the titles of the Lord God **the Mighty One of Jacob, - the Shepherd**, as in 48:15, yes in Psalm 23 the Lord is my shepherd and Ezekiel picks up this theme. **The Rock of Israel, - the Almighty**. It's an outpouring of the Lord's favour. Use your fingers to count the recurring word 'blessing' ... **who blesses you with blessings of the heavens above, blessings of the deep that lies below, blessings of the breast and womb. Your father's blessings are greater than the blessings of the ancient mountains, than the bounty of the age-old hills. Let all these rest on the head of Joseph, on the brow of the prince among his brothers.** Six times we read the word 'blessings' - I think we get the point.

27 **Benjamin is a ravenous wolf; in the morning he devours the prey, in the evening he divides the plunder.** A warlike tribe, strong and daring, they enriched themselves with the spoils of their enemies. Of this tribe were Ehud the second judge, and Saul the first king. Also were Esther and Mordecai. The Benjamites, like ravenous wolves, took vengeance on the men of Gibeah in Jud 20:14. The Apostle Paul was of this tribe. Ro 11:1, Php 3:5

All these tribal characterisations come to pass during the times of the OT. But Jacob's prophetic vision v1 **'In the days to come or latter days** RV looked beyond Moses and the tribes to the future time of Jesus. Let us look at this.

Expand text for Judah

Jacob had little to say that was good concerning his first three sons, but Judah was different. 8 **Judah, your brothers will praise you; His very name meant "Praise."**

Unlike Rachel Judah's mother, Leah was unloved by Jacob. By the birth of her fourth child she is reconciled to this. **She conceived again, and when she gave birth to a son she said, "This time I will praise the LORD." So she named him Judah.** Gen 29:35

He would be the leader among the tribes; especially in the dynasty of King David, who by his military prowess triumphed over Israel's enemies; **your hand will be on the neck of your enemies.** This is the one before whom all his family would bow down. **your father's sons will bow down to you.**

As the lion is king of beasts so Judah would dominate 9 **You are a lion's cub, O Judah; you return from the prey, my son. Like a lion he crouches and lies down, like a lioness— who dares to rouse him?**

The Lion is the strongest and fiercest animal you will meet, he is king of the forest. He roars around and holds people in fear. Judah was as strong as a young lion that has overwhelmed and eaten its prey, as secure as a mature lion resting in its den, whom no one would dare to rouse. And yet here is all that latent power within this gentle cub. As so clearly seen in the Lord Jesus Christ, **the Lion of the tribe of Judah** Rev. 5:5 **has triumphed.**

10 **The sceptre.** A sceptre was held by the King a sign of his power to rule.

Indeed Judah did become the leading tribe but not until the days of King David. The earlier leaders were from other tribes: **Moses** from Levi, **Joshua** from Ephraim, **Gideon** from Manasseh, **Samson** from Dan, **Samuel** from Ephraim, and **Saul** from Benjamin. Jacob could only foretell Judah's pre-eminence and prosperity by divine inspiration. Judah did not actually receive the "sceptre" of leadership for over 640 years after Jacob's prophecy.

Once David became king, however, Judah was the dominant tribe from then on. 10 **nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, likely** refers to Judah's seed. And a rule that will last **until he comes to whom it belongs** as our NIV Bible says. What does this mean? Especially when the AV says **until Shiloh come.**

Shiloh was the name of a town later built near Bethel. For a while during the period of the judges the tabernacle was set up there; but it never was a very important town and was later destroyed by the Philistines. But the prophecy cannot refer to a town - for we can see that Shiloh is intended to be a person.

The Hebrew text here is SLH. There were only consonants not vowels. Was it *shee-lo*, Siloh? or saylöh, 'tribute-payment to him' or selloh, meaning 'that (which) to him'. change things slightly gives 'whose it is' or 'until he come whose right it is.' Ezekiel 21 :27 renders the same phrase **until he comes to whom it rightfully belongs;** In other words Judah will continue to be the royal house until he comes as RSV says **to he to whom it belongs.** YLT has **till his Seed come.** > Jesus' triumphal entry to the temple – destroyed AD 70.

SLH as a Messianic title means something like '*the establisher of peace*' or 'place of rest' (Faussett). Isaiah calls the promised Christ the **Prince of peace** 9:6

Jesus was of the tribe of Judah and King David's great Son. Isaiah says **In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious.** Isa 11:10. Only in Christ is found the peace of ultimate and eternal glorious rest.

Jacob in his prophecy looked down the corridors of time, he searched with his telescope to see this Son of Judah, this light and life to the gentiles, this coming Seed through whom all the families of the earth will be blessed.

11 He will tether his donkey to a vine, his colt to the choicest branch; he will wash his garments in wine, his robes in the blood of grapes. Not only would Judah's tribe be strong and courageous, but his land would be productive and fruitful. Vines would grow so strongly that even the donkey would be tethered to them.

12 His eyes will be darker than wine, his teeth whiter than milk." A picture of health, prosperity and beauty.

The royal line runs through the scriptures from that first promise made in the Garden of Eden. Here is the line of hope. Here the eternal purpose of God unfolds through the generations towards the Royal Son. It will be He who will become the suffering servant. It is through His humbling, His suffering, His body broken, that a way is made, a doorway opened for you and I to come to find peace with God Almighty.

Yet Satan, the devil tries constantly to stop and thwart God's plan

The Serpent did his utmost to break this royal line. Judah's sons were wicked so the Lord put them to death. Where's the royal line now? The Lord continues Judah's line through Tamar his daughter in law.

The widow Ruth marries Judah's descendant Boaz and their child Obed was the father of Jesse the father of Kings David. The Royal line continues through Solomon the second son born to Bathsheba after David's adultery. Satan causes the Kingdom to split through Solomon's foolish son King Rehoboam. Most of Israel ceases to exist – but the Lord keeps Judah.

Satan tries to destroy the royal line through the exile to Babylon, but it continues with the return of Zerubbabel and on to Mary and Joseph.

Christ is born of a supernatural birth. Herod orders the destruction of all boys under two. Just as with the decree of Pharaoh to kill the baby boys at the time of Moses so baby Jesus is preserved from Herod's genocide.

The Serpent did his utmost to break this royal line. The Serpent struck the heel of the Rescuer God promised in the Garden of Eden.

But Christ did come. The One chosen before time, promised and pointed to again and again through the writings of the Bible prophets. God's great plan did happen. God is sovereign and everything he wills - happens. You can be sure of it. You can trust him in it.

The Lord God has brought His Saviour Son. He has accomplished Salvation through his death on the Cross. Right up to the last minute as Christ hung on the cross Satan's desperate words ring out "**Come down from the cross and we will believe in you**" - But no Cross and there's no hope. No cross means no forgiveness of sins and therefore no Peace. God has worked out and completed his perfect will and purpose throughout the history of the world. The Lord's will always prevails - and now there's Hope for you and I.

⇒ **Now there is hope, and that hope is in Him. Do you have that hope?**

The Lord knows all about you and has determined where and when you live. He has determined that you will be here this morning. Will you now obey His words? Will you confess and repent of your sins and find your place in his plan of salvation? Will you leave this room knowing you are safe for eternity?

You are included in His plan - if you are in Christ. If you have turned to Him and are in Him – and He is in you - then you have the favour of the Lord God Almighty the maker of heaven and earth. The one who formed the universe and flung the stars into space is now your father. How wonderful!

Dying Jacob passed on the message of hope and pointed to Him in whom it may be found. Christians today carry that message of Hope. Jesus the great physician, the healer, here is hope, here is life, here is freedom. Here is the glorious Saviour the conqueror of death and the giver of everlasting life. He has it, and he alone can give it, and he is willing to give it to all who will come. All who are hungry can be filled - and all who thirst can be satisfied.

God's great plan centres on Jesus Christ and no other. Through Christ resurrection from the grave he is declared the Lord of all. Is he your Lord? Have you? Will you bow the knee now? If so you can share in his victory over death and in His ascension to the Father's right hand.

We who are redeemed and taken from the world will assuredly be raised up with him to share His eternal Glory with God. He has given assurance of this within each believer by the gift of the Holy Spirit. This is how we 'know'. Everlasting life begins for a believer the moment we receive this gift.

Finally, did you notice the short prayer? ¹⁸ **“I look for your deliverance, O LORD”**. Jacob near the end and faint with death, calls out from his heart to God. The salvation he waited for was in Jesus Christ, the promised seed.

Do not leave it until you are on your deathbed to call out to Him. Do it now.

The salvation Jacob waited for took him to heaven, that better country, which he had longed for. Heb 11:13,14

As Christians we too wait in expectation for the Christ's return, for the completion of our salvation to share in the Glory of heaven. It is our comfort to know that Christ who is our peace will come for His own. He is our rest and we wait for this patiently. _____END

歡迎大家

開頭經文 詩篇 43:3-4a

聖詩 MP 109 給他加冕許多冠冕

經文 詩篇 45:1-9, 詩篇 47 (第 569 頁)

讚美和感恩的禱告。

兒童談話 腳步聲即將結束 (基督再來)

合唱團 MP 454 陛下 / 耶穌是王

禱告

通知 晚間禮拜下午 5 點, 上週日團契午餐,

谷歌翻譯程式碼,

再見莫吉·阿德、和平、威望和?

禱告與主禱文

讀創世記 49:1-12 (第 55 頁)

聖詩 MP 366 耶穌是王

講道上帝偉大的計劃

聖歌 MP1000 萬王之王威嚴

結束禱告: 「願尊貴和榮耀歸於永恆的、不朽的、看不見的、獨一的上帝, 直到永永遠遠。阿門。提摩太前書 1:17

禱告

你和我生活在一個絕望和死亡的世界。但在遙遠的天國, 甚至在時間開始之前, 主神就計劃了一場拯救——一位拯救者將我們從死亡帶入生命——從絕望帶入希望。

今天我們來看看這個偉大的計劃。

在《創世記》的最後, 我們發現雅各已經走到了生命的盡頭。他已經在臨終的床上了..

當我的朋友約翰去世時, 他的家人聚集在床邊。他的妻子說: 「你還能要求什麼呢」。如今, 大多數人認為這是「前進」的最佳方式。

然而, 這並不總是能讓孩子們發揮出最好的一面, 尤其是當他們長大後。嫉妒和貪婪就會出現。“我會得到什麼”這樣的想法。

其中最糟糕的是丹尼爾克雷格主演的電影《利刃出鞘》。全家人聚集在這裡, 看看富有的父親給誰留下了什麼。

1
雅各對他的孩子們說: 「聚集到一起, 我可以告訴你們未來的日子裡會發生什麼。」他現在要公佈他的遺囑。“雅各的兒子們, 你們聚集聽, 聽你們父親以色列的話。”

接受遺產的偉大日子已經到來。我會得到什麼? x2

雅各的孩子會想到這個家庭所累積的所有物質財富嗎？或者他們會專注於盼望主屬靈的祝福，因為雅各不是普通的父親，他是亞伯拉罕的孫子，神的朋友。雅 2:23

□ 你呢？你的心意是什麼？是世間轉瞬即逝的寶藏嗎？還是主永恆的恩惠？

講道標題是「上帝的偉大計劃」x2。這是在創世之前、在時間開始之前、在三位一體神的永恆旨意中誕生的計劃。這個計劃首次為我們所知是在創世記 3 章 15

節，主神應許將有一位來擊碎撒但的頭，撒但是神的大敵，也是引誘我們眾人犯罪得罪神的人。

承諾已經兌現了。有一天，我們靈魂的控訴者將會取得一場偉大的勝利。這樣主的恩寵就能臨到世界人民。這位拯救者來自亞伯蘭的後裔。這是在創世記第 12 章對祂的應許中賜給祂的。在創世記 15 章中向他重複了這句話。在創世記 28:14 中，它又被賜給以撒的兒子雅各。

首先向亞伯拉罕和他的家人啟示，今天我們追溯這條皇室血統，因為它貫穿聖經，指向耶穌是上帝旨意的實現和中心。魔鬼竭盡全力阻止它。他今天在欺騙人們——

所以問自己這個問題：「我在神的拯救計畫中嗎？」

在第 49

章中，我們看到了對該計劃的關鍵確認。神曾向亞伯拉罕許諾，祂的兒子將成為世界的祝福。這會是誰呢？是艾薩克嗎？不，雅各怎麼樣？不。肯定是長子流便吧？

3

流便啊，你是我的長子，是我的力量，是我力量的第一個表徵，你在尊榮上，在能力上，都是卓越的。是的，魯本是他父親的最愛。他受到父母的歡迎，他的名字的意思是“看，兒子”，他擁有超越兄弟的卓越地位和權力。

4

但你如水般湍急，將不再出類拔萃，因為你爬上你父親的床，爬上我的沙發，玷污了它。流便本來要得到長子的“雙份”，但他做了一些事，他犯了罪，使他喪失了自己的地位。……你將不再優秀。

部落中沒有發現任何法官、先知或王子，也沒有發現任何因叛逆摩西而聞名的名人，只有大坍和亞比蘭。部落似乎失去了所有影響力，最後逃到了約旦河對岸。魯本本人也不穩定。這是一個無法控制自己和自己的慾望的人。道德上的弱點會毀掉一個人。四十年前他就犯了這個罪，但現在卻被記念。當心，你的罪會找到你的。

西蒙呢？v5

西緬和利未是兄弟，他們的刀劍是暴力的武器。別讓我參加他們的議會，別讓我參加他們的集會，因為他們在憤怒中殺人，隨心所欲地砍斷牛的腿筋。詛咒他們的憤怒，如此猛烈，他們的憤怒如此殘酷

西緬和利未被放在一起 – 因為他們一起在示劍的毀滅中表現出了他們的殘忍。你可以在創世記 34 章（最近的講道）中讀到所有相關內容。我將驅散他們。這是與利未名字相反的命運，利未名字的意思是「附著」（29:34）。他們受到兩方面的限制：利維的城市被分配到其他部落。西蒙包圍了。地圖。

不，不是這三個人。他們的生活為猶大的榮耀提供了黑暗的一頁。 8

猶大啊，你的弟兄必稱讚你；你的手必掐住敵人的頸項；你父親的兒子們必向你下拜。寫得更多了，我們一會兒再回到這段話。

13

西布倫必住在海邊，成為船隻的港口。他的邊界將延伸至西頓。後來，兩三百年後，迦南地被拈鬮劃分，西布倫的邊界向海延伸，這事就應驗了（書19:11）。

14

以薩迦是一隻頭骨瘦如柴的驢子，躺在兩個鞍袋之間。當他看到他的安息之地多麼美好，他的土地多麼宜人，他就會屈服於重擔，屈服於強迫勞動。這個部落的男人強壯而勤勞，生活在一片美好宜人的土地上。

16

但身為以色列支派的一員，他必為他的子民伸張正義。但將成為路邊的蛇，路上的一條毒蛇，它咬住馬的後跟，使騎手向後翻滾。這些人像蛇一樣突然咬住了旅行者的腳後跟，也許這在參孫身上得到了應驗，他是那個部落的人，他用詭計抓住了非利士人的手，最終把他們的寺廟推倒了，從而將以色列從非利士人手中拯救了出來。

19

迦得必被一群強盜攻擊，但他必緊追不捨地攻擊他們。迦得表徵一群。雅各預見了部落的好戰性格，正如他們所證明的那樣，並在許多小衝突中擊敗了敵人。

20

亞設的糧食必豐盛；他將提供適合國王享用的美味佳餚。這是一個非常富裕的部落，其地區被認為是以色列的花園國家。

21

拿弗他利是一隻被釋放的母鹿，它生著美麗的小鹿。一個以鬥爭為名的部落；象徵一隻母鹿摔角並找到自由的祝福。這個部落和藹可親，彬彬有禮，語言優雅。

還有更多關於約瑟的記載 22

約瑟被描述為一棵多結果子的葡萄樹。現在只要注意主上帝，雅各的全能者的頭銜就足夠了——

牧人，如 48:15 所示，是的，在詩篇 23

中，耶和華是我的牧人，以西結選取了這個主題。以色列的磐石－全能者。這是主恩惠的澆灌。用你的手指數數重複出現的「祝福」這個詞……祂以天上的祝福、地下深處的祝福、乳房和子宮的祝福來祝福你。汝父之福，勝於古山之福，勝於古山之福。

古老山巒的恩賜。讓這一切都落在約瑟的頭上，落在他兄弟中王子的額頭上。我們讀了六次「祝福」這個詞——我想我們明白了。

27

便雅憫是一隻貪婪的狼；早晨他吞食獵物，晚上他分奪財物。他們是一個好戰的部落，強大而勇敢，他們透過敵人的戰利品致富。這個支派中有第二位士師埃笏和第一位國王掃羅。還有以斯帖和末底改。在猶大書 20:14 中，便雅憫人像兇猛的狼一樣向基比亞人報仇。使徒保羅就是這個部落的人。羅馬書 11:1，腓立比書 3:5

所有這些部落特徵都是在舊約時代發生的。但雅各的預言性異象第 1

節『在未來的日子或後來的日子裡，RV 超越摩西和各支派，展望耶穌的未來時代。讓我們看看這個。

展開猶大的文本

雅各對他的前三個兒子沒什麼好說的，但猶大不同。 8

猶大啊，你的弟兄必稱讚你；他的名字的意思是「讚美」。

與拉結·猶大的母親不同，利亞不被雅各所愛。隨著第四個孩子的出生，她已經接受了這一點。她又懷孕，生下兒子時，她說：“這次我要讚美耶和華。”於是她給他起名叫猶大。創 29:35

他將成為各部落的領袖；特別是在大衛王王朝，他憑藉著軍事實力戰勝了以色列的敵人；你的手將放在敵人的脖子上。這是他全家都要跪拜的人。你父親的兒子們必向你下拜。

9 猶大啊，你是獅子的幼崽。你從獵物中歸來，我的孩子。他蹲如獅子，臥如母獅，誰敢驚動他？

獅子是您將遇到的最強壯、最兇猛的動物，他是森林之王。他四處咆哮，讓人們感到恐懼。猶大像一頭年輕的獅子一樣強大，被壓倒並吃掉它的獵物，像一頭成年獅子一樣安全，在巢穴中休息，沒有人敢驚動它。然而，這隻溫柔的幼崽身上卻蘊含著所有潛在的力量。正如在主耶穌基督身上清楚地看到的那樣，猶大支派的獅子（啟示錄 5:5）已經得勝了。

10 權杖。國王手持權杖，象徵他的統治權力。

事實上，猶大確實成為了主要部落，但直到大衛王時代才出現。早期的領袖來自其他支派：利未人摩西、以法蓮人約書亞、瑪拿西人基甸、但人參孫、以法蓮人撒母耳、便雅憫人掃羅。雅各只能透過神聖的啟示來預言猶大的卓越和繁榮。在雅各發出預言之後的 640

多年裡，猶大實際上並沒有獲得領導的「權杖」。

然而，大衛登基後，猶大部落從此成為統治部落。 10

統治者兩腳之間的杖很可能是指猶大的後裔。正如我們的新國際版聖經所說，這項規則將持續到他屬於誰為止。這意味著什麼？尤其是當 AV 說直到 Shiloh 到來時。

示羅是後來在伯特利附近建立的一個城鎮的名字。在士師時代，聖幕曾一度設立在那裡；但它從來都不是一個非常重要的城鎮，後來被非利士人摧毀。但這個預言不能指一個城鎮 – 因為我們可以看到示羅是一個人。

這裡的希伯來文本是 SLH。只有輔音，沒有元音。是希洛嗎，Siloh？或 saylöh，“向他致敬”或 selloh，意思是“給他的那個”。稍微改變一下事物，就會給出「它是誰的」或「直到他來，這是誰的權利。」以西結書 21:27

翻譯了同樣的短語，直到他來到它合法屬於的人；換句話說，猶大將繼續是王室，直到他到來為止，正如RSV所說的那樣，它屬於誰。 YLT 一直到他的種子到來。 > 耶穌凱旋進入聖殿 – 西元 70 年被毀。

SLH

作為彌賽亞頭銜，意思是「和平的建立者」或「安息之地」（Faussett）。以賽亞稱所應許的基督為和平之君 9:6

耶穌是猶大支派的人，是大衛王偉大的兒子。以賽亞說，到那日，耶西的根將成為萬民的旗幟；萬國將團結在他身邊，他的安息之地將是榮耀的。賽

11:10。只有在基督裡才能找到最終和永恆榮耀安息的平安。

雅各在他的預言中俯視著時間的走廊，他用望遠鏡尋找這個猶大的兒子，這個給外邦人的光和生命，這個即將到來的種子，地上的萬族都將透過他而受到祝福。

他要把驢拴在葡萄樹上，把驢駒拴在上等的枝子上。他要用酒洗自己的衣服，用葡萄汁洗自己的袍子。猶大的部落不僅會強大而勇敢，他的土地也會物產豐富。藤蔓長得如此茂盛，連驢子都被綁在上面。

12 他的眼睛必比酒更深，他的牙齒必比奶更潔白。一幅健康、繁榮、美麗的圖畫。

從伊甸園裡的第一個應許開始，皇室血統就貫穿了聖經。這是希望之線。在這裡，上帝的永恆旨意歷代向皇家之子展現。他將成為受苦的僕人。正是透過祂的謙卑、祂的痛苦、祂的身體的破碎，才開闢了一條道路，為你我打開了一扇門，讓我們能夠與全能的上帝和好。

然而撒旦，魔鬼不斷地試圖阻止和阻撓上帝的計劃

巨蛇竭盡全力想要打破這條王族血統。猶大的兒子們作惡多端，因此耶和華將他們處死。皇室線現在在哪裡？耶和華透過他的兒婦她瑪延續了猶大的血統。

寡婦路得與猶大的後裔波阿斯結婚，他們的孩子俄備得是大衛王的父親耶西的父親。王室血統一直延續到所羅門，他是大衛通姦後為拔示巴所生的第二個兒子。撒旦透過所羅門愚蠢的兒子羅波安王導致王國分裂。以色列的大部分地區已不復存在——但耶和華保留了猶大。

撒旦試圖透過流放巴比倫來摧毀王室血統，但隨著所羅巴伯的回歸以及馬利亞和約瑟的回歸，它仍在繼續。

基督是超自然誕生的。希律王下令消滅所有兩歲以下的男孩。正如摩西時代法老王下令殺死男嬰一樣，嬰兒耶穌也免於希律王的種族滅絕。巨蛇竭盡全力想要打破這條王族血統。蛇擊中了上帝在伊甸園所應許的拯救者的醫治。

但基督確實來了。在時間之前就被揀選的那一位，在聖經先知的著作中一再應許並指出。神的偉大計劃確實發生了。神是至高無上的，祂所願意的一切都會發生。你可以確定這一點。你可以相信祂。

主神帶來了祂的救主兒子。祂藉著死在十字架上完成了救贖。直到基督掛在十字架上的最後一刻，撒旦絕望的話語響起：「從十字架上下來，我們就會相信你」——

但沒有十字架，就沒有希望。沒有十字架就意味著罪孽得不到寬恕，因此也就沒有和平。神在整個世界的歷史中已經制定並完成了祂完美的旨意和目的。主的旨意永遠獲勝——現在你我都有盼望了。

• 現在有了希望，而這個希望就在他身上。你有這樣的希望嗎？

主知道你的一切，並決定你生活的地點和時間。他已經決定你今天早上會在這裡。現在你願意聽從祂的話嗎？你願意承認並悔改你的罪，並在祂的救贖計劃中找到你的位置嗎？當你知道自己永遠安全時，你會離開這個房間嗎？

如果你在基督裡，你就被包含在祂的計劃中。如果你已經轉向他並且在他裡面——他也在你裡面——那麼你就會得到天地創造者全能上帝的恩寵。創造宇宙並將星星拋入太空的人現在是你的父親。多麼美妙啊！

垂死的雅各傳遞了希望的信息，並指出可以在他身上找到希望的人。今天的基督徒傳遞著希望的信息。耶穌，偉大的醫生，醫治者，這裡有希望，這裡有生命，這裡有自由。這是榮耀的救主，死亡的征服者和永生的賜予者。他擁有它，而且只有他才能給予它，並且他願意將它給予所有來的人。凡飢者皆得飽，渴者皆得飽。

神偉大的計劃以耶穌基督為中心，而不是其他人。藉著基督從墳墓中復活，祂被宣佈為萬有之主。他是你的主嗎？你？現在你願意跪下嗎？如果是這樣，你就可以分享祂對死亡的勝利，並分享祂升天到天父的右手邊。

我們這些被救贖並脫離世界的人一定會與祂一同復活，與神分享祂永恆的榮耀。祂透過聖靈的恩賜向每個信徒保證了這一點。這就是我們‘知道’的方式。當我們收到這份禮物的那一刻，信徒的永生就開始了。

最後，你注意到簡短的祈禱了嗎？ 18

耶和華啊，我仰望祢的拯救。雅各臨終時因死亡而昏厥，他從心裡呼求上帝。祂等待的救恩是在耶穌基督裡，也就是應許的種子。

不要離開它，直到你臨終前呼求他。現在就做吧。

雅各所等待的救恩將他帶到天堂，那是他所嚮往的更美好的國家。來 11:13,14

身為基督徒，我們也期待基督的再來，等待我們的救恩完成，分享天上的榮耀。我們的安慰是知道作為我們平安的基督將會為祂自己的平安而來。祂是我們的安息，我們耐心等待。

_____ 結尾