

RULER OVER ISRAEL

Pg 1

"But you, Bethlehem Ephratah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you, unto Me (the Father), shall come forth **Him (Jesus) who is to be Ruler over Israel**; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." (Micah 5:2)

"Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is He who was born King of the Jews?' for we have seen His star in the east, and have come to worship Him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded (to know) from them where the Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judea; for thus it is written by the prophet, '*And you Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you shall come a leader (a Governor), who shall Rule (literally: Shepherd) My people Israel.*'" (Matthew 2:1-6)

Ruler: from the Hebrew word *mowosel* which means: a ruler; from *marshal* which means: to rule over, to have dominion over, to reign over.

Governor: from the Greek word *hegoumenos* which means: to lead, properly, to lead the way (going before as a leader); a governor or official who leads others.

Rule: from the Greek word *poimanei* which means: properly, to shepherd, caring for and protecting the flock.

Ruler: from the Greek word *hegemosin* which means: a leader, a guide; a commander; a governor (of a province); in context refers to the 'rulers of Judah' (that is the rulers of groups of a thousand).

In Micah 5:2 Jesus is said to be "**Ruler in Israel**" - but as quoted in Matthew 2:6, the chief priests and scribes (and Matthew) were quoting from the Greek translation of Mica 5:2, which presents the Messiah (Jesus) as being "a **Leader** who shall **Shepherd** My (Gods) people Israel." The wise men from the east used a different, but similar meaning, title when they asked, 'Where is He who was born King of the Jews?'

Consider these observations:

- Jesus is to be **Ruler in Israel**
- The kind of Ruler Jesus is to be is that of being the **King of the Jews**
- The rule of King Jesus shall be like that of a shepherd,
- Jesus shall, lead, and guide, and feed, and protect His people Israel
- Jesus shall come forth from Bethlehem unto the Father, fulfilling ancient prophecy

Consider also these prophetic passages:

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, The **Prince** of Peace. Of the increase of **His government** and peace there shall be no end, upon the **throne of David**, and upon His Kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this." (Isaiah 9:6-7)

RULER IN ISRAEL

Pg 2

“Therefore will I save my flock (Israel), ... and I will set up **One Shepherd** over them, and He shall feed them, even My Servant David (Jesus); He shall feed them, and He shall be **their Shepherd**. And I the LORD will be their God, and My Servant David (Jesus) will be **a Ruler** (a Prince) among them; I the LORD have spoken it. ” (Ezekiel 34:22-24)

“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, your King comes unto you; He is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon a donkey, and upon a colt the foal of an donkey.” (Zechariah 9:9)

“And the angel said unto her, 'Fear not, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And, behold, you shalt conceive in your womb, and bring forth **a Son**, and shall call His name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the **Son of the Highest**; and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David. And He shall reign over the house of Jacob (Israel) forever; and of His Kingdom there shall be no end.” (Luke 1:30-33)

Jesus was also recognized as the Ruler over Israel:

“When Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of Him, 'Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!' And Nathanael said unto Him, 'How do You know me?' Jesus answered and said unto him, 'Before Philip called you, when thou were under the fig tree, I saw you.' Then Nathanael answered and said unto Him, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God; and You are the **King (Ruler) of Israel**. (John 1:47-49)

“On the next day when many people had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet Him, and cried, 'Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel who comes in the name of the Lord. (John 12:12-13)

Finally Jesus Himself mentions His Rule over Israel:

“Then Peter answered and said unto Him, 'Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed You; what shall we have therefore?' And Jesus said unto them, Truly I say unto you, that you who have followed Me, in the regeneration when the **Son of Man** (Jesus Himself) shall sit in the throne of His glory, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. (Matthew 19:27-28)

JESUS is...

the Ruler Over Israel

Jesus shall Rule as King, and with the heart of a Shepherd!

He shall lead us, His flock, and he shall guide us, and feed us, and protect us!

Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end!

Blessed are You King Jesus, Ruler of Israel, who came in the Name of the Father!

**You shall reign over the house of Israel forever;
and of Your Kingdom there shall be no end!**

And we shall praise You! Always and always! Amen and Amen!