

Mashiach ben David

● By Shmuel Silverstein HaKohen

BEREISHIS 49:10

לֹא-יָסוּר שִׁבְט מִיְהוּדָה וּמַחְקָק מִבֵּין רַגְלָיו עַד כִּי-
יָבֹא שִׁילֹה וְלוֹ יִקָּהֵת עַמִּים

*The scepter shall not depart from Yehudah, nor the lawgiver
from among his descendants, until Shiloh comes, and to him
the nations will gather.*



Gerard van Honthorst, *King David Playing the Harp* (1622), Centraal Museum, Utrecht

On his deathbed Yaakov Avinu blessed his sons, giving each of the twelve tribes its own prophecy: the

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seeds of the Jewish nation, Bnei Yisrael.

When he blesses Yehudah, Rashi, following Onkelos on this pasuk, explains that the Melech HaMashiach will come from the line of Yehudah. Sefer Shmuel and the Gemara confirm the lineage: Mashiach comes from David, and David from Yehudah.

Did you know that David is actually contained in the name Yehudah? Is it a coincidence? There are no coincidences in the Torah.



David, inside Yehudah

יהודה → דוד • Bereishis 49:10

Write יהודה. Remove the first and last letters, and הוד remains. Now take away the leg of the ה, its short stroke on the left, and it becomes a ד. The letters spell דוד: David.

So David not only descends from Yehudah; he is written into his very name.

More on Yehudah's name: Yehudah: Our Namesake, Our Essence. **BP**

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