

Ten Prophetic Clues Concerning Judah – Jews

This is an unusual article in this series about the tribes. Up till now I have dealt with three of the Lost Ten Tribes: Zebulun (Holland), Issachar (Frisians) and Asher (Walloons). The tribe of Judah is not a lost tribe. The Jews have a verifiable history, all the way to the Jews of 2000 years ago, to the times of Jesus. The Jews at the time of Jesus were for a great deal descendants of the former inhabitants of the Kingdom of Judah (930-586 BC). The inhabitants of the Kingdom of Judah were made up of the whole tribe of Judah and large parts of Benjamin and Levi. Although Jewry (Judaism) has known many proselytes, there has always been a core of the House of Judah in Jewry for the past 2500 years. The core passes on characteristics and genes to the periphery. By looking at the *prophetic clues* of Judah, and finding these amongst Jews – like I do with the lost tribes – this methodical approach is also justified for finding the lost tribes. In this article I want to show that even if there were no direct historical proof for the link *Judah – Jews*, there would still be a proof by revelation.

1st Clue: Judah - praise

And [Leah] conceived again, and bare a son: and she said, Now will I PRAISE [odeh] the LORD: therefore she called his name Judah [Yehudah]; and left bearing (Gen 29:35, KJV, unless mentioned).

... A Psalm of DAVID. I will PRAISE thee, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvellous works (Ps 9:1).

A Psalm of SOLOMON ... BLESSED be the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things; And BLESSED be His glorious name for ever; and let the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen, and Amen (Ps 72:1a, 18-19, JPS).

This praising of God by the descendants of Judah can be found back in the Bible. King David was of the tribe of Judah and wrote more than half of the 150 psalms. The psalms are probably the greatest ode, honour, glory and praise of God in the Bible. The book of Psalms is one of the most frequent translated parts of the Old Testament, thereby distributing the praises of the Jews to their God all over the world. King Solomon, also of the tribe of Judah, wrote 1005 psalms (1 Ki 4:32). Two of Solomon's psalms are in the Bible (Ps 72, 127).

One of the most popular psalms is Psalm 23 of David. Think of all the variations in music and lyrics that have been made based on this psalm.

Others of the tribe of Judah have written parts of the Bible, thus praising God.

In modern-day Jewry this praising of God is still expressed in countless prayers (praises!) and blessings, which have been written down in books of prayer, which are recited on special and common days. There is not a day or activity, or the Jews have written a prayer for it. Praising God is a daily activity for orthodox Jews. Think of the cantor (chazzan, hazan) in the synagogue – praising God is his job.

Also think of the NT, apart from the books of Luke, the NT was written by Jews. The NT *praises* God by *glorifying* Jesus. The Ten Tribes disappeared from the scene in the Middle East. We owe most of the Bible to Judah, to the Jews.



Jewish Book of Prayer

2nd Clue: Judah and money

And JUDAH said unto his brethren, What profit is it if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood? Come, and let us SELL him ..., and let not our hand be upon him; for he is our brother ... And his brethren were content (Gen 37:26-27).

When JUDAH saw her [Tamar], he thought her to be an HARLOT [paid sex]; because she had covered her face ... And he said, I will send thee a kid from the flock ... (Gen 38:15-17).

And Achan [of the tribe of Judah] answered Joshua, and said, Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel ... When I saw among the spoils a goodly ... garment, and 200 shekels of SILVER, and a wedge of GOLD of 50 shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the SILVER under it (Jos 7:20-21).

So was ended all the work that king Solomon made for the house of the LORD. And Solomon brought in the things which David his father had dedicated; even the SILVER, and the GOLD, and the vessels, did he put among the treasures of the house of the LORD (1 Kings 7:51). Now the weight of GOLD that came to Solomon in one year was 666 talents of gold (1Ki 10:14).

Money. The lust after money, the love for money, financial skills and philanthropy.

Everyone wants to earn money and each people have their rich and their poor, so why focus on money. Because it is a parallel that keeps popping up between Judah and Jews. Whether it is by inner qualities, by fate, or by prohibitions within Christianity, Jews have a certain connection with money. It was Judah's idea to sell Joseph; in the NT Judas (Greek for Judah) sold Jesus; Achan of the tribe of Judah took God's silver and gold at Jericho's fall. The Bible also mentions positive use of gold and silver by children of Judah, by David and Solomon. Solomon of the House of Judah probably was the richest Jew ever.

Under Solomon the nation was prosperous and there was gold in abundance. However, it was not just a happy financial story. Money led to the secession of the Ten Northern Tribes. Solomon's taxes on the ten tribes had been a heavy yoke (Jeroboam) that Rehoboam, Solomon's son, refused to lighten. It cost him 10 of the 12 tribes.

It is well-known that the policies of the medieval Church and of Christian society pushed the Jews into usury and banking. Christians were not allowed to charge interest to fellow Christians and many jobs were closed to Jews because of the guild system. Riches always cause jealousy and that's why often philanthropic activities are overlooked. The Jews and the Synagogue have been ahead of their time in looking after the social needs of their own poor and needy. I remember pictures in *Yad VaShem* of an orphanage in the Ghetto of Warsaw. Even in the bleakest of situations they tried to run an orphanage.

The Hebrew *Yehudah* comes from *yadah*, which means *praising* God, praising with raised hands (*yad* = hand). The praising Jew reads from the Torah with a silver *yad*. But *yads* (hands) can also be used for stealing. The American Jew Bernard Madoff was convicted for fraud for 18 billion dollars.

Judah has a way with money. Even the *Jerusalem Post* published a list of the 50 wealthiest Jews in 2010 (www.jpost.com):

1. Larry Ellison
Age: 66. Net worth: \$28 billion.
2. Michael Bloomberg
Age: 68. Net worth: \$18 billion.
3. Sergey Brin
Age: 37. Net worth: \$17.5 billion.
4. Lawrence (Larry) Page
Age: 37. Net worth: \$17.5 billion.

5. Steven Ballmer
Age: 54. Net worth: \$14.5 billion.
6. George Soros
Age: 80. Net worth: \$14 billion.
7. Michael Dell
Age: 45. Net worth: \$13.5 billion.
8. Mikhail Fridman
Age: 46. Net worth: \$12.7 billion.
9. John Paulson
Age: 54. Net worth: \$12 billion.
10. Roman Abramovich
Age: 43. Net worth: \$11.2 billion, etc.

3rd Clue: Judah – messiah, messianism

The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his ANOINTED [messiah] ... (Ps 2:2) ... Great deliverance giveth he to his king; and sheweth mercy to his ANOINTED [messiah], to David, and to his seed for evermore (Ps 18:50). Now know I that the LORD saveth his ANOINTED [messiah]; he will hear him from his holy heaven with the saving strength of his right hand (Ps 20:6) ...

And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse [of the tribe of JUDAH], and a Branch shall grow out of his roots (Isaiah 11:1).

Mashiach – Messiah – Anointed

Priests (Ex 30:22-25) and kings were anointed in Judah and Israel. Anointed translates as mashiach in Hebrew (messiah). A teaching developed in Judaism about a coming messiah, a coming liberator.



Sabbetai Zwi, ca. 1666

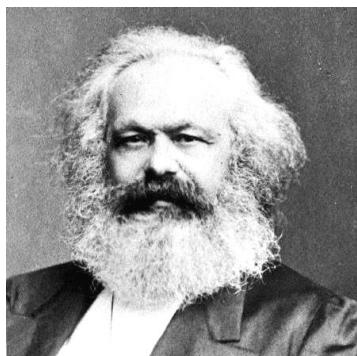
Messiah - messianism

Everyone knows the Messiah was/is to be born of the tribe of Judah, of the house of David. However, many do not know that Judah / Judaism has known many (false) messiahs or messiah-like movements.

During the Middle Ages Jewry knew many false or pseudo-messiahs. The best-known is probably Sabbetai Ben-Zwi around 1666. At the end of his calling he converted to Islam. He lived in the Ottoman empire.

Another well-known pseudo-messiah was Simon bar Kokhba, the leader of the failed Jewish Revolt within the Roman Empire (132-135 AD). Rabbi Akiva declared him to be the Messiah. It ended in death. As during the revolt of 66-70 AD the Messianic Jewish Church did not join. They had their own Messiah!

Yeshua haMashiach, in Greek Iésous Christos, is of course the best known Messiah: for Christians the true Messiah, for Jews a pseudo-messiah. Initially Christianity was solely a Jewish, messianic, sect. It became the longest and largest messianic movement ever. Once started by Jesus, of the tribe of Judah.



Karl Marx

There are also modern Jewish messiahs, like Karl Marx, Leon Trotsky, Sigmund Freud and Albert Einstein. Marx was out to liberate the oppressed workers and wrote *Das Kapital*. Trotsky led to Trotskyism, a brand of communism.



Leon Trotsky

Sigmund Freud was a 'messianic figure' in psycho-analysis, who thought to liberate people's minds. Albert Einstein was just a scientist, but can be seen as a symbol for the mighty cult of science – science that would liberate us of all backwardness.

The Jewish share in the first decennia of Hollywood has been out of proportion (actors, scriptwriters, comedians, producers, directors). This Jewish element led to comic books and films like Superman. The Superman theme, a messianic theme, is of Jewish origin. It can be found back in countless Hollywood productions.



Soon the real (Jewish) Messiah will come, a return for Christians and a first coming for many Jews: then the whole world will be liberated from Satan and his demons.

4th Clue: Judah – writers (scribes)

... and Shebna the scribe ... (2 Kings 18:18) ... Shaphan the scribe ... (2 Kings 22:8) ... And Shemaiah ... the scribe ... (1 Chron 24:6) ... Jeiel the scribe ... (2 Chron 26:11) ... Shimshai the scribe ... (Ezra 4:8) ... Elishama the scribe ... (Jer 36:12) ... Baruch the scribe ... (Jer 36:26) ... Jonathan the scribe ... (Jer 37:15) .

Bible – Apocrypha – Talmud

The Jews wrote many books of the Bible. Not always do we know the tribe of the Biblical writer, but it is certain that most Bible authors were of the Kingdom of Judah and even of the tribe of Judah.

Of the writing prophets Isaiah, Amos, Habakkuk, Joel, Micah, Obadiah, Zechariah and Zephaniah were of the tribe of Judah. David and Solomon were of course of the tribe of Judah as well. David wrote half of the psalms and Solomon wrote Song of Songs, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Psalm 72 and 127.

Of most of the NT writers we do not know the tribe either, but James and Jude were just like their half-brother Jesus of the tribe of Judah. Jesus did not write himself, but the evangelists wrote his stories down. *The Good Samaritan* and *The Prodigal Son* belong to the most important stories of world literature.

Apart from the books of the Bible, the Jews also wrote Apocryphal books, pseudo-epigraphic writings and the Talmud (2711 pages).

Jewish authors

There have been many Jewish authors in history, of both fiction and non-fiction. On internet many lists of Jewish authors, novelists, poets, etc. can be found. Apart from all the Wikipedia lists, informative is: <http://www.jinfo.org/Authors.html> Below a selection of writers of Jewish or partly Jewish blood. They are present in all kind of languages. Jews appear to be a people of writers, whatever culture or language they are in.

Shmuel Agnon, 1966 Nobel Prize in Literature

Isaac Asimov, *Foundation Trilogy*

Saul Bellow, 1976 Nobel Prize in Literature

Henri Bergson, 1927 Nobel Prize in Literature
Biblical Authors, *The Bible* (Jewish and Christian Scriptures)
Elias Canetti, 1981 Nobel Prize in Literature
Miguel de Cervantes, *Don Quixote*
Michael Chabon, (2001 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction)
Benjamin Disraeli, *Tancred*
Anne Frank, *The Diary of a Young Girl*
Sigmund Freud
Nadine Gordimer, 1991 Nobel Prize in Literature
Joseph Heller, *Catch-22*, (1985 Prix Médicis étranger)
Paul Heyse, 1910 Nobel Prize in Literature
Elfriede Jelinek, 2004 Nobel Prize in Literature
Franz Kafka, *The Trial*
MacKinlay Kantor, (1956 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction)
Imre Kertész, 2002 Nobel Prize in Literature
György Konrád, *Homecoming*
Primo Levi, *If This Is a Man*
Ira Levin, *The Boys from Brazil*
Norman Mailer, (1980 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction)
Bernard Malamud, *The Fixer* (1967 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction)
Klaus Mann, *Mephisto*
André Maurois
Steven Millhauser, (1997 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction)
Amos Oz, *My Michael*
Boris Pasternak, *Doctor Zhivago*; 1958 Nobel Prize in Literature
Chaim Potok, *The Chosen*
Marcel Proust, *À la Recherche du Temps Perdu*, (1919 Prix Goncourt)
Carl Sagan, 1978 Pulitzer Prize for General Non-Fiction)
J. D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye*
Sholem Aleichem, *Tevye the Dairyman*
Isaac Bashevis Singer, 1978 Nobel Prize in Literature
Muriel Spark, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*
Art Spiegelman, (1992 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction)
Alvin Toffler, *Future Shock*
Barbara Tuchman, (1963 Pulitzer Prize for General Non-Fiction)
Leon Uris, *Exodus*
Elie Wiesel, 1986 Nobel Peace Prize ... etc.

5th Clue: Judah – laws, judges, lawyers

The **LAW** of the **LORD** is perfect, converting the soul: the **TESTIMONY** of the **LORD** is sure, making wise the simple. The **STATUTES** of the **LORD** are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the **LORD** is pure, enlightening the eyes. The **FEAR** of the **LORD** is clean, enduring for ever: the **JUDGMENTS** of the **LORD** are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them is thy servant [David, of Judah] warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward (Ps 19:7-11).
 And Hilkiah the high priest said unto Shaphan the scribe, I have found the **BOOK OF THE LAW**

in the house of the **LORD**. And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, and he read it ... And it came to pass, when the king [Josiah of Judah] had heard the words of the **BOOK OF THE LAW**, that he rent his clothes (2 Kings 22:8, 11).
For whosoever shall keep the whole LAW, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law (James 2:10-11), (James of Judah).

Above some verses about descendants of the tribe of Judah with regards to God's law. King David was jubilant about God's laws and decrees. His son Solomon concluded at the end of Ecclesiastes, *The end of the matter, all having been heard: fear God, and keep His commandments; for this is the whole man (Eccl 12:13)*. Their descendant Josiah rent his garments when the found book of the law was read.

Jesus (of Judah, of David, Mt 1, Lk 1), said the following concerning the law in the Sermon on the Mount: *For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven (Mt 5:18-19)*.

His half-brother James defended the law and called us to keep all of God's Ten Commandments,. He wrote, *and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all (James 2:10-11)*.

Torah – Tanakh - Talmud

Religious Jews spend their whole life studying Talmud. The Talmud comprises the Mishna (ca. 200 AD) and the Gemara (ca. 500-1000 AD). A Talmud page consists of the Mishna discussing a part of the Pentateuch of Moses, around that the Gemara discussing the Mishna is printed and around it all are the medieval commentators like Maimonides and Rashi. Judah, Jews, are fond of the law. The discussions between our Lord Jesus and the Pharisees and scribes are a good example of this.

Lawyers

Their love for law and their knowledge of law make that Jews are very suitable for professions like judges, lawyers and barristers.

The patriarch Judah became surety and lawyer for his brother Benjamin. Reuben was unsuccessful in asking Benjamin along, but Judah managed to have Jacob let him go. Judah became guarantor for his youngest brother. When Benjamin was accused of theft, Judah held a moving plea. Judah in this capacity is a type of our Lord Jesus, ... *And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous (1John 2:1)*.

Well-known Jewish lawyers in the Netherlands are the Moszkowicz family.

Of the nine judges of the United States Supreme Court three are Jewish, that is 33,3%, although the Jews in the USA are not even 2% of the total population.

6th Clue: Judah - *hypocrisy*

And Judah said unto his brethren, What profit is it if we slay our brother ... Come, and let us sell him ... and let not our hand be upon him; FOR HE IS OUR BROTHER AND OUR FLESH. And his brethren were content (Gen 37:26-27).

And it came to pass about three months after, that it was told Judah, saying, Tamar thy daughter in law hath played the harlot; and also, behold, she is with child by whoredom. And Judah said, Bring her forth, and LET HER BE BURNT (Gen 38:24).

And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, As the LORD liveth, the man that hath done this thing SHALL SURELY DIE (2 Sam 12:5).

Saying, I [Judah] have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they [priests and elders] said, What is that to us? see thou to that (Mt 27:4).

Descendants of Judah show a certain hypocrisy from time to time, which can be traced from the patriarch Judah to this day.

The widower Judah visited a Canaanite whore, not knowing she was his daughter-in-law. Tamar became pregnant and his reaction was, *Bring her forth, and let her be burnt (Gen 37:24)*. When he appeared to be the father, burning was no longer an issue.

After having heard the story of the little ewe lamb, told by the prophet Nathan, David condemned the rich man who stole the lamb and slaughtered it: *As the LORD liveth, the man that hath done this thing shall surely die (2 Sam 12:5)*. He was to find out the story was about himself, Bathsheba and Uriah.

At the time of Jesus, the Sadducees were mainly of the tribe of Levi (the priests). The Pharisees were of Judah, Benjamin or of proselyte background. There was a battle of words between our Lord Jesus and the Pharisees about their hypocrisy. Caring for animals on the Sabbath was okay, but healing people on the Sabbath the Pharisees considered work. John the Baptist was too ascetic and Jesus was a glutton, to them.

And [Jesus] said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition (Mk 7:9). Swearing by the temple was not valid, but swearing by the gold of the temple was, according to the Pharisees. Jesus struggle with the Pharisees was not about the validity of God's commandments, but always about their hypocrisy. The words hypocrites and hypocrisy are mentioned 23 times in the gospels.

The Talmud, written down somewhere between 500-1000 AD, is also full with clever finds, which have their effect until today. A Jew has to delevaten his premises for the Days of Unleavened

Bread (Ex 12; Lev 23). This is hard to do for a Jewish baker. Instead of trying to do the best he can, and leave it there, the bakery is sold to a goy for about ten days. Stipulations in the contract will make sure the sale won't materialize. The Jewish baker does not have to delevaten, because during the Days of Unleavened Bread the bakery is not his. The same is done on an even bigger scale in the State of Israel. All leavened products in the land are sold for about ten days to a rich Arab sheik – who will forfeit the payment – in this way bakeries, factories and supermarkets need not be cleaned.

Something like this is done for all of the arable land in Israel for the sabbatical year, the year that the land has to be left fallow. All the land is sold to a Bedouin sheik for a year – who will forfeit – so everyone can continue to work the ground.

I will not go into detail of certain hypocritical policies of the Israeli State. On the one hand the Bible is used to defend certain actions, while on the other hand many Biblical commandments are ignored. Just one example: according to the Bible Israel is to trust in God, and only *men* are allowed in the army of 20 years old and older. However, the State of Israel trusts in its army, 'boys' serve from 17 to 19 and so do girls. Many male and female soldiers have sex with each other. The result is many pregnancies and many abortions.

7th Clue: Judah and *music*

And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that DAVID took an HARP, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him (1Sam 16:23).

A PSALM of David ... (Ps 3:1; 4:1; etc. 54 times). And DAVID and all Israel PLAYED before God with all their might, and with SINGING, and with HARPS, and with PSALTERIES, and with TIMBRELS, and with CYMBALS, and with TRUMPETS (1Chron 13:8). ... and [SOLOMON'S] songs were a thousand and five (1 Kings 4:32).



Judah's descendants, the Jews, are endowed with musical skills. David brought relief to king Saul with his harp (1 Sam 16:23). King David had the ark brought back to Jerusalem with singing, music and dancing (1 Chron 13:8; 15:16). David invented musical instruments (Amos 6:5). Solomon dedicated the temple with big choirs and with the musical

instruments made by David (2 Chron 7:6). King Jehoshaphat of Judah defeated his enemies with a choir (2 Chron 20) and Nehemiah dedicated the repaired wall of Jerusalem with two choirs (Neh 12:31-43).

Judah's descendants were and still are into music. Things coming to my mind: there is Mendelsohn, Jewish song-writers in Hollywood, musicals like *Fiddler on the Roof*, Leonard Cohen, Bob Dylan, Peter Green of Fleetwood Mac, the chazzan, klezmer music, etc.

Jewish Pop Musicians: Wikipedia:

Bob Dylan, Lou Reed from Velvet Underground, Leonard Cohen, Neil Diamond, Carole King, Joey Ramone from The Ramones, Randy Newman, George Gershwin, Mark Knopfler and David Knopfler from Dire Straits, Herb Alpert, Lenny Kravitz, Barbra Streisand, Barry Manilow, Bette Midler, Paul Simon, Art Garfunkel, Billy Joel, Olivia Newton-John, Manfred Mann, Marc Bolan from T Rex, etc.

8th Clue: Judah and government

... thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee. Judah is a LION'S whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a LION, and as an old LION; who shall rouse him up? The SCEPTER shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come ... (Gen 49:8-10).

[Jewish Rulers of Judah]: ... Solomon ... Rehoboam ... Abia ... Asa ... Jehoshaphat ... Joram ... Ahaziah ... Joash ... Amaziah ... Azariah ... Jotham ... Ahaz ... Hezekiah ... Manasseh ... Amon ... Josiah ... Jehoiakim ... Zedekiah ... Jeconiah ... Salathiel Zerubbabel ... (1 Chron 3:10-19).

And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt 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 for ever; and of his KINGDOM there shall be no end (Lk 1:31-33).

Judah was the leader of the eleven brothers, not Reuben. At the selling of Joseph and at both trips to Egypt, Judah was in charge. At the Exodus the tribes were grouped around the tabernacle in such a manner, that Judah always led the way, to be followed by Issachar and Zebulun. There were only two positive spies, Joshua (of Ephraim) and Kaleb (of the tribe of Judah). Kaleb's nephew, Othniel, became judge in Israel. Jacob's blessing for Judah (Gen 49) includes the promise of the coming messiah. After God rejected Saul (Benjamite), God gave the kingdom to David (of Judah). David and Solomon ruled the twelve tribes. Their descendants (|Rehoboam – Zedekiah) reigned over the two tribes,

the Kingdom of Judah. After the exile Zerubbabel, a descendant of David, was governor in Jerusalem.

His distant descendant, Jesus Christ, will return as King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev 19:6).



Over the past centuries Jews have had important government positions in many countries.

Benjamin Disraeli

Benjamin Disraeli (1804 – 1881) was a British conservative politician, rival of Gladstone. He was prime minister twice, in 1868 and from 1874 to 1880.

Josef Nasi

Josef Nasi (Portugal, 1524 – Istanbul, 1579) was a Jewish diplomat and banker and an influential person at the Ottoman court of sultan Suleyman I and his son Selim II. He became lord of Tiberias and later was elevated to Duke of Naxos. Nasi waged war on Venice and captured Cyprus for the Ottomans.

American politicians

Although the Jews are less than 2% of the USA population, about 10% of the Senators and nearly 7% of the House of Representatives are Jewish. Also think of Henry Kissinger, William Cohen, Alan Greenspan, Madeleine Albright, Wolfowitz, Joe Lieberman, Michael Bloomberg, etc.

France - Léon Blum

Léon Blum (1872 – 1950) was a French politician. He started the *Partie Front Populaire* in '35 as an answer to the rising nazi threat. Blum was prime minister of France from '36 to '38.

Netherlands - Mayors of Amsterdam

Since WW II Amsterdam has known quite a few well-known Jewish mayors and acting mayors: Wim Polak, Ed van Thijn, Job Cohen and Lodewijk Asscher.

Russian Politicians

Georgy Arbatov, Soviet politician; Lev Kamenev, Bolshevik politician; Leon Trotsky, Bolshevik politician and founder of the Red Army; Genrikh Yagoda, head of the Secret Police at the time of Stalin; Grigory Zinoviev, Soviet politician; Zhirinovsky, Russian politician.

These are just a few, there are many more:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Jews_in_politics

9th Clue: Judah – a suffering people

And Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD slew him ... And the thing which [Onan] did displeased the LORD: wherefore he slew him also ... And in process of time the daughter of Shuah Judah's wife died ... and [Judah] came in unto her [Tamar], and she conceived by him (Gen 38:7, 10, 12, 18).

... A Psalm of David. My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me ... O my God, I cry in the daytime, but thou hearest not; and in the night season, and am not silent ... But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men ... Be not far from me; for trouble is near; for there is none to help I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels. My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death (Ps 22:1-15).

He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not ... He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth ... Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him ... (Isaiah 53).

At his first coming into the world Jesus came as the suffering servant. At his second coming Jesus will come as a fighting warrior (Rev 19), and He will rule as King of kings. So we see a suffering messiah and a fighting messiah. This phenomenon can also be seen with Judah, with the Jewish people.

Patriarch Judah

Much of the suffering of the patriarch Judah was self-inflicted, but he suffered nonetheless. After Joseph's sale, things went bad for 22 years for Judah; 22 is the number of suffering.

He had sold his brother (must have bothered him); he fooled his father Jacob; his eldest son died; his second son died; his wife died. As a widower he visited a prostitute, which turned into an incest case between Tamar and himself. In Egypt they were falsely charged of espionage. Simeon was kept behind, another brother gone; the drought continued; he finally had Benjamin come along, who later seemed to have stolen the viceroy's cup. And all of this in 22 years.

David (of Judah)

David suffered a lot too, which was also for a great deal self-inflicted. We easily apply Psalm 22 as a

prophecy for our Lord Jesus, but David initially wrote the psalm for himself! He felt totally abandoned by God from time to time. Saul persecuted him, his son Absalom chased him out of Jerusalem; Joab killed Absalom and David's children were fighting amongst themselves all the time.

Suffering of the Jewish people

Isaiah 53 is of course about the suffering messiah (a descendant of Judah). The suffering Messiah who died on a 14 Nisan Passover. In the first millennium many Jews became Christians because of this chapter. Rashi (11th century) decided that Isaiah 53 was about the Jewish people. And the Jews have followed Rashi ever since in this.

Only a few parts of the chapter can be applied to a people, Isaiah 53 remains the strongest prophecy for Jesus to be the suffering messiah. However, Rashi has a point. The Jewish people surely are a suffering people, often led as a lamb to the slaughter. For Judah as a fighting people (lion!) see prophetic clue 10.

The suffering of Jesus is 'self-inflicted' too ... He chose to become the Lamb of God, our Saviour.

From Haman to Hitler

Much has been written about the suffering of the Jewish people. At the time of the Persians (5th c. BC) Haman tried to wipe out the Jewish people (Purim – Esther). The Seleucid King of the North made a vicious attack on the religion of the Jews (2nd c. BC) (Hanukkah-Maccabees). The Jewish revolts (self-inflicted) against the Roman Empire of 66-73 AD, 115-117 AD and 132-135 AD led to much suffering. During the Middle Ages the Jews suffered badly in Christian Europe and the Jews under Islam did not fare much better over the past millennium. In eastern Europe pogroms were occurring in modern times and the suffering of the Jews culminated in Hitler's Holocaust with about 6 million dead.

10th Clue: Judah - warriors

Judah, ... thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies ... Judah is a LION's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a LION ... (Gen 49:8-9).

And Caleb [spy of Judah] drove thence the three sons of Anak, Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmi, the children of Anak (Josh 15:14).

Then answered one of the servants, and said, Behold, I have seen a son [DAVID] of Jesse the Bethlehemite ... a MIGHTY VALIANT MAN, and a MAN OF WAR ... (1Sam 16:18).

And David said, Whosoever smiteth the Jebusites first shall be CHIEF and CAPTAIN. So Joab [David's kin] the son of Zeruiah went first up, and was CHIEF (1 Chron 11:6).

And [king] Asa had an army of men that bare TARGETS and SPEARS, out of Judah 300,000 ... (2 Chron 14:8).

And out of his [Jesus'] mouth goeth a sharp SWORD, that with it he should smite the nations ... (Rev 19:15).

In history Judah appears alternatively as a lion or as a lamb. The tribe possesses both characteristics. On the one hand they are able to fight hard and on the other hand they are able to take a lot of suffering and persist in a seemingly lamb-like role for a long time. Jesus the Messiah is also Lion and Lamb. Lamb during His first Coming and Lion during His Second Coming (Rev 5:5).

David slew a lion and a bear. He also defeated Goliath.

The Judah kings of the Davidic line (Rehoboam – Zedekiah) fought many wars. They were able to remain independent for 3½ centuries (930 – 586 BC).

Haman tried to annihilate the Jews in the Persian Empire. The Jews were allowed to fight back, thanks to a counter-law: *Thus the Jews smote all their enemies with the stroke of the sword, and slaughter, and destruction, and did what they would unto those that hated them (Esther 9:5).*

The Hellenistic Seleucid Kingdom attacked the Jews in the 2nd century BC. The Maccabees fought back and gained independence (164 – 63 BC). In the time of Jesus many zealots longed back to this era.

Judah and the Roman Empire

The Hasmonean (Maccabean) independence lasted for a hundred years. From 63 BC till 66 AD the Romans were in charge. It was a troublesome corner of the Roman Empire. Three times there were

bloody Jewish revolts against the Romans (66-73 AD, 115-117 AD and 132-135 AD).

The Jews thought they would be able to resist the Romans, like Hezekiah did the Assyrians, like Mordecai the Persians, like the Maccabees the Greek Seleucids, but they failed. Rome took a great death-toll and many legions were called upon, but in the end Rome prevailed and Jews were evicted from the land, which was renamed Palestine. From the 2nd till the 18th century most Jews have lived like 'lambs' in the dispersion.

Zionism

Zionism has turned the Jews from lambs into lions again. In the Palestine Mandate the Jews started to arm and defend themselves. During WW II the Jews fought the German SS bravely for a month in the Warsaw ghetto. The Jewish State of Israel has fought many wars and won. The change from lamb to lion casts prophetic light on the coming Messiah, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah.

Joseph - Judah

Most Jews are antagonistic about the Israelite identity of the peoples of north-western Europe. Many believers of this Israelite identity are quite antagonistic towards the Jews. This enmity, this jealousy, between Ephraim and Judah has been predicted. It will be ended by the Messiah:

The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim (Isaiah 11:13).

Bert Otten