

grams, or a little over 2 pounds! Therefore, the whereabouts of David's crown that was acquired as spoils in war remains a mystery.

In addition to his missing crown, the massive sword that David acquired after killing Goliath has never turned up anywhere. Of course, just as God made sure that Moses' tomb was never found, no one knows where David's tomb is located either. So one is left to wonder if David's magnificent possessions still exist and if Yahshua will find and display these items during the Millennium as a testimony of the Kingdom of Israel's existence and King David's greatness. One also may wonder if the Antichrist covets these priceless items and if he knows where to find them or has acquired them. But if he has or will, it is likely that Yahshua will reacquire these symbols of David's success as a warrior and king of Israel at the appointed time.

Interestingly, there is another priceless item that may turn up in Yahshua's right hand during the Millennial Kingdom: the Staff of Yahweh, which was otherwise known as Joseph's Stick. We will explore the lore surrounding this amazing symbol of Yahweh's authority and power in the next two sections.

### ***What Moses, King David, and King Arthur Had In Common***

Besides the fact that both the Patriarch Joseph and Moses were hailed as Princes of Egypt, another little-known connection between them exists, and it is found in the Staff of Yahweh. This is the same staff that Moses used to show the Israelites many miraculous signs from Yahweh. As mentioned earlier and in Book Two, this supernaturally forged staff marked Moses and Aaron as Yahweh's choice of leader and high priest. At the same time, this staff served as a physical manifestation of God's power. As such, it represented Yahweh's love and desire to protect His people, as well as the rod of correction Yahweh allegorically wields to shape people into useful disciples. The Book of Jasher teaches that each Patriarch who led the righteous descendants of Seth once carried the Staff of Yahweh as a mark of authority:

*"And when God had driven Adam from the Garden of Eden, he took the stick in his hand and went and tilled the ground... And the stick came down to Noah and was given to Shem and his descendants, until it came into the hand of Abraham the Hebrew. And when Abraham had given all he had to his son Isaac, he also gave to him this stick. And when Jacob had fled to Padan-aram, he took it into his hand... Also when he went down to Egypt he took it into his hand and*

*gave it to Joseph, one portion above his brethren, for Jacob had taken it by force from his brother Esau." - Jasher 77:43-48*

Interestingly, we are told that Jacob fought with Esau to acquire Joseph's Stick, which means that Isaac may have given the stick to Esau before Jacob became Isaac's primary heir. But since Jacob was now the ruling patriarch over God's people and he was the heir to God's Covenant promise over the land, Joseph's Stick also belonged to him as a symbol of Jacob's leadership and authority. The Book of Jasher also records that Moses obtained the stick by being the only man deemed worthy enough to pull it from the ground. You see, Reuel (a.k.a. Jethro, prince and priest of Midian and, later, Moses' father-in-law) had taken the staff after the patriarch Joseph died, and planted the staff in the ground - probably as a result of God's revealing His will to Reuel. In "The Legends of the Jews," compiler Louis Ginzberg recorded that Reuel or Jethro stole this staff from Pharaoh, who took it from Joseph's apartments after he died. This legend was probably derived from the Book of Jasher, where the rod is called "Joseph's Stick:"

*"And when Pharaoh heard the words of Jethro he was very angry with him, so that he rose with shame from the king's presence, and went to Midian... **and took Joseph's stick with him.**" - Jasher 67:41*

As shown in the following quote taken from the Book of Jasher, Jethro or Reuel planted the rod or stick that once belonged to Joseph deep into the ground so that only the top and inscribed crook of the staff was visible:

*"And after the death of Joseph, the nobles of Egypt came into the house of Joseph, and the stick came into the hand of Reuel the Midianite, and when he went out of Egypt, he took it in his hand and planted it in his garden." - Jasher 77:48*

Reuel then offered his daughter Zipporah's hand in marriage to anyone who could retrieve Joseph's Stick from the ground:

*"And all the mighty men of the Kinites tried to pluck it when they endeavored to get Zipporah his daughter, but they were unsuccessful. **So that stick remained planted in the garden of Reuel, until he came who had a right to it.**" - Jasher 77:49-50*

Though many strong men tried, the staff was immovable until Moses came and miraculously pulled it out of the ground:

*“And... Moses went into the garden of Reuel which was behind the house, and he there prayed to the Lord his God, who had done mighty wonders for him. And... whilst he prayed he looked opposite to him, and behold - a sapphire stick was... planted in the midst of the garden. And he approached the stick and he looked, and behold the name of the Lord God of hosts was engraved thereon, written and developed upon the stick. And **he read it and stretched forth his hand and he plucked it like a forest tree from the thicket, and the stick was in his hand...**” “And **when Reuel saw the stick in the hand of Moses... he gave him his daughter Zipporah for a wife.**” - Jasher 77:38-41, 77:51.*

Amazed that Moses had claimed the stick, Reuel did as he had sworn and gave Zipporah's hand in marriage to Moses. This made Moses not only a renegade Prince of Egypt and former adopted King of Cush (read part of this story in Chapter Nine), but a desert Prince of Midian, and - by virtue of his possession of the Staff of Yahweh - the chosen leader of the Israelites as well. In fact, the Book of Jasher and the Bible concur in reporting that Moses and Aaron both used this mysterious and wondrous Sapphire Stick or Staff to perform wonderful miracles during the Exodus, and for a time during the Israelites' subsequent forty-year sojourn in the Sinai and Arabian wilderness. Here are some passages mentioning this stick, which was also called a staff or rod:

*“**And this is the stick with which all the works of our God were performed, after he had created heaven and earth, and all the host of them, seas, rivers and all their fishes.**” - Jasher 77:42*

*“Then Moses took his wife and his sons and set them on a donkey, and he returned to the land of Egypt. **And Moses took the rod of God in his hand.**” - Exodus 4:20 (NKJ - {staff of God, NIV})*

*“Moses said to Joshua, ‘Choose some of our men and go out to fight the Amalekites. Tomorrow **I will stand on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hands.**’” - Exodus 17:9 (NIV)*

In regard to prophecy, it is important to note that these passages alternatively call Moses' staff a stick like a shepherd would hold, a rod like a judge would wield, and a staff like a king would display as a sign of his authority. Did you also note that the story of Moses' retrieval of the staff is very similar to the legend of King Arthur and his acquisition

of the mighty, magical sword Excalibur? Is it possible that the story of how Moses acquired the Staff of Yahweh and used it to shepherd and protect the Twelve Tribes of Israel was available to medieval scholars, and - in conjunction with the tales in the British Edda - were the inspiration for the beloved legends of King Arthur?

Since the copy of the Book of Jasher available to us today has been traced to the medieval period, it is possible that Arthurian legends were heavily influenced by the Book of Jasher. Along with many other biblical and extra-biblical manuscripts, the Book of Jasher may have been procured and preserved by a few select people among the European and English nobility, who twisted its contents to serve and support their own nefarious desires. Nonetheless, as a work likely deemed uncanonical by the Church, the Upright Record was not available to study in most monasteries, and this may be why it was virtually unknown until a copy of it resurfaced and was made available to scholars in more recent times.

### ***What Happened to the Staff of Yahweh?***

The story of the Sapphire Stick or Staff of Yahweh that is found in the Book of Jasher is incomplete as it does not tell us what happened to the Staff after Moses plucked it out of the ground. However, that is not all we know of the Staff, since it is also mentioned dozens of times in the Bible. As shown in Chapter Ten of Book Two and in the Bible quotes found in the preceding section of this chapter, the Staff's history is connected to Moses and Aaron, who both used this staff to lead and protect the people of Israel during their forty years of desert wandering. In the Bible, Joseph's Stick was called the rod or staff of God as well as Aaron's staff. This is the same rod that turned into a serpent and gobbled up the serpents that came from Pharaoh's magician's staffs (Exodus 7:11-12). It was also used by Moses to part the Red Sea so that the Israelites could escape from Pharaoh's chariots (Exodus 14:16).

During the Israelite's desert sojourn, the miraculous Staff of Yahweh was eventually given to Aaron as a symbol of his authority over the Levite clan and the special line of priests that came from Aaron's lineage. In fact, this staff that was made by God at the dawn of human history and had served as a powerful tool in the hands of many generations of patriarchs miraculously sprouted overnight with an almond branch complete with leaves and ripe almonds to show God's approval of the Levite priesthood (Numbers 17:5-11). This put a stop to the rebellion against Moses and Aaron by the Levite named Korah, who felt that the priesthood should be extended to include all the tribes of Israel (Numbers 16:1-3). After it sprouted, the rod was set before the Ark

of the Covenant in the Most Holy Place inside the Desert Tabernacle. Then, eventually, it found its way inside the Ark along with a golden jar of Manna and the stone tablets of the Law (Hebrews 9:4).

Not long after this, God called Moses to retrieve the rod from the Most Holy Place and use it to split a rock from which a pure spring of water gushed out in the desert (Numbers 20:7-11). This was done to end the bitter complaining of the Israelites, who were weak and dehydrated from a lack of water. However, it was also a symbol of the Messiah to come, who would become the *"Rock of our Salvation"* and the *"Living Water."* After this, the Staff of Yahweh is not cited again until David mentioned it as bringing him comfort during his exile in the wilderness as he hid from King Saul's wrath:

*"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; **your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.**" - Psalm 23:4 (NKJ)*

There, in the beautiful passages of the Shepherd's Psalm, David poetically revealed that he was in possession of that mighty rod of power! It therefore likely continued to serve as David's rod of authority when he became king over all Israel. As if in confirmation of this, the writer of Chronicles recorded that Aaron's rod was no longer inside the Ark when King Solomon finally retrieved it from the Tabernacle of David and had it transported into the magnificent Temple of Solomon on the shoulders of the Levite priests:

*"Then they brought up the ark, the tabernacle of meeting, and all the holy furnishings that were in the tabernacle. The priests and the Levites brought them up."  
"Nothing was in the ark except the two tablets which Moses put there at Horeb, when the LORD (Yahweh) made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they had come out of Egypt." - 2 Chronicles 5:5, 10 (NKJ)*

After this final clue is given that the Staff of Yahweh was no longer inside the Ark, that rod that was once in Joseph's possession in Egypt is not mentioned again until this prophetic passage in the Book of Ezekiel:

*"Thus says the Lord GOD (Yahweh Elohim): 'surely I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel, his companions; and I will join them... with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they will be one in My hand.'" - Ezekiel 37:19 (NKJ)*

Here, the Stick of Joseph is a definite allusion to the Staff of Yahweh that Reuel took from Joseph's palace and Moses later obtained from Reuel's garden. This time, however, the Staff of Yahweh is described as being in the hands of Ephraim and the Tribes of Israel. As shown in Books Two and Four, Ephraim partly refers to the believers in the United States who fled to this country to escape religious persecution. However, Ephraim also figuratively refers to the global community of believers in Yahshua that are an intimate part of Yahshua's Two-House Church. As explained earlier, this church consists of Judah (Jewish believers in Yahshua) and Ephraim (Gentile believers), who are united in marriage to their Messiah. In addition, the expression "Tribes of Israel" is referring to the Ten Lost Tribes of Israel that were scattered across Europe during the Diaspora that occurred in two waves when the northern Kingdom of Israel fell to the Assyrian King Shalmaneser the Fifth and then the southern Kingdom of Judah fell to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon around 150 years later.

In Ezekiel 37:19, Yahweh is stating that He will allegorically twist Joseph's stick (i.e. the Gentile Church) together with the stick of Judah (the Jews) during the Millennial Rule of Yahshua on the Earth and these currently warring congregations will love and nurture each other - something that has never occurred before. Incidentally, David was the King of Judah as well as Israel, so he would have been in possession of these two staffs of authority - the staff that the leading patriarchs of Judah carried and the Staff of Yahweh! However, no one knows for certain what happened to the Staff of Yahweh after this. In fact, there is no further mention of the Staff except in conjunction with Bible prophecies concerning the coming of Yahshua the Messiah as King of kings.

In this regard, Ezekiel 37:19 clearly suggests that *Joseph's Stick is being secretly held by a person or society within Gentile Christianity that has been entrusted with its care*. Nonetheless, this stick does not belong solely to the Gentile Church. In fact it will one day be returned to its rightful owner, our Mehlek and Adonai Yahweh Yahshua Ha Mashiah (or, in English: our King and Lord God Joshua the Messiah). This is why Yahshua is identified as "a Rod from the stem of Jesse," who has a "rod of iron" in His hands. His rod of iron is no doubt an allusion to the "rod of God," which is another name for the Staff of Yahweh:

*"There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the LORD (Yahweh) shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit*

*of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD (Yahweh).” - Isaiah 11:1-2 (NKJ)*

*“Listen! The LORD (Yahweh) is calling to the city-- and to fear your name is wisdom-- **Heed the rod and the One who appointed it.**” - Micah 6:9 (NIV)*

*“She bore a **male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron.** And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.” - Revelation 12:5 (NKJ)*

*“Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. **And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron.** He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.**” - Revelation 19:15-16 (NKJ)*

From these passages of Scripture, it is fairly clear that the last possessor of this mighty Staff of Yahweh will be none other than Yahshua, the Rod of Jesse, the Son of David, the Branch, the True Vine, and the Lion of Judah:

*“But one of the elders said to me, ‘Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals.’” - Revelation 5:5 (NKJ)*

So, until the time that Yahshua comes again to reclaim that Rod that He gave to Adam long ago - and lastly gave to Ephraim - its location will remain hidden. Indeed, no one but Yahshua now has a right to hold that miraculous Staff in His merciful and powerful right hand. Therefore, God will see to it that no one else has the power to touch the Staff of Yahweh - not even the Antichrist - who surely would covet the idea of holding that Staff in mockery of God’s authority.

### ***The Kingdom of Israel Disguised as Camelot***

With the miraculous help of Joseph’s Stick, the Hebrew slaves that Moses led out of bondage finally entered the land that Yahweh promised to Abraham’s righteous descendants. Once there, they conquered the wicked Canaanites under Joshua’s expert leadership. Then they set up an earthly kingdom that shined very brightly for a brief time under the leadership of Samuel, David, and Solomon. Under King David, the Twelve Tribes of Israel formed an undefeatable army that conquered every neighboring kingdom and made them subject to David

as their overlord. Even the might of Phoenicia bent under the threat of David's superior fighting forces.

Seeing their might, the Phoenician kings wisely formed a strategic alliance with Israel during David and Solomon's glorious reigns. As a result of their close alliance with Phoenicia, Israel's wealth from trade and tribute increased dramatically, and its citizens dwelt in absolute peace and safety for nearly a hundred years. Sadly, the true extent of the Kingdom of Israel's splendor during the reigns of David and Solomon is largely overlooked in today's history books.

Though few people realize it, Israel's Golden Age carries clear connections to the myth of King Arthur and his fabled kingdom called Camelot. For example, the twelve Knights of the Round Table are found in the Twelve Patriarchs who led each of the Tribes of Israel. Similarly, the righteous and just King Arthur embodies the godly traits of many of Israel's leaders such as Moses, Joshua, Samuel, King David, and Solomon. Likewise, Arthur's beautiful though fickle Queen Guinevere represents Israel, whose citizens became adulterers when they began worshipping false gods instead of Yahweh. Even King Arthur's sword had its ancient counterpart in the mystical Staff of Yahweh that Moses retrieved and he and his brother Aaron carried. Just like Excalibur was lost to Arthur, the Staff of Yahweh was also lost to Israel long before the Ark of the Covenant disappeared or their remaining temple treasures were taken as plunder by the conquering Babylonians (2 Kings 24:13).

Because the Israelites stopped worshipping Yahweh, their glorious and powerful kingdom was destined to fall. Just like the fabled Camelot, the kingdom of God on Earth that Israel represented was slowly conquered and destroyed. This happened so that Yahweh could prove a twofold point. First, it shows that ***only a perfect man who is without sin could rule the Earth perfectly and justly***. Secondly, it shows that ***only perfect people can perfectly keep Yahweh's righteous laws as set forth in the Torah***. Without the perfect King giving us the ability to become His perfect subjects, the fabled glory of Camelot will never last forever in any nation or kingdom on Earth. Adonai Yahshua alone is that perfect King!

Despite their flaws, King David - and to some extent King Solomon - had points in common with the longed-for Messiah who would be their descendent. King David in particular makes a good allegory for the mythical King Arthur. King David's life has many parallels to Yahshua's. The most striking parallels between them are in the roles they both played. For example, David served as a shepherd boy before he became a warrior king. Likewise, at His First Advent, Yahshua was the Good Shepherd who came to save His sheep (John 10:11).



Someday, like David was to a smaller degree, Yahshua will be the conquering King of kings when He comes again. Indeed, with so many points in common, no one resembles King Arthur better than Yahshua!

Based on these striking comparisons, it is highly possible that the stories of Moses, Joshua, Samuel, David, Solomon, and the Twelve Tribes of Israel are the real basis behind much of the mythology surrounding King Arthur and the supposed Knights of the Round Table. These great leaders of Israel were all embodied in the fabled goodness, wisdom, and valor of King Arthur. In addition, the patriarchs of each of the Twelve Tribes of Israel very well could have served as the inspiration for the fabled Knights of the Round Table. In the further transformation of truth into myth, the powerful and seemingly magical Staff that Moses wielded but that was eventually lost became the sword Excalibur that was destined for Arthur, the rightful king. Later, like the Staff of Yahweh and the Ark of the Covenant it was stored in, the mystical sword Excalibur mysteriously vanished.

As I mentioned earlier, the rightful king who wields the Staff of Yahweh will ultimately be Yahshua, the Anointed One. Furthermore, there is no question that His future Millennial Rule on Earth will be the ultimate Camelot. It is also possible that the ancestors of Israel's son Judah who were in the genealogy of Yahshua were the inspiration for the myth of the Holy Grail. This is even more plausible when we note that the mythology of the Grail includes references to it being the chalice that once held the actual spilled blood of the Messiah. It is also believed that the Grail may have been the actual wine cup that Yahshua drank from at the Last Supper, whose contents symbolized His sacred blood.

Moses' miraculous leadership of the Tribes of Israel is very much a part of Judeo-Christian history. However, this does not mean that the fables surrounding King Arthur actually occurred as exact parallels of the biblical stories, or that the United Kingdom is in possession of the Staff of Yahweh or the Holy Grail, which some heretically believe refers to Yahshua's bloodline or lineage through the children that He supposedly sired with Mary Magdalene.

Nonetheless, King Arthur's leadership of the Knights of the Round Table has become so much a part of Medieval and English history that many might balk at the thought that King Arthur and Camelot never existed, or that the sword Excalibur and the Holy Grail are figments of the collective imagination of the English nobility. Though there is little doubt that some actual ruler of England is tied to the Arthurian legends, many of the legends surrounding him were obviously greatly embellished with events from factual stories in the Book of Jasher and the Bible!

As addressed in Book Four on prophecy, the obvious tie-ins between the main characters of the Arthurian Legends or Grail Romances and biblical characters may have a sinister motive. This is because some people believe that the Holy Grail is a symbol for Mary Magdalene and the children that resulted from her supposed marriage to Christ. In Book Four, the origins of this heretical legend and its evil purpose will be fully examined in relation to the End Times and the possible identity of the Antichrist.

### ***King Josiah: Champion of Religious Reform in Judah***

Of all the kings of Israel, only two were consistently righteous and both of these kings ruled over the Kingdom of Judah. The first of these was King David, and though there were several other kings after David who were righteous at times like Solomon, none were as constantly righteous as David - with one lone exception. This was found in King Josiah, who ruled shortly before the Kingdom of Judah fell to King Nebuchadnezzar. Before Josiah came to power, Yahweh had grown tired of the sinfulness of the remaining Israelites in Judah. Starting with King Solomon, successive kings of Israel and Judah either built and worshipped at sacred shrines and altars to many false gods on top of the high places in the land or freely allowed the Israelites to do so. Others defiled Yahweh's temple in Jerusalem with altars or idols dedicated to Pagan deities. Still others sacrificed children in the sacred fires dedicated to the god Molech. In short, Judah was ripe for judgment and Yahweh would soon unleash His wrath unless the king and the people of Judah repented.

When Josiah took the throne in Judah, he was only eight years old, but he had a noble character and ruled well and authoritatively enough to be considered righteous before Yahweh. Then at the age of eighteen, Josiah's scribe read to the king from the book of the Law that the High Priest in the Temple had loaned to him. When Josiah heard the Word of the Law of God, he understood how lax and sinful Israel truly had become and he was deeply grieved. As a result, he tore his clothes in lamentation. Later, Josiah was even more terribly distraught when he heard of the horrible judgments that were going to befall Judah because of the breaking of their Covenant with Yahweh. Josiah was so horrified by the sins that his predecessors had allowed to be perpetrated that he decided to go on a campaign to cleanse his kingdom of all the abominations and idols that were an affront to Yahweh God:

*"Moreover Josiah put away those who consulted mediums... and idols, all the abominations that were seen in*