

Shofar and the Soul

The Torah teaches us וְתִרְוַעַת מֶלֶךְ בּוֹ, "their Sovereign's acclaim is in their midst" (Numbers 23:21), a reminder that just as a trumpet blast announces a mortal king, so the shofar is blown to announce the coronation of God. According to the Midrash, the verse can be understood as "the shofar blast of kingship is within the person [Israel]." That is, the true shofar—the true power to crown God as sovereign—is found within the heart of each and every Jew. The physical shofar does no more than amplify the soul's yearning to exalt the Divine.

And so, ADONAI our God, we await You, that soon we may behold Your strength revealed in full glory, sweeping away the abominations of the earth, obliterating idols, establishing in the world the sovereignty of the Almighty, when all flesh will call out Your name—even the wicked will turn toward You. Then all who live on earth will recognize and understand that to You alone knees must bend and allegiance be sworn. All will bow down and prostrate themselves before You, ADONAI our God, honor Your glorious name, and accept the obligation of Your sovereignty. May You soon rule over them forever and ever, for true dominion is Yours; You will rule in glory until the end of time.

As it is written in Your Torah:

κ ADONAI will be *sovereign* forever and ever. Exodus 15:18

ב God does not gaze upon the sins of Jacob, nor look upon the errors of Israel; ADONAI their God is with them, their *sovereign's* acclaim is in their midst. Numbers 23:21

ג God became *sovereign* in Jeshurun, as the leaders of the people gathered with the tribes of Israel. Deuteronomy 33:5

And it is also written in Psalms:

κ For *sovereignty* is ADONAI's;

God rules over the nations. Psalm 22:29

ב ADONAI is *sovereign*, robed in splendor, girded in strength. So the earth is established on sure foundation. Psalm 93:1

ג Lift up high, O you gates; lift up the eternal doors, so that the *Sovereign* of Glory may enter. Who is the *Sovereign* of Glory? ADONAI, mighty and valiant, ADONAI, mighty in battle. Lift up high, O you gates; lift up the eternal doors, so that the *Sovereign* of Glory may enter. Who is the *Sovereign* of Glory? *Adonai Tz'va-ot* is the *Sovereign* of Glory, forever. Psalm 24:7-10