

FROM OUR PASTOR

April 23, 2016

High Day Sabbath Greetings to everyone!

On April 21st an incredible person turned 90. She is the second longest reigning monarch of the British Empire and is universally admired for her character, poise, self control, and dignity. The official portrait released to commemorate this royal birthday shows her seated with seven of her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She is holding the youngest, 11 month-old Princess Charlotte, in her lap. At heart, she is a devoted mother and grandmother.

Queen Elizabeth II is the 40th monarch since William the Conqueror was crowned in 1066. She became queen upon the death of her father, King George VI who died in February 1952. Her official coronation was in June of 1953. There have been 12 U.S. presidents since she first began her reign and there have been seven Roman Catholic popes during her time as monarch.

As a young princess during World War II she could have been sheltered in a castle in Scotland. Instead she trained as a mechanic and truck driver and earned the admiration of a nation as she drove supply trucks and ambulances around London during the Blitz, in which 60% of London was destroyed by German attacks.

Her sense of duty and attention to responsibility is virtually unmatched by any other world leader. She has only missed the annual opening of Parliament twice, and during her reign Queen Elizabeth II has given royal assent to, or passed, more than 3,500 Acts of Parliament after passed by the houses of Lords and Commons. She has answered more than 3.5 million letters, traveled overseas more than 250 times and visited 115 different countries. She meets weekly with the Prime Minister to discuss national issues and legislation. Her favorite animals are her horses and dogs and she donates to over ninety different charities, many dedicated to helping animals.

The only time she carries money is when she attends church, so that she can give when the offering plate is passed. She and her husband, Prince Philip, have been married over 60 years and have been a national example of a couple working together and staying in love.

In this world of character bereft leaders, ruling tyrants, dishonest politicians and leaders tainted by scandals, Queen Elizabeth the Second is a sterling example of what a person of character can accomplish when in a public office. She is known and appreciated for her solid qualities and many years of selfless service to her nation. Not once has she embarrassed the office, throne, or her nation. The world is a better place because of her.

Before the patriarch Jacob died in Egypt, he predicted that a descendent of Judah would be reigning on the throne of Israel up until the time of the return of Jesus Christ. In [Genesis 49:10](#) he predicted, "*The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes;*"

It is well known that the Windsor royal family is descended from King David. The family tree is on display in the Tower of London and is available to everyone. God has kept His word, there is a descendent of Judah on the throne today. What a wonderful example of a wise ruler she has been and continues to be past age 90!

*Rex Sexton
Pastor, UCG Portland*