

# Parasha "Korach", 2015

## Numbers Chapters 16:-18:32

1. "The Riposte of YHWH to the Challenge of Aaron's Honor by Korach"
2. "The Rod/Scepter in light of Shepherding, Leadership, Justice, Righteousness and Equity."



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## CHALLENGE & RIPOSTE

"The challenge-riposte is essentially an attempt to gain honor at someone else's expense by publicly posing a challenge that cannot be answered. When a challenge has been posed, the challenged must make some sort of response (and no response is also considered a response). It falls to the bystanders to decide whether or not the challenged person successfully defended his (and, indeed, usually "his") own honor."

*-David Desilva "Honor, Patronage & Purity"*

## CHALLENGE & RIPOSTE

Four Steps to the Push and Shove Game.

- ✓ Claim of worth or value
- ✓ Challenge to that Claim
- ✓ Riposte or defense of the claim
- ✓ Public verdict of Success awarded to either claimant or challenger.

*Jerome Neyrey: Honor & Shame in the Gospel of Matthew*

# Hebrew Words For Rod and Scepter.

**H4294**

מְטָה / מְתָה

mat̄teh / mat̄tāh

**BDB Definition:**

- 1) staff, branch, tribe
  - 1a) staff, rod, shaft
  - 1b) branch (of vine)
  - 1c) tribe
  - 1c1) company led by chief with staff (originally)

**H4294**

מְטָה מְתָה

mat̄teh mat̄tāh

*mat-teh', mat-taw'*

From H5186; a branch (as extending); figuratively a tribe; also a rod, whether for chastising (figuratively correction), ruling (a **sceptre**), throwing (a lance), or walking (a staff; figuratively a support of life, for example bread): - rod, staff, tribe.

# Hebrew Words For Rod or Scepter

**H7626**

שֶׁבֶט

shebet

**BDB Definition:**

- 1) rod, staff, branch, offshoot, club, sceptre, tribe
  - 1a) rod, staff
  - 1b) shaft (of spear, dart)
  - 1c) club (of shepherd's implement)
  - 1d) truncheon, sceptre (mark of authority)
  - 1e) clan, tribe

**H7626**

שֶׁבֶט

shebet

shay'-bet

From an unused root probably meaning to *branch off*; a *scion*, that is, (literally) a *stick* (for punishing, writing, fighting, ruling, walking, etc.) or (figuratively) a *clan*: - X correction, dart, rod, **sceptre**, staff, tribe

## IVP Background Commentary for Numbers 17:2-7

“staff as insignia of tribal leadership.”

The staff was used by shepherdsto guide their flocks.In the hands of an elder or tribal leader,the staff(probably distinctly carved and known to belong to that man) symbolized his authority (see Gen 38:18). By writing the name of each of the twelve tribal leaders on the staffs and placing them before the tent of meeting,there would be no question who flowered at God's command and who was therefore the designated priest. This public pattern of discernment is also found in Joshua 7:14-15 and 1Samuel 10:20-21”



“JUSTICE AND RIGHTEOUSNESS AS THE TASK OF THE  
ESCHATOLOGICAL KING” Chapter 3 of Weinfeld’s book.  
Pages 60-65



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# Midrash Rabbah –Numbers 18:23

"That same staff also is destined to be held in the hand of King Messiah (may he come speedily in our days), as it says [in Psalm 110:2], יהוה sends Your mighty sceptre out of Tsiyon. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!"

Why Is this important?

Because this points to Yeshua as King-Priest. King of the Dynasty which He holds the Scepter of Justice, Righteousness and Equity, and the Office of Priest According to the Heavenly Melchitzedek Order



A little known fact of ancient shepherding is that a goat would often lead a flock of sheep.



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# “Judas Goat”

A Judas goat is a trained goat used at a slaughterhouse and in general animal herding. The Judas goat is trained to associate with sheep or cattle, leading them to a specific destination. In stockyards, a Judas goat will lead sheep to slaughter, while its own life is spared. Judas goats are also used to lead other animals to specific pens and on to trucks.



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# The Parable of The Sheep and Goats

Matthew 25:31-36



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