

The Lion's Roar In Summer Fire

By Rabbi Ariel Bar Tzadok

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The lion has roared who will not fear, G-d has spoken, will there be no prophecy?

The great lion rises over the summer heat. In the heat comes the melting. In the heat comes life.

Yet, heat is fire and fire burns. Burning is either a blessing or a curse depending on how fire is used.

Fire warms us when used in moderation and burns us when we have too much.

Too little and we are cold; too much and we burn. Moderation is the way how fire is handled. Its great heat brings life, but it can also bring death.

Av is the Father and the Father is the lion. The lion's roar brings heat and the heat brings with it both life and death.

Thus the Father is the source of life and death. Balance the heat and the Father gives us life. Imbalance the fire and the Father allows it to kill.

Father Lion is none other than the Holy One, blessed be He. He is the Great Lion who roared. All who hear His roar will prophesy. All who ignore His roar are burned by the fire.

Father Lion has allowed great tragedy to befall His people during this month, all because they heeded not the Great Lion's roar.

Thus Av's heat burned them, their Temple and their homeland.

The people ran away as they would from before a devouring lion.

To this day, so many are still running.

Run as they may the Lion will pounce and devour them all. This is the fate of prey. Fire will burn and the Lion will devour.



This is not true for those who do not run. The lion devours only his prey. Fire burns only that which is kindling. It does not touch the true children of the Father.

Those who know the secret of fire tame its heat and use it for good. Those who know the secret of the Lion's roar fear no punishment.

On the contrary, they wait silently to hear the Speaking Silence that comes after the Great Roar. In this Silence is truth, wisdom and knowledge of handling fire.

The Lion is the King and He will rule in Jerusalem, the city of peace, the place where fire and water are tamed and are at peace.

The time of the Lion is the time for silence. It is time for taming the raging fire by burning against it containing fire. Thus fire controls fire.

Silence the tongue and close the lips. Allow nothing to enter or exit. This way the flesh melts and the mind grows ever wiser.

The Av fire then cools and balances. By full moon comes a time when imbalance turns to balance and the Sun and Moon dance happily together under the Huppah.