

SEFER YETZIRAH 6.3



משנה ג': תלי בעולם כמלך על כסאו גלגל בשנה כמלך
במדינה לב בנפש כמלך במלחמה:

6.3: The Teli in the Universe is like a king on his throne.
The Cycle in the Year is like a king in the province. The
Heart in the Souh is like a king in war.
(*Rabbi Aryeh Kaplan translation*)

6:3 Axis in the world is as a ruler on its throne, cycle in
the year is as a monarch in its country, heart in the
person is as a ruler in conflict.
(*Doc Benton translation*)

The *ruler on its throne* denotes *God* as unchanging just as the axis through the pole star is fixed while the constellations revolve around it. The *monarch in its country* denotes motion, and through the *cycles of time*, *God* is depicted as active and taking part in the affairs of the universe. Somewhat of a contradiction for an unchanging *God* to be so involved with change, but, as the philosopher *Zeno of Elea* would have said, at any given moment all is still and unchanging, and thus, all change is an illusion. And finally, the heart *as a ruler in conflict* is a reminder that the *consciousness* of the person is the connection between these two conflicting perceptions – static *space* and changing *time*. Furthermore, it is the *consciousness* of the person that creates our particular perceptions of *God*.