48TH ERA (150 – 101 BC): 48TH SIGN CEPHUS “MESSIAH ON THRONE”

The Hebrew name of the sign is Cepheus “The Branch”.


Cepheus is a Messiah figure. The Hebrew name ‘The Branch’ identifies him (see Isaiah 11 v 1).

Law of Moses says priests can only come from the tribe of Levi. According to God’s promises the King of Israel can only be a descendant of David. Who could possibly be a Cepheus figure?

(Jesus can be both King and Priest because the Aaronic priesthood ended at the Cross and was replaced by a higher priesthood: Melchizedek)

(note: Simon did not claim to be Messiah: he also did not claim to be King; he was a Cepheus type)

Simon is pictured sitting on a throne high in the heavens. Beside Cepheus sits Cassiopeia “Free Woman: Queen of Heaven” on her throne.

In this era: a man who is both ruler and priest became the leader of a Jewish state in Palestine. (!)

Judas Maccabeus had led a revolt against the Seleucid (i.e. Greek) Empire. Twenty years later the elders selected his brother Simon to lead the Jewish state. If Messiah figure ruled over a Jewish state in the Holy Land, Simon achieved that much.

140 BC Simon Maccabeus is recognized as ruler & priest: beginning of the Hasmonean Dynasty

139 BC Rome recognizes Hasmonean Dynasty

139 BC Simon Maccabeus is assassinated

135 BC Simon Maccabeus is assassinated

134 BC Antiochus VII sacks Jerusalem

113 BC Hyrcanus’ war in north

111 BC Hyrcanus captures Shechem

104 BC Judah Aristobulus claims the title King of Judea while continuing to serve as the High Priest

103 BC Alexander Janneus succeeds Aristobulus