

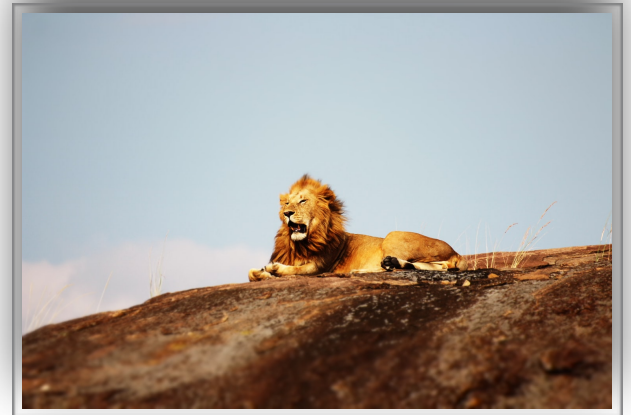
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... a lion, mighty among beasts, who retreats before nothing; Proverbs 30:30 (NIV)

Thought for today...

Lions are known to be powerful, bold, majestic, yet ferocious animals. It is said that their roar can be heard up to 5 miles away! Given the behavioural traits of lions, it was expected that when Daniel was thrown into a den of these carnivorous animals, he would be torn from limb to limb, however, “...God sent His angel and shut the lions’ mouths...” so that they did not harm Daniel (Daniel 6:22).



When the Israelites rebelled against God, choosing rather to worship idols, God likened Himself and His actions to those of a lion as He pronounced judgement on them: “For I will be like a lion to Ephraim, and like a young lion to the house of Judah. I, even I, will tear and go away; I will carry off, and no one shall rescue.” Hosea 5:14 (English Standard Version).

The prophet ‘Amos said, “The LORD roars from Mount Zion; His voice thunders from Jerusalem. The pastures dry up, and the grass on Mount Carmel turns brown.” Amos 1:2 (Good News Translation).

The Lord our God, though mighty in power with a voice that thunders, is tender in mercy towards His children. The prophet Joel tells us that:

‘The LORD also will roar from Zion, And utter His voice from Jerusalem; The heavens and earth will shake; But the LORD will be a shelter for His people, And the strength of the children of Israel.’ Joel 3:16 (New King James Version).

As a lion protects its pride and territory from predators, so the Lord protects those who are His. What a comfort it is to know that we have a God who is both able and willing to fight for us - to roar like a lion on our behalf! Lambs - in complete contrast to lions - are known to be meek, gentle and innocent animals. The same God who demonstrates His might and power and whose voice causes the earth to tremble, is the same God who through the person of Jesus Christ, became the sacrificial Lamb who died for your sins and mine.

John the Baptist declared as he saw Jesus coming towards him: **‘...“Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”** John 1:29 (Christian Standard Bible).

Our God is a gentle saviour who is meek and compassionate, and will wipe away every tear from our eyes. Our God is the all powerful Lion of Judah who roars at sin and He is the defender of the weak.

‘For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value. It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.’ 1 Peter 1:18-19 (New Living Translation).



Our God is The Lion and The Lamb.