

## 25 Jun Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

### 177. 25-June Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

#### 2 Samuel 18.

##### 1 . Absalom's Defeat and Death. .

David numbered the people who were with him, and set captains of thousands and captains of hundreds over them.

2 David sent forth the people, a third part under the hand of Joab, and a third part under the hand of Abishai the son of Zeruiah, Joab's brother, and a third part under the hand of Ittai the Gittite. The king said to the people, "I will surely go forth with you myself also."

3 But the people said, "You shall not go forth; for if we flee away, they will not care for us; neither if half of us die, will they care for us. But you are worth ten thousand of us. Therefore now it is better that you are ready to help us out of the city."

4 The king said to them, "I will do what seems best to you." The king stood beside the gate, and all the people went out by hundreds and by thousands.

5 The king commanded Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man, even with Absalom." All the people heard when the king commanded all the captains concerning Absalom.

6 So the people went out into the field against Israel: and the battle was in the forest of Ephraim.

7 The people of Israel were struck there before the servants of David, and there was a great slaughter there that day of twenty thousand men.

8 For the battle was there spread over the surface of all the country; and the forest devoured more people that day than the sword devoured.

9 Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great oak, and his head caught hold of the oak, and he was taken up between the sky and earth; and the mule that was under him went on.

10 A certain man saw it, and told Joab, and said, "Behold, I saw Absalom hanging in an oak."

11 Joab said to the man who told him, "Behold, you saw it, and why didn't you strike him there to the ground? I would have given you ten pieces of silver, and a sash."

12 The man said to Joab, "Though I should receive a thousand pieces of silver in my hand, I still wouldn't put forth my hand against the king's son; for in our hearing the king commanded you and Abishai and Ittai, saying, 'Beware that none touch the young man Absalom.'

13 Otherwise if I had dealt falsely against his life (and there is no matter hidden from the king), then you yourself would have set yourself against me."

14 Then Joab said, "I'm not going to wait like this with you." He took three darts in his hand, and thrust them through the heart of Absalom, while he was yet alive in the midst of the oak.

15 Ten young men who bore Joab's armor surrounded and struck Absalom, and killed him.

16 Joab blew the shofar, and the people returned from pursuing after Israel; for Joab held back the people.

17 They took Absalom, and cast him into the great pit in the forest, and raised over him a very great heap of stones. Then all Israel fled everyone to his tent.

18 Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and reared up for himself the pillar, which is in the king's dale; for he said, "I have no son to keep my name in memory." He called the pillar after his own name; and it is called Absalom's monument, to this day.

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### 19 **. David Hears of Absalom's Death. .**

Then Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said, "Let me now run, and bear the king news, how that YAHWEH has avenged him of his enemies."

20 Joab said to him, "You shall not be the bearer of news this day, but you shall bear news another day. But today you shall bear no news, because the king's son is dead."

21 Then Joab said to the Cushite, "Go, tell the king what you have seen!" The Cushite bowed himself to Joab, and ran.

22 Then Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said yet again to Joab, "But come what may, please let me also run after the Cushite." Joab said, "Why do you want to run, my son, since that you will have no reward for the news?"

23 "But come what may," he said, "I will run." He said to him, "Run!" Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the Plain, and outran the Cushite.

24 Now David was sitting between the two gates: and the watchman went up to the roof of the gate to the wall, and lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, a man running alone.

25 The watchman cried, and told the king. The king said, "If he is alone, there is news in his mouth." He came closer and closer.

26 The watchman saw another man running; and the watchman called to the porter, and said, "Behold, a man running alone!" The king said, "He also brings news."

27 The watchman said, "I think the running of the first one is like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok." The king said, "He is a good man, and comes with good news."

28 Ahimaaz called, and said to the king, "All is well." He bowed himself before the king with his face to the earth, and said, "Blessed is YAHWEH your ELOHIM, who has delivered up the men who lifted up their hand against my master the king!"

29 The king said, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" Ahimaaz answered, "When Joab sent the king's servant, even me your servant, I saw a great tumult, but I don't know what it was."

30 The king said, "Turn aside, and stand here." He turned aside, and stood still.

31 Behold, the Cushite came. The Cushite said, "News for my master the king; for YAHWEH has avenged you this day of all those who rose up against you."

32 The king said to the Cushite, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" The Cushite answered, "May the enemies of my master the king, and all who rise up against you to do you harm, be as that young man is."

### 33 **. David's Mourning for Absalom. .**

The king was much moved, and went up to the room over the gate, and wept. As he went, he said, "My son Absalom! My son, my son Absalom! I wish I had died for you, Absalom, my son, my son!"

## Daniel 11:21-45.

21 In his place shall stand up a contemptible person, to whom they had not given the honor of the kingdom: but he shall come in time of security, and shall obtain the kingdom by flatteries.

22 The overwhelming forces shall be overwhelmed from before him, and shall be broken; yes, also the prince of the covenant.

23 After the treaty made with him he shall work deceitfully; for he shall come up, and shall become strong, with a small people.

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24 In time of security shall he come even on the fattest places of the province; and he shall do that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers' fathers; he shall scatter among them prey, and spoil, and substance: yes, he shall devise his devices against the strongholds, even for a time.

25 He shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the south with a great army; and the king of the south shall war in battle with an exceeding great and mighty army; but he shall not stand; for they shall devise devices against him.

26 Yes, they who eat of his dainties shall destroy him, and his army shall overflow; and many shall fall down slain.

27 As for both these kings, their hearts shall be to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table: but it shall not prosper; for yet the end shall be at the time appointed.

28 Then shall he return into his land with great substance; and his heart shall be against the holy covenant; and he shall do his pleasure, and return to his own land.

### 29 .The Northern King's Blasphemies..

At the time appointed he shall return, and come into the south; but it shall not be in the latter time as it was in the former.

30 For ships of Kittim shall come against him; therefore he shall be grieved, and shall return, and have indignation against the holy covenant, and shall do his pleasure: he shall even return, and have regard to those who forsake the holy covenant.

31 Forces shall stand on his part, and they shall profane the sanctuary, even the fortress, and shall take away the continual burnt offering, and they shall set up the abomination that makes desolate.

32 Such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he pervert by flatteries; but the people who know their ELOHIM shall be strong, and do exploits.

33 Those who are wise among the people shall instruct many; yet they shall fall by the sword and by flame, by captivity and by spoil, many days.

34 Now when they shall fall, they shall be helped with a little help; but many shall join themselves to them with flatteries.

35 Some of those who are wise shall fall, to refine them, and to purify, and to make them white, even to the time of the end; because it is yet for the time appointed.

36 The king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvelous things against the EL of gods; and he shall prosper until the indignation be accomplished; for that which is determined shall be done.

37 Neither shall he regard the gods of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god; for he shall magnify himself above all.

38 But in his place shall he honor the god of fortresses; and a god whom his fathers didn't know shall he honor with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things.

39 He shall deal with the strongest fortresses by the help of a foreign god: whoever acknowledges him he will increase with glory; and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for a price.

### 40 .The Northern King's Conquests..

At the time of the end shall the king of the south contend with him; and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass through.

41 He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown;

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but these shall be delivered out of his hand: Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon.

42 He shall stretch forth his hand also on the countries; and the land of Egypt shall not escape.

43 But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt; and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps.

44 But news out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him; and he shall go forth with great fury to destroy and utterly to sweep away many.

45 He shall plant the tents of his palace between the sea and the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.

### Psalms 146.

#### 1 . The Happiness of Those Whose Help Is YAHWEH. .

Praise YAH! Praise YAHWEH, my soul.

2 While I live, I will praise YAHWEH! I will sing praises to my ELOHIM as long as I exist.

3 Don't put your trust in princes, each a son of man in whom there is no help.

4 His spirit departs, and he returns to the earth. In that very day, his thoughts perish.

5 Happy is he who has the EL of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in YAHWEH, his ELOHIM:

6 who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps truth forever;

7 who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. YAHWEH frees the prisoners.

8 YAHWEH opens the eyes of the blind. YAHWEH raises up those who are bowed down. YAHWEH loves the righteous.

9 YAHWEH preserves the foreigners. He upholds the fatherless and widow, but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.

10 YAHWEH will reign forever; your ELOHIM, O Zion, to all generations. Praise YAH!

### Proverbs 11.

1 A false balance is an abomination to YAHWEH, but accurate weights are his delight.

2 When pride comes, then comes shame, but with humility comes wisdom.

3 The integrity of the upright shall guide them, but the perverseness of the treacherous shall destroy them.

4 Riches don't profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.

5 The righteousness of the blameless will direct his way, but the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.

6 The righteousness of the upright shall deliver them, but the unfaithful will be trapped by evil desires.

7 When a wicked man dies, hope perishes, and expectation of power comes to nothing.

8 A righteous person is delivered out of trouble, and the wicked takes his place.

9 With his mouth the godless man destroys his neighbor, but the righteous will be delivered through knowledge.

10 When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices. When the wicked perish, there is shouting.

11 By the blessing of the upright, the city is exalted, but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.

12 One who despises his neighbor is void of wisdom, but a man of understanding holds his peace.

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13 One who brings gossip betrays a confidence, but one who is of a trustworthy spirit is one who keeps a secret.

14 Where there is no wise guidance, the nation falls, but in the multitude of counselors there is victory.

15 He who is collateral for a stranger will suffer for it, but he who refuses pledges of collateral is secure.

16 A gracious woman obtains honor, but violent men obtain riches.

17 The merciful man does good to his own soul, but he who is cruel troubles his own flesh.

18 Wicked people earn deceitful wages, but one who sows righteousness reaps a sure reward.

19 He who is truly righteous gets life. He who pursues evil gets death.

20 Those who are perverse in heart are an abomination to YAHWEH, but those whose ways are blameless are his delight.

21 Most certainly, the evil man will not be unpunished, but the seed of the righteous will be delivered.

22 Like a gold ring in a pig's snout, is a beautiful woman who lacks discretion.

23 The desire of the righteous is only good. The expectation of the wicked is wrath.

24 There is one who scatters, and increases yet more. There is one who withholds more than is appropriate, but gains poverty.

25 The liberal soul shall be made fat. He who waters shall be watered also himself.

26 People curse someone who withholds grain, but blessing will be on the head of him who sells it.

27 He who diligently seeks good seeks favor, but he who searches after evil, it shall come to him.

28 He who trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous shall flourish as the green leaf.

29 He who troubles his own house shall inherit the wind. The foolish shall be servant to the wise of heart.

30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life. He who is wise wins souls.

31 Behold, the righteous shall be repaid in the earth; how much more the wicked and the sinner!

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!! End of the Daily Reading from the PROPHETS AND WRITINGS! Praise Yah! (HNV-yet version, in the public domain.)

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