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2 Samuel 19.

- 1 It was told Joab, "Behold, the king weeps and mourns for Absalom."
- 2 The victory that day was turned into mourning to all the people; for the people heard it said that day, "The king grieves for his son."
- 3 The people sneaked into the city that day, as people who are ashamed steal away when they flee in battle.
- 4 The king covered his face, and the king cried with a loud voice, "My son Absalom, Absalom, my son, my son!"
- 5 Joab came into the house to the king, and said, "You have shamed this day the faces of all your servants, who this day have saved your life, and the lives of your sons and of your daughters, and the lives of your wives, and the lives of your concubines;
- 6 in that you love those who hate you, and hate those who love you. For you have declared this day, that princes and servants are nothing to you. For today I perceive that if Absalom had lived, and all we had died this day, then it would have pleased you well.
- 7 Now therefore arise, go out, and speak to comfort your servants; for I swear by YAHWEH, if you don't go out, not a man will stay with you this night. That would be worse to you than all the evil that has happened to you from your youth until now."
- 8 Then the king arose, and sat in the gate. They told to all the people, saying, "Behold, the king is sitting in the gate." All the people came before the king. Now Israel had fled every man to his tent.

9 . David Returns to Jerusalem. .

- All the people were at strife throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, "The king delivered us out of the hand of our enemies, and he saved us out of the hand of the Philistines; and now he has fled out of the land from Absalom.
- 10 Absalom, whom we anointed over us, is dead in battle. Now therefore why don't you speak a word of bringing the king back?"
 - 11 King David sent to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, saying, "Speak to the elders of Judah, saying, 'Why are you the last to bring the king back to his house? Since the speech of all Israel has come to the king, to return him to his house.
 - 12 You are my brothers, you are my bone and my flesh. Why then are you the last to bring back the king?'
 - 13 Say to Amasa, 'Aren't you my bone and my flesh? ELOHIM do so to me, and more also, if you aren't captain of the army before me continually in the room of Joab.'
 - 14 He bowed the heart of all the men of Judah, even as one man; so that they sent to the king, saying, "Return, you and all your servants."
 - 15 So the king returned, and came to the Jordan. Judah came to Gilgal, to go to meet the king, to bring the king over the Jordan.
 - 16 Shimei the son of Gera, the Benjamite, who was of Bahurim, hurried and came down with the men of Judah to meet king David.
 - 17 There were a thousand men of Benjamin with him, and Ziba the servant of the house of Saul, and his fifteen sons and his twenty servants with him; and they went through the Jordan in the presence of the king.
 - 18 A ferry boat went to bring over the king's household, and to do what he thought good. Shimei the son of Gera fell down before the king, when he had come over the Jordan.

19 . David's Mercy to Shimei. .

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He said to the king, “Don’t let my master impute iniquity to me, nor remember that which your servant did perversely the day that my master the king went out of Jerusalem, that the king should take it to his heart.

20 For your servant knows that I have sinned. Therefore, behold, I have come this day the first of all the house of Joseph to go down to meet my master the king.”

21 But Abishai the son of Zeruiah answered, “Shall Shimei not be put to death for this, because he cursed YAHWEH’s anointed?”

22 David said, “What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah, that you should this day be adversaries to me? Shall there any man be put to death this day in Israel? For don’t I know that I am this day king over Israel?”

23 The king said to Shimei, “You shall not die.” The king swore to him.

24 . David and Mephibosheth Meet. .

Mephibosheth the son of Saul came down to meet the king; and he had neither groomed his feet, nor trimmed his beard, nor washed his clothes, from the day the king departed until the day he came home in peace.

25 It happened, when he had come to Jerusalem to meet the king, that the king said to him, “Why didn’t you go with me, Mephibosheth?”

26 He answered, “My master, O king, my servant deceived me. For your servant said, I will saddle me a donkey, that I may ride thereon, and go with the king; because your servant is lame.

27 He has slandered your servant to my master the king; but my master the king is as an angel of ELOHIM! Do therefore what is good in your eyes.

28 For all my father’s house were but dead men before my master the king; yet you set your servant among those who ate at your own table. What right therefore have I yet that I should cry any more to the king?”

29 The king said to him, “Why do you speak any more of your matters? I say, you and Ziba divide the land.”

30 Mephibosheth said to the king, “Yes, let him take all, because my master the king has come in peace to his own house.”

31 . David's Kindness to Barzillai. .

Barzillai the Gileadite came down from Rogelim; and he went over the Jordan with the king, to conduct him over the Jordan.

32 Now Barzillai was a very aged man, even eighty years old: and he had provided the king with sustenance while he lay at Mahanaim; for he was a very great man.

33 The king said to Barzillai, “Come over with me, and I will sustain you with me in Jerusalem.”

34 Barzillai said to the king, “How many are the days of the years of my life, that I should go up with the king to Jerusalem?”

35 I am this day eighty years old. Can I discern between good and bad? Can your servant taste what I eat or what I drink? Can I hear any more the voice of singing men and singing women? Why then should your servant be yet a burden to my master the king?

36 Your servant would but just go over the Jordan with the king. Why should the king repay me with such a reward?

37 Please let your servant turn back again, that I may die in my own city, by the grave of my father and my mother. But behold, your servant Chimham; let him go over with my master the king; and do to him what shall seem good to you.”

38 The king answered, “Chimham shall go over with me, and I will do to him that which shall seem good to you. Whatever you require of me, that I will do for you.”

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39 All the people went over the Jordan, and the king went over. Then the king kissed Barzillai, and blessed him; and he returned to his own place.

40 . The Quarrel About the King. .

So the king went over to Gilgal, and Chimham went over with him. All the people of Judah brought the king over, and also half the people of Israel.

41 Behold, all the men of Israel came to the king, and said to the king, "Why have our brothers the men of Judah stolen you away, and brought the king, and his household, over the Jordan, and all David's men with him?"

42 All the men of Judah answered the men of Israel, "Because the king is a close relative to us. Why then are you angry about this matter? Have we eaten at all at the king's cost? Or has he given us any gift?"

43 The men of Israel answered the men of Judah, and said, "We have ten parts in the king, and we have also more claim to David than you. Why then did you despise us, that our advice should not be first had in bringing back our king?" The words of the men of Judah were fiercer than the words of the men of Israel.

Daniel 12.

1 . Prophecy of the End Time. .

"At that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince who stands for the children of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who shall be found written in the book.

2 Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

3 Those who are wise shall shine as the brightness of the expanse; and those who turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever.

4 But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run back and forth, and knowledge shall be increased."

5 Then I, Daniel, looked, and behold, two others stood, one on the river bank on this side, and the other on the river bank on that side.

6 One said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?

7 I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by him who lives forever that it shall be for a time, times, and a half; and when they have made an end of breaking in pieces the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.

8 I heard, but I didn't understand: then I said, my master, what shall be the issue of these things?

9 He said, Go your way, Daniel; for the words are shut up and sealed until the time of the end.

10 Many shall purify themselves, and make themselves white, and be refined; but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand; but those who are wise shall understand.

11 From the time that the continual burnt offering shall be taken away, and the abomination that makes desolate set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred ninety days.

12 Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred thirty-five days.

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13 But go you your way until the end; for you shall rest, and shall stand in your lot, at the end of the days.

Psalms 147.

1 . Praise to ELOHIM for His Word and Providence. .

Praise YAH, for it is good to sing praises to our ELOHIM; for it is pleasant and fitting to praise him.

2 YAHWEH builds up Jerusalem. He gathers together the outcasts of Israel.

3 He heals the broken in heart, and binds up their wounds.

4 He counts the number of the stars. He calls them all by their names.

5 Great is our ADONAI, and mighty in power. His understanding is infinite.

6 YAHWEH upholds the humble. He brings the wicked down to the ground.

7 Sing to YAHWEH with thanksgiving. Sing praises on the harp to our ELOHIM,

8 who covers the sky with clouds, who prepares rain for the earth, who makes grass grow on the mountains.

9 He provides food for the livestock, and for the young ravens when they call.

10 He doesn't delight in the strength of the horse. He takes no pleasure in the legs of a man.

11 YAHWEH takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his loving kindness.

12 Praise YAHWEH, Jerusalem! Praise your ELOHIM, Zion!

13 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates. He has blessed your children within you.

14 He makes peace in your borders. He fills you with the finest of the wheat.

15 He sends out his commandment to the earth. His word runs very swiftly.

16 He gives snow like wool, and scatters frost like ashes.

17 He hurls down his hail like pebbles. Who can stand before his cold?

18 He sends out his word, and melts them. He causes his wind to blow, and the waters flow.

19 He shows his word to Jacob; his statutes and his ordinances to Israel.

20 He has not done this for just any nation. They don't know his ordinances. Praise YAH!

Proverbs 12.

1 Whoever loves correction loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid.

2 A good man shall obtain favor from YAHWEH, but he will condemn a man of wicked devices.

3 A man shall not be established by wickedness, but the root of the righteous shall not be moved.

4 A worthy woman is the crown of her husband, but a disgraceful wife is as rottenness in his bones.

5 The thoughts of the righteous are just, but the advice of the wicked is deceitful.

6 The words of the wicked are about lying in wait for blood, but the speech of the upright rescues them.

7 The wicked are overthrown, and are no more, but the house of the righteous shall stand.

8 A man shall be commended according to his wisdom, but he who has a warped mind shall be despised.

9 Better is he who is lightly esteemed, and has a servant, than he who honors himself,

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and lacks bread.

10 A righteous man respects the life of his animal, but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.

11 He who tills his land shall have plenty of bread, but he who chases fantasies is void of understanding.

12 The wicked desires the plunder of evil men, but the root of the righteous flourishes.

13 An evil man is trapped by sinfulness of lips, but the righteous shall come out of trouble.

14 A man shall be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth. The work of a man's hands shall be rewarded to him.

15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but he who is wise listens to counsel.

16 A fool shows his annoyance the same day, but one who overlooks an insult is prudent.

17 He who is truthful testifies honestly, but a false witness lies.

18 There is one who speaks rashly like the piercing of a sword, but the tongue of the wise heals.

19 Truth's lips will be established forever, but a lying tongue is only momentary.

20 Deceit is in the heart of those who plot evil, but joy comes to the promoters of peace.

21 No mischief shall happen to the righteous, but the wicked shall be filled with evil.

22 Lying lips are an abomination to YAHWEH, but those who do the truth are his delight.

23 A prudent man keeps his knowledge, but the hearts of fools proclaim foolishness.

24 The hands of the diligent ones shall rule, but laziness ends in slave labor.

25 Anxiety in a man's heart weighs it down, but a kind word makes it glad.

26 A righteous person is cautious in friendship, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.

27 The slothful man doesn't roast his game, but the possessions of diligent men are prized.

28 In the way of righteousness is life; in its path there is no death.

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

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