184. 2-July Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

1 Kings 2.

. David's Instructions to Solomon. .

Now the days of David drew near that he should die; and he commanded Solomon his son, saying,

- 2 "I am going the way of all the earth. You be strong therefore, and show yourself a man; 3 and keep the instruction of YAHWEH your ELOHIM, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, his commandments, his ordinances, and his testimonies, according to that which is written in the Torah of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do, and wherever you turn yourself.
- 4 That YAHWEH may establish his word which he spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your children take heed to their way, to walk before me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail you,' he said, 'a man on the throne of Israel.'
- 5 "Moreover you know also what Joab the son of Zeruiah did to me, even what he did to the two captains of the armies of Israel, to Abner the son of Ner, and to Amasa the son of Jether, whom he killed, and shed the blood of war in peace, and put the blood of war on his sash that was about his waist, and in his shoes that were on his feet.
- 6 Do therefore according to your wisdom, and don't let his gray head go down to Sheol in peace.
- 7 But show kindness to the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be of those who eat at your table; for so they came to me when I fled from Absalom your brother.
- 8 "Behold, there is with you Shimei the son of Gera, the Benjamite, of Bahurim, who cursed me with a grievous curse in the day when I went to Mahanaim; but he came down to meet me at the Jordan, and I swore to him by YAHWEH, saying, 'I will not put you to death with the sword.'
- 9 Now therefore don't hold him guiltless, for you are a wise man; and you will know what you ought to do to him, and you shall bring his gray head down to Sheol with blood."

10 . Death of David. .

David slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David.

- 11 The days that David reigned over Israel were forty years; he reigned seven years in Hebron, and he reigned thirty-three years in Jerusalem.
- 12 Solomon sat on the throne of David his father; and his kingdom was firmly established.

13 . Solomon Executes Adonijah. .

Then Adonijah the son of Haggith came to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon. She said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably."

- 14 He said moreover, I have something to tell you." She said, "Say on."
- 15 He said, "You know that the kingdom was mine, and that all Israel set their faces on me, that I should reign. However the kingdom is turned around, and has become my brother's; for it was his from YAHWEH!
- 16 Now I ask one petition of you. Don't deny me." She said to him, "Say on."
- 17 He said, "Please speak to Solomon the king (for he will not tell you 'no'), that he give me Abishag the Shunammite as wife."
- 18 Bathsheba said, "Alright. I will speak for you to the king."
- 19 Bathsheba therefore went to king Solomon, to speak to him for Adonijah. The king rose up to meet her, and bowed himself to her, and sat down on his throne, and caused a

throne to be set for the king's mother; and she sat on his right hand.

- 20 Then she said, "I ask one small petition of you; don't deny me." The king said to her, "Ask on, my mother; for I will not deny you."
- 21 She said, "Let Abishag the Shunammite be given to Adonijah your brother as wife."
- 22 King Solomon answered his mother, "Why do you ask Abishag the Shunammite for Adonijah? Ask for him the kingdom also; for he is my elder brother; even for him, and for Abiathar the priest, and for Joab the son of Zeruiah."
- 23 Then king Solomon swore by YAHWEH, saying, "ELOHIM do so to me, and more also, if Adonijah has not spoken this word against his own life.
- 24 Now therefore as YAHWEH lives, who has established me, and set me on the throne of David my father, and who has made me a house, as he promised, surely Adonijah shall be put to death this day."
- 25 King Solomon sent by Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he fell on him, so that he died.

26 . Abiathar Exiled, Joab Executed. .

To Abiathar the priest the king said, "Go to Anathoth, to your own fields; for you are worthy of death. But I will not at this time put you to death, because you bore the ark of ADONAI YAHWEH before David my father, and because you were afflicted in all in which my father was afflicted."

- 27 So Solomon thrust out Abiathar from being priest to YAHWEH, that he might fulfill the word of YAHWEH, which he spoke concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh.
- 28 The news came to Joab; for Joab had turned after Adonijah, though he didn't turn after Absalom. Joab fled to the Tent of YAHWEH, and caught hold on the horns of the altar.
- 29 It was told king Solomon, "Joab has fled to the Tent of YAHWEH, and behold, he is by the altar." Then Solomon sent Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, saying, "Go, fall on him."
- 30 Benaiah came to the Tent of YAHWEH, and said to him, "Thus says the king, 'Come forth!'" He said, "No; but I will die here." Benaiah brought the king word again, saying, "Thus said Joab, and thus he answered me."
- 31 The king said to him, "Do as he has said, and fall on him, and bury him; that you may take away the blood, which Joab shed without cause, from me and from my father's house.
- 32 YAHWEH will return his blood on his own head, because he fell on two men more righteous and better than he, and killed them with the sword, and my father David didn't know it: Abner the son of Ner, captain of the army of Israel, and Amasa the son of Jether, captain of the army of Judah.
- 33 So shall their blood return on the head of Joab, and on the head of his seed forever. But to David, and to his seed, and to his house, and to his throne, there shall be peace forever from YAHWEH!"
- 34 Then Benaiah the son of Jehoiada went up, and fell on him, and killed him; and he was buried in his own house in the wilderness.
- 35 The king put Benaiah the son of Jehoiada in his place over the army; and the king put Zadok the priest in the place of Abiathar.

36 . Shimei Executed. .

The king sent and called for Shimei, and said to him, "Build yourself a house in Jerusalem, and dwell there, and don't go out from there anywhere.

37 For on the day you go out, and pass over the brook Kidron, know for certain that you shall surely die: your blood shall be on your own head."

- 38 Shimei said to the king, "The saying is good. As my master the king has said, so will your servant do." Shimei lived in Jerusalem many days.
- 39 It happened at the end of three years, that two of the servants of Shimei ran away to Achish, son of Maacah, king of Gath. They told Shimei, saying, "Behold, your servants are in Gath."
- 40 Shimei arose, and saddled his donkey, and went to Gath to Achish, to seek his servants; and Shimei went, and brought his servants from Gath.
- 41 It was told Solomon that Shimei had gone from Jerusalem to Gath, and had come again.
- 42 The king sent and called for Shimei, and said to him, "Didn't I adjure you by YAHWEH, and warn you, saying, 'Know for certain, that on the day you go out, and walk abroad any where, you shall surely die?' You said to me, 'The saying that I have heard is good.'
- 43 Why then have you not kept the oath of YAHWEH, and the commandment that I have instructed you with?"
- 44 The king said moreover to Shimei, "You know all the wickedness which your heart is privy to, that you did to David my father. Therefore YAHWEH shall return your wickedness on your own head.
- 45 But king Solomon shall be blessed, and the throne of David shall be established before YAHWEH forever."
- 46 So the king commanded Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he went out, and fell on him, so that he died. The kingdom was established in the hand of Solomon.

Hosea 5:4-15.

- 4 Their deeds won't allow them to turn to their ELOHIM; for the spirit of prostitution is within them, and they don't know YAHWEH!
- 5 The pride of Israel testifies to his face. Therefore Israel and Ephraim will stumble in their iniquity. Judah also will stumble with them.
- 6 They will go with their flocks and with their herds to seek YAHWEH; but they won't find him. He has withdrawn himself from them.
- 7 They are unfaithful to YAHWEH; for they have borne illegitimate children. Now the new moon will devour them with their fields.
- 8 "Blow the cornet in Gibeah, and the shofar in Ramah! Sound a battle cry at Beth Aven, behind you, Benjamin!
- 9 Ephraim will become a desolation in the day of rebuke. Among the tribes of Israel, I have made known that which will surely be.
- 10 The princes of Judah are like those who remove a landmark. I will pour out my wrath on them like water.
- 11 Ephraim is oppressed, he is crushed in judgment; Because he is intent in his pursuit of idols.
- 12 Therefore I am to Ephraim like a moth, and to the house of Judah like rottenness.
- 13 "When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah his wound, Then Ephraim went to Assyria, and sent to king Jareb: but he is not able to heal you, neither will he cure you of your wound.
- 14 For I will be to Ephraim like a lion, and like a young lion to the house of Judah. I myself will tear in pieces and go away. I will carry off, and there will be no one to deliver.
- 15 I will go and return to my place, until they acknowledge their offense, and seek my face. In their affliction they will seek me earnestly."

Psalms 3.

1 . A Psalm of David when he fled from Absalom his son...

A Psalm by David, when he fled from Absalom his son. YAHWEH, how my adversaries have increased! Many are those who rise up against me.

- 2 Many there are who say of my soul, "There is no help for him in ELOHIM!" Selah.
- 3 But you, YAHWEH, are a shield around me, my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.
- 4 I cry to YAHWEH with my voice, and he answers me out of his holy hill. Selah.
- 5 I laid myself down and slept. I awakened; for YAHWEH sustains me.
- 6 I will not be afraid of tens of thousands of people who have set themselves against me on every side.
- 7 Arise, YAHWEH! Save me, my ELOHIM! For you have struck all of my enemies on the cheek bone. You have broken the teeth of the wicked.
- 8 Salvation belongs to YAHWEH! Your blessing be on your people. Selah.

Proverbs 18.

- 1 An unfriendly man pursues selfishness, and defies all sound judgment.
- 2 A fool has no delight in understanding, but only in revealing his own opinion.
- 3 When wickedness comes, contempt also comes, and with shame comes disgrace.
- 4 The words of a man's mouth are like deep waters. The fountain of wisdom is like a flowing brook.
- 5 To be partial to the faces of the wicked is not good, nor to deprive the innocent of justice.
- 6 A fool's lips come into strife, and his mouth invites beatings.
- 7 A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are a snare to his soul.
- 8 The words of a gossip are like dainty morsels: they go down into a person's innermost parts.
- 9 One who is slack in his work is brother to him who is a master of destruction.
- 10 The name of YAHWEH is a strong tower: the righteous run to him, and are safe.
- 11 The rich man's wealth is his strong city, like an unscalable wall in his own imagination.
- 12 Before destruction the heart of man is proud, but before honor is humility.
- 13 He who gives answer before he hears, that is folly and shame to him.
- 14 A man's spirit will sustain him in sickness, but a crushed spirit, who can bear?
- 15 The heart of the discerning gets knowledge. The ear of the wise seeks knowledge.
- 16 A man's gift makes room for him, and brings him before great men.
- 17 He who pleads his cause first seems right; until another comes and questions him.
- 18 The lot settles disputes, and keeps strong ones apart.
- 19 A brother offended is more difficult than a fortified city; and disputes are like the bars of a castle.
- 20 A man's stomach is filled with the fruit of his mouth. With the harvest of his lips he is satisfied.
- 21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue; those who love it will eat its fruit.
- 22 Whoever finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor of YAHWEH!
- 23 The poor plead for mercy, but the rich answer harshly.
- 24 A man of many companions may be ruined, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

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

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