193. 11-July Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

1 Kings 12:1-31.

. The Revolt Against Rehoboam. .

Rehoboam went to Shechem: for all Israel had come to Shechem to make him king.

2 It happened, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat heard of it (for he was yet in Egypt, where he had fled from the presence of king Solomon, and Jeroboam lived in Egypt, 3 and they sent and called him), that Jeroboam and all the assembly of Israel came, and spoke to Rehoboam, saying,

- 4 "Your father made our yoke grievous: now therefore make you the grievous service of your father, and his heavy yoke which he put on us, lighter, and we will serve you."
- 5 He said to them, "Depart for three days, then come back to me." The people departed.
- 6 King Rehoboam took counsel with the old men, who had stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, saying, "What counsel do you give me to return answer to this people?"
- 7 They spoke to him, saying, "If you will be a servant to this people this day, and will serve them, and answer them, and speak good words to them, then they will be your servants forever."
- 8 But he forsook the counsel of the old men which they had given him, and took counsel with the young men who had grown up with him, who stood before him.
- 9 He said to them, "What counsel do you give, that we may return answer to this people, who have spoken to me, saying, 'Make the yoke that your father put on us lighter?"
- 10 The young men who had grown up with him spoke to him, saying, "Thus you shall tell this people who spoke to you, saying, 'Your father made our yoke heavy, but make it lighter to us;' you shall say to them, 'My little finger is thicker than my father's waist.
- 11 Now whereas my father burdened you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke: my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions."
- 12 So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam the third day, as the king asked, saying, "Come to me again the third day."
- 13 The king answered the people roughly, and forsook the counsel of the old men which they had given him,
- 14 and spoke to them according to the counsel of the young men, saying, "My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to your yoke. My father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions."
- 15 So the king didn't listen to the people; for it was a thing brought about of YAHWEH, that he might establish his word, which YAHWEH spoke by Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat.
- 16 When all Israel saw that the king didn't listen to them, the people answered the king, saying, "What portion have we in David? Neither do we have an inheritance in the son of Jesse. To your tents, Israel! Now see to your own house, David." So Israel departed to their tents.
- 17 But as for the children of Israel who lived in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them.
- 18 Then king Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was over the men subject to forced labor; and all Israel stoned him to death with stones. King Rehoboam made speed to get him up to his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem.
- 19 So Israel rebelled against the house of David to this day.
- 20 It happened, when all Israel heard that Jeroboam was returned, that they sent and called him to the congregation, and made him king over all Israel: there was none who followed the house of David, but the tribe of Judah only.

- 21 When Rehoboam had come to Jerusalem, he assembled all the house of Judah, and the tribe of Benjamin, a hundred and eighty thousand chosen men, who were warriors, to fight against the house of Israel, to bring the kingdom again to Rehoboam the son of Solomon.
- 22 But the word of ELOHIM came to Shemaiah the man of ELOHIM, saying,
- 23 "Speak to Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all the house of Judah and Benjamin, and to the rest of the people, saying,
- 24 'Thus says YAHWEH, "You shall not go up, nor fight against your brothers, the children of Israel. Everyone return to his house; for this thing is of me."" So they listened to the word of YAHWEH, and returned and went their way, according to the word of YAHWEH!

25 . Jeroboam's Gold Calves. .

Then Jeroboam built Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim, and lived in it; and he went out from there, and built Penuel.

- 26 Jeroboam said in his heart, "Now the kingdom will return to the house of David.
- 27 If this people goes up to offer sacrifices in the house of YAHWEH at Jerusalem, then the heart of this people will turn again to their master, even to Rehoboam king of Judah; and they will kill me, and return to Rehoboam king of Judah."
- 28 Whereupon the king took counsel, and made two calves of gold; and he said to them, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Look and see your gods, Israel, which brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"
- 29 He set the one in Bethel, and the other put he in Dan.
- 30 This thing became a sin; for the people went to worship before the one, even to Dan.
- 31 He made houses of high places, and made priests from among all the people, who were not of the sons of Levi.

Hosea 14.

Israel Restored at Last. .

Israel, return to YAHWEH your ELOHIM; for you have fallen because of your sin.

- 2 Take words with you, and return to YAHWEH! Tell him, "Forgive all our sins, and accept that which is good: so we offer our lips like bulls.
- 3 Assyria can't save us. We won't ride on horses; neither will we say any more to the work of our hands, 'Our gods!' for in you the fatherless finds mercy."
- 4 "I will heal their waywardness. I will love them freely; for my anger is turned away from him.
- 5 I will be like the dew to Israel. He will blossom like the lily, and send down his roots like Lebanon.
- 6 His branches will spread, and his beauty will be like the olive tree, and his fragrance like Lebanon.
- 7 Men will dwell in his shade. They will revive like the grain, and blossom like the vine. Their fragrance will be like the wine of Lebanon.
- 8 Ephraim, what have I to do any more with idols? I answer, and will take care of him. I am like a green fir tree; from me your fruit is found."
- 9 Who is wise, that he may understand these things? Who is prudent, that he may know them? For the ways of YAHWEH are right, and the righteous walk in them; But the rebellious stumble in them.

Psalms 12.

1 . To the Chief Musician. On an eight-stringed harp. A Psalm of David..

For the Chief Musician; upon an eight-stringed lyre. A Psalm of David. Help, YAHWEH; for the godly man ceases. For the faithful fail from among the children of men.

- 2 Everyone lies to his neighbor. They speak with flattering lips, and with a double heart.
- 3 May YAHWEH cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that boasts,
- 4 who have said, "With our tongue we will prevail. Our lips are our own. Who is master over us?"
- 5 "Because of the oppression of the weak and because of the groaning of the needy, I will now arise," says YAHWEH; "I will set him in safety from those who malign him."
- 6 The words of YAHWEH are flawless words, as silver refined in a clay furnace, purified seven times.
- 7 You will keep them, YAHWEH! You will preserve them from this generation forever.
- 8 The wicked walk on every side, when what is vile is exalted among the sons of men.

Proverbs 27.

- 1 Don't boast about tomorrow; for you don't know what a day may bring forth.
- 2 Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips.
- 3 A stone is heavy, and sand is a burden; but a fool's provocation is heavier than both.
- 4 Wrath is cruel, and anger is overwhelming; but who is able to stand before jealousy?
- 5 Better is open rebuke than hidden love.
- 6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend; although the kisses of an enemy are profuse.
- 7 A full soul loathes a honeycomb; but to a hungry soul, every bitter thing is sweet.
- 8 As a bird that wanders from her nest, so is a man who wanders from his home.
- 9 Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart; so does earnest counsel from a man's friend.
- 10 Don't forsake your friend and your father's friend. Don't go to your brother's house in the day of your disaster: better is a neighbor who is near than a distant brother.
- 11 Be wise, my son, and bring joy to my heart, then I can answer my tormentor.
- 12 A prudent man sees danger and takes refuge; but the simple pass on, and suffer for it.
- 13 Take his garment when he puts up collateral for a stranger. Hold it for a wayward woman!
- 14 He who blesses his neighbor with a loud voice early in the morning, it will be taken as a curse by him.
- 15 A continual dropping on a rainy day and a contentious wife are alike:
- 16 restraining her is like restraining the wind, or like grasping oil in his right hand.
- 17 Iron sharpens iron; so a man sharpens his friend's countenance.
- 18 Whoever tends the fig tree shall eat its fruit. He who looks after his master shall be honored.
- 19 As water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man.
- 20 Sheol and Abaddon are never satisfied; and a man's eyes are never satisfied.
- 21 The crucible is for silver, and the furnace for gold; but man is refined by his praise.
- 22 Though you grind a fool in a mortar with a pestle along with grain, yet his foolishness will not be removed from him.
- 23 Know well the state of your flocks, and pay attention to your herds:
- 24 for riches are not forever, nor does even the crown endure to all generations.
- 25 The hay is removed, and the new growth appears, the grasses of the hills are gathered

in.

- 26 The lambs are for your clothing, and the goats are the price of a field.
- 27 There will be plenty of goats' milk for your food, for your family's food, and for the nourishment of your servant girls.
 - !! End of the Daily Reading from the PROPHETS AND WRITINGS! Praise Yah! (HNV-yet version, in the public domain.)

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