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199. 17-July Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

1 Kings 18.

1 . **Elijah's Message to Ahab.** .

It happened after many days, that the word of YAHWEH came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, "Go, show yourself to Ahab; and I will send rain on the earth."

2 Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. The famine was severe in Samaria.

3 Ahab called Obadiah, who was over the household. (Now Obadiah feared YAHWEH greatly:

4 for it was so, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of YAHWEH, that Obadiah took one hundred prophets, and hid them by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.)

5 Ahab said to Obadiah, "Go through the land, to all the springs of water, and to all the brooks. Perhaps we may find grass and save the horses and mules alive, that we not lose all the animals."

6 So they divided the land between them to pass throughout it: Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself.

7 As Obadiah was in the way, behold, Elijah met him: and he recognized him, and fell on his face, and said, "Is it you, my master Elijah?"

8 He answered him, "It is I. Go, tell your master, 'Behold, Elijah is here!'"

9 He said, "Wherein have I sinned, that you would deliver your servant into the hand of Ahab, to kill me?"

10 As YAHWEH your ELOHIM lives, there is no nation or kingdom, where my master has not sent to seek you. When they said, 'He is not here,' he took an oath of the kingdom and nation, that they didn't find you.

11 Now you say, 'Go, tell your master, "Behold, Elijah is here."'

12 It will happen, as soon as I am gone from you, that the Spirit of YAHWEH will carry you I don't know where; and so when I come and tell Ahab, and he can't find you, he will kill me. But I, your servant, have feared YAHWEH from my youth.

13 Wasn't it told my master what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of YAHWEH, how I hid one hundred men of YAHWEH's prophets with fifty to a cave, and fed them with bread and water?

14 Now you say, 'Go, tell your master, "Behold, Elijah is here;"' and he will kill me."

15 Elijah said, "As YAHWEH of Hosts lives, before whom I stand, I will surely show myself to him today."

16 So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him; and Ahab went to meet Elijah.

17 It happened, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, "Is that you, you troubler of Israel?"

18 He answered, "I have not troubled Israel; but you, and your father's house, in that you have forsaken the commandments of YAHWEH, and you have followed the Baals.

19 Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel to Mount Carmel, and four hundred fifty of the prophets of Baal, and four hundred of the prophets of the Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."

20 . **Elijah's Mount Carmel Victory.** .

So Ahab sent to all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together to Mount Carmel.

21 Elijah came near to all the people, and said, "How long will you waver between the two sides? If YAHWEH is ELOHIM, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him." The people answered him not a word.

22 Then Elijah said to the people, "I, even I only, am left a prophet of YAHWEH; but

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Baal's prophets are four hundred fifty men.

23 Let them therefore give us two bulls; and let them choose one bull for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood, and put no fire under; and I will dress the other bull, and lay it on the wood, and put no fire under it.

24 You call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of YAHWEH! The ELOHIM who answers by fire, let him be ELOHIM!" All the people answered, "It is well said."

25 Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one bull for yourselves, and dress it first; for you are many; and call on the name of your god, but put no fire under it."

26 They took the bull which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, Baal, hear us. But there was no voice, nor any who answered. They leaped about the altar which was made.

27 It happened at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, "Cry aloud; for he is a god. Either he is musing, or he has gone aside, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he sleeps and must be awakened."

28 They cried aloud, and cut themselves in their way with knives and lances, until the blood gushed out on them.

29 It was so, when midday was past, that they prophesied until the time of the offering of the offering; but there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any who regarded.

30 Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me;" and all the people came near to him. He repaired the altar of YAHWEH that was thrown down.

31 Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of YAHWEH came, saying, "Israel shall be your name."

32 With the stones he built an altar in the name of YAHWEH! He made a trench around the altar, large enough to contain two measures of seed.

33 He put the wood in order, and cut the bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood. He said, "Fill four jars with water, and pour it on the burnt offering, and on the wood."

34 He said, "Do it a second time;" and they did it the second time. He said, "Do it a third time;" and they did it the third time.

35 The water ran around the altar; and he also filled the trench with water.

36 It happened at the time of the offering of the offering, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, "YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that you are ELOHIM in Israel, and that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your word.

37 Hear me, YAHWEH, hear me, that this people may know that you, YAHWEH, are ELOHIM, and that you have turned their heart back again."

38 Then the fire of YAHWEH fell, and consumed the burnt offering, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.

39 When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces. They said, "YAHWEH, he is ELOHIM! YAHWEH, he is ELOHIM!"

40 Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal! Don't let one of them escape!" They seized them. Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and killed them there.

41 **. The Drought Ends. .**

Elijah said to Ahab, "Get up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of abundance of rain."

42 So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he bowed himself down on the earth, and put his face between his knees.

43 He said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea." He went up, and looked, and said, "There is nothing." He said, "Go again" seven times.

44 It happened at the seventh time, that he said, "Behold, a small cloud, like a man's hand, is rising out of the sea." He said, "Go up, tell Ahab, 'Get ready and go down, so that

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the rain doesn't stop you.”

45 It happened in a little while, that the sky grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel.

46 The hand of YAHWEH was on Elijah; and he tucked his cloak into his belt and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

Amos 2.,3:1-2.

1 Thus says YAHWEH: “For three transgressions of Moab, yes, for four, I will not turn away its punishment; because he burned the bones of the king of Edom into lime;
2 but I will send a fire on Moab, and it will devour the palaces of Kerioth; and Moab will die with tumult, with shouting, and with the sound of the shofar;
3 and I will cut off the judge from their midst, and will kill all its princes with him,” says YAHWEH!

4 . Judgment on Judah. .

Thus says YAHWEH: “For three transgressions of Judah, yes, for four, I will not turn away its punishment; because they have rejected YAHWEH’s Torah (teaching and instruction), and have not kept his statutes, and their lies have led them astray, after which their fathers walked;

5 But I will send a fire on Judah, and it will devour the palaces of Jerusalem.”

6 . Judgment on Israel. .

Thus says YAHWEH: “For three transgressions of Israel, yes, for four, I will not turn away its punishment; because they have sold the righteous for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes;

7 They trample on the dust of the earth on the head of the poor, and deny justice to the oppressed; and a man and his father use the same maiden, to profane my holy name;

8 and they lay themselves down beside every altar on clothes taken in pledge; and in the house of their ELOHIM they drink the wine of those who have been fined.

9 Yet I destroyed the Amorite before them, whose height was like the height of the cedars, and he was strong as the oaks; yet I destroyed his fruit from above, and his roots from beneath.

10 Also I brought you up out of the land of Egypt, and led you forty years in the wilderness, to possess the land of the Amorite.

11 I raised up some of your sons for prophets, and some of your young men for Nazirites. Isn't this true, you children of Israel?” says YAHWEH!

12 “But you gave the Nazirites wine to drink, and commanded the prophets, saying, ‘Don't prophesy!’

13 Behold, I will crush you in your place, as a cart crushes that is full of grain.

14 Flight will perish from the swift; and the strong won't strengthen his force; neither shall the mighty deliver himself;

15 neither shall he stand who handles the bow; and he who is swift of foot won't escape; neither shall he who rides the horse deliver himself;

16 and he who is courageous among the mighty will flee away naked on that day,” says YAHWEH!

1 . Authority of the Prophet's Message. .

Hear this word that YAHWEH has spoken against you, children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up out of the land of Egypt, saying:

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2 “You only have I chosen of all the families of the earth. Therefore I will punish you for all of your sins.”

Psalms 18.

1 . To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David the servant of YAHWEH, who spoke to YAHWEH the words of this song on the day that YAHWEH delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. And he said:..

For the Chief Musician. By David the servant of YAHWEH, who spoke to YAHWEH the words of this song in the day that YAHWEH delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. He said, I love you, YAHWEH, my strength.

2 YAHWEH is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer; my ELOHIM, my rock, in whom I take refuge; my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower.

3 I call on YAHWEH, who is worthy to be praised; and I am saved from my enemies.

4 The cords of death surrounded me. The floods of ungodliness made me afraid.

5 The cords of Sheol were around me. The snares of death came on me.

6 In my distress I called on YAHWEH, and cried to my ELOHIM! He heard my voice out of his temple. My cry before him came into his ears.

7 Then the earth shook and trembled. The foundations also of the mountains quaked and were shaken, because he was angry.

8 Smoke went out of his nostrils. Consuming fire came out of his mouth. Coals were kindled by it.

9 He bowed the heavens also, and came down. Thick darkness was under his feet.

10 He rode on a cherub, and flew. Yes, he soared on the wings of the wind.

11 He made darkness his hiding place, his pavilion around him, darkness of waters, thick clouds of the skies.

12 At the brightness before him his thick clouds passed, hailstones and coals of fire.

13 YAHWEH also thundered in the sky. The Most High uttered his voice: hailstones and coals of fire.

14 He sent out his arrows, and scattered them; Yes, great lightning bolts, and routed them.

15 Then the channels of waters appeared. The foundations of the world were laid bare at your rebuke, YAHWEH, at the blast of the breath of your nostrils.

16 He sent from on high. He took me. He drew me out of many waters.

17 He delivered me from my strong enemy, from those who hated me; for they were too mighty for me.

18 They came on me in the day of my calamity, but YAHWEH was my support.

19 He brought me forth also into a large place. He delivered me, because he delighted in me.

20 YAHWEH has rewarded me according to my righteousness. According to the cleanness of my hands has he recompensed me.

21 For I have kept the ways of YAHWEH, and have not wickedly departed from my ELOHIM!

22 For all his ordinances were before me. I didn't put away his statutes from me.

23 I was also blameless with him. I kept myself from my iniquity.

24 Therefore YAHWEH has rewarded me according to my righteousness, according to the cleanness of my hands in his eyesight.

25 With the merciful you will show yourself merciful. With the perfect man, you will show yourself perfect.

26 With the pure, you will show yourself pure. With the crooked you will show yourself

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shrewd.

- 27 For you will save the afflicted people, but the haughty eyes you will bring down.
28 For you will light my lamp, YAHWEH! My ELOHIM will light up my darkness.
29 For by you, I advance through a troop. By my ELOHIM, I leap over a wall.
30 As for EL, his way is perfect. The word of YAHWEH is tried. He is a shield to all those who take refuge in him.
31 For who is ELOHIM, except YAHWEH? Who is a rock, besides our ELOHIM,
32 the EL who arms me with strength, and makes my way perfect?
33 He makes my feet like deer's feet, and sets me on my high places.
34 He teaches my hands to war, so that my arms bend a bow of bronze.
35 You have also given me the shield of your salvation. Your right hand sustains me. Your gentleness has made me great.
36 You have enlarged my steps under me, My feet have not slipped.
37 I will pursue my enemies, and overtake them. Neither will I turn again until they are consumed.
38 I will strike them through, so that they will not be able to rise. They shall fall under my feet.
39 For you have armed me with strength to the battle. You have subdued under me those who rose up against me.
40 You have also made my enemies turn their backs to me, that I might cut off those who hate me.
41 They cried, but there was none to save; even to YAHWEH, but he didn't answer them.
42 Then I beat them small as the dust before the wind. I cast them out as the mire of the streets.
43 You have delivered me from the strivings of the people. You have made me the head of the nations. A people whom I have not known shall serve me.
44 As soon as they hear of me they shall obey me. The foreigners shall submit themselves to me.
45 The foreigners shall fade away, and shall come trembling out of their close places.
46 YAHWEH lives; and blessed be my rock. Exalted be the ELOHIM of my salvation,
47 even the EL who executes vengeance for me, and subdues peoples under me.
48 He rescues me from my enemies. Yes, you lift me up above those who rise up against me. You deliver me from the violent man.
49 Therefore I will give thanks to you, YAHWEH, among the nations, and will sing praises to your name.
50 He gives great deliverance to his king, and shows loving kindness to his anointed, to David and to his seed, forevermore.

Proverbs 2.

1 . The Value of Wisdom. .

- My son, if you will receive my words, and store up my commandments within you;
2 So as to turn your ear to wisdom, and apply your heart to understanding;
3 Yes, if you call out for discernment, and lift up your voice for understanding;
4 If you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures:
5 then you will understand the fear of YAHWEH, and find the knowledge of ELOHIM!
6 For YAHWEH gives wisdom. Out of his mouth comes knowledge and understanding.
7 He lays up sound wisdom for the upright. He is a shield to those who walk in integrity;
8 that he may guard the paths of justice, and preserve the way of his holy ones.
9 Then you will understand righteousness and justice, equity and every good path.
10 For wisdom will enter into your heart. Knowledge will be pleasant to your soul.

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11 Discretion will watch over you. Understanding will keep you,
12 to deliver you from the way of evil, from the men who speak perverse things;
13 who forsake the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness;
14 who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the perverseness of evil;
15 who are crooked in their ways, and wayward in their paths:
16 To deliver you from the strange woman, even from the foreigner who flatters with her words;
17 who forsakes the friend of her youth, and forgets the covenant of her ELOHIM:
18 for her house leads down to death, her paths to the dead.
19 None who go to her return again, neither do they attain to the paths of life:
20 that you may walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous.
21 For the upright will dwell in the land. The perfect will remain in it.
22 But the wicked will be cut off from the land. The treacherous will be rooted out of it.

!! End of The Daily Reading from the PROPHETS AND WRITINGS! Praise Yah!
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