

21 Jul Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

203. 21-July Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

1 Kings 22.

1 . Micaiah Warns Ahab. .

They continued three years without war between Syria and Israel.

2 It happened in the third year, that Jehoshaphat the king of Judah came down to the king of Israel.

3 The king of Israel said to his servants, "You know that Ramoth Gilead is ours, and we are still, and don't take it out of the hand of the king of Syria?"

4 He said to Jehoshaphat, "Will you go with me to battle to Ramoth Gilead?"

Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, "I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses."

5 Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, "Please inquire first for the word of YAHWEH!"

6 Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said to them, "Shall I go against Ramoth Gilead to battle, or shall I forbear?" They said, "Go up; for ADONAI will deliver it into the hand of the king."

7 But Jehoshaphat said, "Isn't there here a prophet of YAHWEH, that we may inquire of him?"

8 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "There is yet one man by whom we may inquire of YAHWEH, Micaiah the son of Imlah; but I hate him; for he does not prophesy good concerning me, but evil." Jehoshaphat said, "Don't let the king say so."

9 Then the king of Israel called an officer, and said, "Quickly get Micaiah the son of Imlah."

10 Now the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah were sitting each on his throne, arrayed in their robes, in an open place at the entrance of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets were prophesying before them.

11 Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah made him horns of iron, and said, "Thus says YAHWEH, 'With these you shall push the Syrians, until they are consumed.'"

12 All the prophets prophesied so, saying, "Go up to Ramoth Gilead, and prosper; for YAHWEH will deliver it into the hand of the king."

13 The messenger who went to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying, "See now, the prophets declare good to the king with one mouth. Please let your word be like the word of one of them, and speak good."

14 Micaiah said, "As YAHWEH lives, what YAHWEH says to me, that I will speak."

15 When he had come to the king, the king said to him, "Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth Gilead to battle, or shall we forbear?" He answered him, "Go up and prosper; and YAHWEH will deliver it into the hand of the king."

16 The king said to him, "How many times do I have to adjure you that you speak to me nothing but the truth in the name of YAHWEH?"

17 He said, "I saw all Israel scattered on the mountains, as sheep that have no shepherd. YAHWEH said, 'These have no master. Let them each return to his house in peace.'"

18 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "Didn't I tell you that he would not prophesy good concerning me, but evil?"

19 Micaiah said, "Therefore hear the word of YAHWEH! I saw YAHWEH sitting on his throne, and all the army of heaven standing by him on his right hand and on his left.

20 YAHWEH said, 'Who shall entice Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth Gilead?' One said one thing; and another said another.

21 A spirit came out and stood before YAHWEH, and said, 'I will entice him.'

22 YAHWEH said to him, 'How?' He said, 'I will go out and will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' He said, 'You will entice him, and will also prevail. Go out and

21 Jul Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

do so.’

23 Now therefore, behold, YAHWEH has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets; and YAHWEH has spoken evil concerning you.”

24 Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah came near, and struck Micaiah on the cheek, and said, “Which way did the Spirit of YAHWEH go from me to speak to you?”

25 Micaiah said, “Behold, you will see on that day, when you go into an inner room to hide yourself.”

26 The king of Israel said, “Take Micaiah, and carry him back to Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king’s son.

27 Say, ‘Thus says the king, “Put this fellow in the prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and with water of affliction, until I come in peace.”’”

28 Micaiah said, “If you return at all in peace, YAHWEH has not spoken by me.” He said, “Listen, all you people!”

29 **. Ahab Dies in Battle. .**

So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramoth Gilead.

30 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “I will disguise myself, and go into the battle; but you put on your robes.” The king of Israel disguised himself, and went into the battle.

31 Now the king of Syria had commanded the thirty-two captains of his chariots, saying, Fight neither with small nor great, except only with the king of Israel.

32 It happened, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, “Surely that is the king of Israel!” and they turned aside to fight against him.

Jehoshaphat cried out.

33 It happened, when the captains of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, that they turned back from pursuing him.

34 A certain man drew his bow at random, and struck the king of Israel between the joints of the armor. Therefore he said to the driver of his chariot, “Turn your hand, and carry me out of the battle; for I am severely wounded.”

35 The battle increased that day. The king was propped up in his chariot facing the Syrians, and died at evening. The blood ran out of the wound into the bottom of the chariot.

36 A cry went throughout the army about the going down of the sun, saying, “Every man to his city, and every man to his country!”

37 So the king died, and was brought to Samaria; and they buried the king in Samaria.

38 They washed the chariot by the pool of Samaria; and the dogs licked up his blood where the prostitutes washed themselves; according to the word of YAHWEH which he spoke.

39 Now the rest of the acts of Ahab, and all that he did, and the ivory house which he built, and all the cities that he built, aren’t they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

40 So Ahab slept with his fathers; and Ahaziah his son reigned in his place.

41 **. Jehoshaphat Reigns in Judah. .**

Jehoshaphat the son of Asa began to reign over Judah in the fourth year of Ahab king of Israel.

42 Jehoshaphat was thirty-five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother’s name was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi.

43 He walked in all the way of Asa his father; He didn’t turn aside from it, doing that which was right in the eyes of YAHWEH: however the high places were not taken away; the people still sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places.

21 Jul Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

44 Jehoshaphat made peace with the king of Israel.

45 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, and his might that he showed, and how he warred, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

46 The remnant of the sodomites, that remained in the days of his father Asa, he put away out of the land.

47 There was no king in Edom: a deputy was king.

48 Jehoshaphat made ships of Tarshish to go to Ophir for gold: but they didn't go; for the ships were broken at Ezion Geber.

49 Then Ahaziah the son of Ahab said to Jehoshaphat, "Let my servants go with your servants in the ships." But Jehoshaphat would not.

50 Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father; Jehoram his son reigned in his place.

51 . Ahaziah Reigns in Israel. .

Ahaziah the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and he reigned two years over Israel.

52 He did that which was evil in the sight of YAHWEH, and walked in the way of his father, and in the way of his mother, and in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, in which he made Israel to sin.

53 He served Baal, and worshiped him, and provoked to anger YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Israel, according to all that his father had done.

Amos 6.

1 . Warnings to Zion and Samaria. .

Woe to those who are at ease in Zion, and to those who are secure on the mountain of Samaria, the notable men of the chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel come!
2 Go to Calneh, and see; and from there go to Hamath the great; then go down to Gath of the Philistines. are they better than these kingdoms? or is their border greater than your border?

3 Those who put far away the evil day, and cause the seat of violence to come near;

4 Who lie on beds of ivory, and stretch themselves on their couches, and eat the lambs out of the flock, and the calves out of the midst of the stall;

5 who strum on the strings of a harp; who invent for themselves instruments of music, like David;

6 who drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the best oils; but they are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph.

7 Therefore they will now go captive with the first who go captive; and the feasting and lounging will end.

8 "ADONAI YAHWEH has sworn by himself," says YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Hosts: "I abhor the pride of Jacob, and detest his fortresses. Therefore I will deliver up the city with all that is in it.

9 It will happen, if there remain ten men in one house, that they shall die.

10 "When a man's relative carries him, even he who burns him, to bring bodies out of the house, and asks him who is in the innermost parts of the house, 'Is there yet any with you?' And he says, 'No;' then he will say, 'Hush! Indeed we must not mention the name of YAHWEH!'

11 "For, behold, YAHWEH commands, and the great house will be smashed to pieces, and the little house into bits.

12 Do horses run on the rocky crags? Does one plow there with oxen? But you have

21 Jul Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

turned justice into poison, and the fruit of righteousness into bitterness;

13 you who rejoice in a thing of nothing, who say, 'Haven't we taken for ourselves horns by our own strength?'

14 For, behold, I will raise up against you a nation, house of Israel," says YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Hosts; "and they will afflict you from the entrance of Hamath to the brook of the Arabah."

Psalms 22.

1 . To the Chief Musician. Set to The Deer of the Dawn. A Psalm of David..

2

For the Chief Musician; set to "The Doe of the Morning." A Psalm by David. My ELOHIM, my ELOHIM, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, and from the words of my groaning?

2 My ELOHIM, I cry in the daytime, but you don't answer; in the night season, and am not silent.

3 But you are holy, you who inhabit the praises of Israel.

4 Our fathers trusted in you. They trusted, and you delivered them.

5 They cried to you, and were delivered. They trusted in you, and were not disappointed.

6 But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised by the people.

7 All those who see me mock me. They insult me with their lips. They shake their heads, saying,

8 "He trusts in YAHWEH; let him deliver him. Let him rescue him, since he delights in him."

9 But you brought me out of the womb. You made me trust at my mother's breasts.

10 I was thrown on you from my mother's womb. You are my ELOHIM since my mother bore me.

11 Don't be far from me, for trouble is near. For there is none to help.

12 Many bulls have surrounded me. Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled me.

13 They open their mouths wide against me, lions tearing prey and roaring.

14 I am poured out like water. All my bones are out of joint. My heart is like wax; it is melted within me.

15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd. My tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth. You have brought me into the dust of death.

16 For dogs have surrounded me. A company of evildoers have enclosed me. They have pierced my hands and feet.

17 I can count all of my bones. They look and stare at me.

18 They divide my garments among them. They cast lots for my clothing.

19 But don't be far off, YAHWEH! You are my help: hurry to help me.

20 Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog.

21 Save me from the lion's mouth! Yes, from the horns of the wild oxen, you have answered me.

22 I will declare your name to my brothers. In the midst of the assembly, I will praise you.

23 You who fear YAHWEH, praise him! All you descendants of Jacob, glorify him! Stand in awe of him, all you descendants of Israel!

24 For he has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, Neither has he hidden his face from him; but when he cried to him, he heard.

25 Of you comes my praise in the great assembly. I will pay my vows before those who fear him.

26 The humble shall eat and be satisfied. They shall praise YAHWEH who seek after

21 Jul Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

him. Let your hearts live forever.

27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to YAHWEH! All the relatives of the nations shall worship before you.

28 For the kingdom is YAHWEH's. He is the ruler over the nations.

29 All the rich ones of the earth shall eat and worship. All those who go down to the dust shall bow before him, even he who can't keep his soul alive.

30 Posterity shall serve him. Future generations shall be told about ADONAI.

31 They shall come and shall declare his righteousness to a people that shall be born, for he has done it.

Proverbs 6.

1 . Dangerous Promises. .

My son, if you have become collateral for your neighbor, if you have struck your hands in pledge for a stranger;

2 You are trapped by the words of your mouth. You are ensnared with the words of your mouth.

3 Do this now, my son, and deliver yourself, since you have come into the hand of your neighbor. Go, humble yourself. Press your plea with your neighbor.

4 Give no sleep to your eyes, nor slumber to your eyelids.

5 Free yourself, like a gazelle from the hand of the hunter, like a bird from the snare of the fowler.

6 . The Folly of Indolence. .

Go to the ant, you sluggard. Consider her ways, and be wise;

7 which having no chief, overseer, or ruler,

8 provides her bread in the summer, and gathers her food in the harvest.

9 How long will you sleep, sluggard? When will you arise out of your sleep?

10 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:

11 so your poverty will come as a robber, and your scarcity as an armed man.

12 . The Wicked Man. .

A worthless person, a man of iniquity, is he who walks with a perverse mouth;

13 who winks with his eyes, who signals with his feet, who motions with his fingers;

14 in whose heart is perverseness, who devises evil continually, who always sows discord.

15 Therefore his calamity will come suddenly. He will be broken suddenly, and that without remedy.

16 There are six things which YAHWEH hates; yes, seven which are an abomination to him:

17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood;

18 a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are swift in running to mischief,

19 a false witness who utters lies, and he who sows discord among brothers.

20 . Beware of Adultery. .

My son, keep your father's commandment, and don't forsake your mother's teaching.

21 Bind them continually on your heart. Tie them around your neck.

22 When you walk, it will lead you. When you sleep, it will watch over you. When you awake, it will talk with you.

21 Jul Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

- 23 For the commandment is a lamp, and the Torah is light. Reproofs of instruction are the way of life,
24 to keep you from the immoral woman, from the flattery of the wayward wife's tongue.
25 Don't lust after her beauty in your heart, neither let her captivate you with her eyelids.
26 For a prostitute reduces you to a piece of bread. The adulteress hunts for your precious life.
27 Can a man scoop fire into his lap, and his clothes not be burned?
28 Or can one walk on hot coals, and his feet not be scorched?
29 So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife. Whoever touches her will not be unpunished.
30 Men don't despise a thief, if he steals to satisfy himself when he is hungry:
31 but if he is found, he shall restore seven times. He shall give all the wealth of his house.
32 He who commits adultery with a woman is void of understanding. He who does it destroys his own soul.
33 He will get wounds and dishonor. His reproach will not be wiped away.
34 For jealousy arouses the fury of the husband. He won't spare in the day of vengeance.
35 He won't regard any ransom, neither will he rest content, though you give many gifts.

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