

22 Jul Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

204. 22-July Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Kings 1.

1 . ELOHIM Judges Ahaziah. . 2 The Second Book of Kings!

Moab rebelled against Israel after the death of Ahab.

2 Ahaziah fell down through the lattice in his upper room that was in Samaria, and was sick. So he sent messengers, and said to them, "Go, inquire of Baal Zebub, the god of Ekron, whether I will recover of this sickness."

3 But the angel of YAHWEH said to Elijah the Tishbite, "Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and tell them, 'Is it because there is no ELOHIM in Israel, that you go to inquire of Baal Zebub, the god of Ekron?'"

4 Now therefore thus says YAHWEH, "You shall not come down from the bed where you have gone up, but shall surely die."'" Elijah departed.

5 The messengers returned to him, and he said to them, "Why is it that you have returned?"

6 They said to him, "A man came up to meet us, and said to us, 'Go, return to the king who sent you, and tell him, "Thus says YAHWEH, 'Is it because there is no ELOHIM in Israel, that you send to inquire of Baal Zebub, the god of Ekron? Therefore you shall not come down from the bed where you have gone up, but shall surely die.''"'"

7 He said to them, "What kind of man was he who came up to meet you, and told you these words?"

8 They answered him, "He was a hairy man, and wearing a leather belt around his waist." He said, "It is Elijah the Tishbite."

9 Then the king sent a captain of fifty with his fifty to him. He went up to him; and behold, he was sitting on the top of the hill. He said to him, "Man of ELOHIM, the king has said, 'Come down!'"

10 Elijah answered to the captain of fifty, "If I am a man of ELOHIM, let fire come down from the sky, and consume you and your fifty!" Fire came down from the sky, and consumed him and his fifty.

11 Again he sent to him another captain of fifty and his fifty. He answered him, "Man of ELOHIM, the king has said, 'Come down quickly!'"

12 Elijah answered them, "If I am a man of ELOHIM, let fire come down from the sky, and consume you and your fifty!" The fire of ELOHIM came down from the sky, and consumed him and his fifty.

13 Again he sent the captain of a third fifty with his fifty. The third captain of fifty went up, and came and fell on his knees before Elijah, and begged him, and said to him, "Man of ELOHIM, please let my life, and the life of these fifty your servants, be precious in your sight.

14 Behold, fire came down from the sky, and consumed the two former captains of fifty with their fifties. But now let my life be precious in your sight."

15 The angel of YAHWEH said to Elijah, "Go down with him. Don't be afraid of him." He arose, and went down with him to the king.

16 He said to him, "Thus says YAHWEH, 'Because you have sent messengers to inquire of Baal Zebub, the god of Ekron, is it because there is no ELOHIM in Israel to inquire of his word? Therefore you shall not come down from the bed where you have gone up, but shall surely die.'"

17 So he died according to the word of YAHWEH which Elijah had spoken. Jehoram began to reign in his place in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah; because he had no son.

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18 Now the rest of the acts of Ahaziah which he did, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

2 Kings 2.

1 . **Elijah Ascends to Heaven.** .

It happened, when YAHWEH would take up Elijah by a whirlwind into heaven, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.

2 Elijah said to Elisha, "Please wait here, for YAHWEH has sent me as far as Bethel." Elisha said, "As YAHWEH lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

3 The sons of the prophets who were at Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that YAHWEH will take away your master from your head today?" He said, "Yes, I know it; hold your peace."

4 Elijah said to him, "Elisha, please wait here, for YAHWEH has sent me to Jericho." He said, "As YAHWEH lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho.

5 The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho came near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that YAHWEH will take away your master from your head today?" He answered, "Yes, I know it. Hold your peace."

6 Elijah said to him, "Please wait here, for YAHWEH has sent me to the Jordan." He said, "As YAHWEH lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." They both went on.

7 Fifty men of the sons of the prophets went, and stood opposite them at a distance; and they both stood by the Jordan.

8 Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and struck the waters, and they were divided here and there, so that they two went over on dry ground.

9 It happened, when they had gone over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let a double portion of your spirit be on me."

10 He said, "You have asked a hard thing. If you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so."

11 It happened, as they still went on, and talked, that behold, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

12 Elisha saw it, and he cried, "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" He saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and tore them in two pieces.

13 He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of the Jordan.

14 He took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and struck the waters, and said, "Where is YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Elijah?" When he also had struck the waters, they were divided here and there; and Elisha went over.

15 When the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho over against him saw him, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." They came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him.

16 They said to him, "See now, there are with your servants fifty strong men. Please let them go and seek your master. Perhaps the Spirit of YAHWEH has taken him up, and put him on some mountain, or into some valley. He said, "You shall not send them."

17 When they urged him until he was ashamed, he said, "Send them." They sent therefore fifty men; and they searched for three days, but didn't find him.

18 They came back to him, while he stayed at Jericho; and he said to them, "Didn't I tell you, 'Don't go?'"

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19 . Elisha Performs Miracles. .

The men of the city said to Elisha, "Behold, please, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my master sees; but the water is bad, and the land miscarries."

20 He said, "Bring me a new jar, and put salt in it." They brought it to him.

21 He went out to the spring of the waters, and threw salt into it, and said, "Thus says YAHWEH, 'I have healed these waters. There shall not be from there any more death or miscarrying.'"

22 So the waters were healed to this day, according to the word of Elisha which he spoke.

23 He went up from there to Bethel. As he was going up by the way, some youths came out of the city and mocked him, and said to him, "Go up, you baldy! Go up, you baldhead!"

24 He looked behind him and saw them, and cursed them in the name of YAHWEH! Two female bears came out of the woods, and mauled forty-two of those youths.

25 He went from there to Mount Carmel, and from there he returned to Samaria.

Amos 7.

1 . Vision of the Locusts. .

Thus ADONAI YAHWEH showed me: and behold, he formed locusts in the beginning of the shooting up of the latter growth; and behold, it was the latter growth after the king's harvest.

2 It happened that, when they made an end of eating the grass of the land, then I said, "ADONAI YAHWEH, forgive, I beg you! How could Jacob stand? For he is small."

3 YAHWEH relented concerning this. "It shall not be," says YAHWEH!

4 . Vision of the Fire. .

Thus ADONAI YAHWEH showed me and behold, ADONAI YAHWEH called for judgment by fire; and it dried up the great deep, and would have devoured the land.

5 Then I said, "ADONAI YAHWEH, stop, I beg you! How could Jacob stand? For he is small."

6 YAHWEH relented concerning this. "This also shall not be," says ADONAI YAHWEH!

7 . Vision of the Plumb Line. .

Thus he showed me and behold, ADONAI stood beside a wall made by a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand.

8 YAHWEH said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" I said, "A plumb line." Then ADONAI said, "Behold, I will set a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel. I will not again pass by them any more.

9 The high places of Isaac will be desolate, the sanctuaries of Israel will be laid waste; and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

10 . Amaziah's Complaint. .

Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel. The land is not able to bear all his words.

11 For Amos says, 'Jeroboam will die by the sword, and Israel shall surely be led away captive out of his land.'"

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12 Amaziah also said to Amos, “You seer, go, flee away into the land of Judah, and there eat bread, and prophesy there:

13 but don’t prophesy again any more at Bethel; for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a royal house!”

14 Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet’s son; but I was a herdsman, and a farmer of sycamore figs;

15 and YAHWEH took me from following the flock, and YAHWEH said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’

16 Now therefore listen to the word of YAHWEH: ‘You say, Don’t prophesy against Israel, and don’t proclaim against the house of Isaac.’

17 Therefore thus says YAHWEH: ‘Your wife shall be a prostitute in the city, and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword, and your land shall be divided by line; and you yourself shall die in a land that is unclean, and Israel shall surely be led away captive out of his land.’”

Psalms 23.

1 . A Psalm of David..

A Psalm by David. YAHWEH is my shepherd: I shall lack nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

3 He restores my soul. He guides me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.

4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me. Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil. My cup runs over.

6 Surely goodness and loving kindness shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in YAHWEH’s house forever.

Proverbs 7.

1 My son, keep my words. Lay up my commandments within you.

2 Keep my commandments and live! Guard my teaching as the apple of your eye.

3 Bind them on your fingers. Write them on the tablet of your heart.

4 Tell wisdom, “You are my sister.” Call understanding your relative,

5 that they may keep you from the strange woman, from the foreigner who flatters with her words.

6 . The Crafty Harlot..

For at the window of my house, I looked out through my lattice.

7 I saw among the simple ones. I discerned among the youths a young man void of understanding,

8 passing through the street near her corner, he went the way to her house,

9 in the twilight, in the evening of the day, in the middle of the night and in the darkness.

10 Behold, there a woman met him with the attire of a prostitute, and with crafty intent.

11 She is loud and defiant. Her feet don’t stay in her house.

12 Now she is in the streets, now in the squares, and lurking at every corner.

13 So she caught him, and kissed him. With an impudent face she said to him:

14 “Sacrifices of peace offerings are with me. This day I have paid my vows.

15 Therefore I came out to meet you, to diligently seek your face, and I have found you.

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- 16 I have spread my couch with carpets of tapestry, with striped cloths of the yarn of Egypt.
- 17 I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.
- 18 Come, let's take our fill of loving until the morning. Let's solace ourselves with loving.
- 19 For my husband isn't at home. He has gone on a long journey.
- 20 He has taken a bag of money with him. He will come home at the full moon."
- 21 With persuasive words, she led him astray. With the flattering of her lips, she seduced him.
- 22 He followed her immediately, as an ox goes to the slaughter, as a fool stepping into a noose.
- 23 Until an arrow strikes through his liver, as a bird hurries to the snare, and doesn't know that it will cost his life.
- 24 Now therefore, sons, listen to me. Pay attention to the words of my mouth.
- 25 Don't let your heart turn to her ways. Don't go astray in her paths,
- 26 for she has thrown down many wounded. Yes, all her slain are a mighty army.
- 27 Her house is the way to Sheol, going down to the rooms of death.

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