211. 29-July Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Kings 9.

1 . Jehu Anointed King of Israel. .

Elisha the prophet called one of the sons of the prophets, and said to him, "Put your belt on your waist, take this vial of oil in your hand, and go to Ramoth Gilead.

- 2 When you come there, find Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi, and go in, and make him arise up from among his brothers, and carry him to an inner room.
- 3 Then take the vial of oil, and pour it on his head, and say, 'Thus says YAHWEH, "I have anointed you king over Israel." Then open the door, flee, and don't wait."
- 4 So the young man, even the young man the prophet, went to Ramoth Gilead.
- 5 When he came, behold, the captains of the army were sitting. Then he said, "I have a message for you, captain." Jehu said, "To which of us all?" He said, "To you, O captain."
- 6 He arose, and went into the house. Then he poured the oil on his head, and said to him, "Thus says YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Israel, 'I have anointed you king over the people of YAHWEH, even over Israel.
- 7 You shall strike the house of Ahab your master, that I may avenge the blood of my servants the prophets, and the blood of all the servants of YAHWEH, at the hand of Jezebel.
- 8 For the whole house of Ahab shall perish. I will cut off from Ahab everyone who urinates against a wall, both him who is shut up and him who is left at large in Israel.
- 9 I will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah.
- 10 The dogs will eat Jezebel on the plot of ground of Jezreel, and there shall be none to bury her." He opened the door, and fled.
- 11 Then Jehu came forth to the servants of his master: and one said to him, "Is all well? Why did this mad fellow come to you?" He said to them, "You know the man and what his talk was."
- 12 They said, "That is a lie. Tell us now." He said, "He said to me, 'Thus says YAHWEH, I have anointed you king over Israel."
- 13 Then they hurried, and took every man his garment, and put it under him on the top of the stairs, and blew the shofar, saying, "Jehu is king."

. Joram of Israel Killed. .

So Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi conspired against Joram. (Now Joram was keeping Ramoth Gilead, he and all Israel, because of Hazael king of Syria;

- 15 but king Joram was returned to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the Syrians had given him, when he fought with Hazael king of Syria.) Jehu said, "If this is your thinking, then let no one escape and go out of the city, to go to tell it in Jezreel."
- 16 So Jehu rode in a chariot, and went to Jezreel; for Joram lay there. Ahaziah king of Judah had come down to see Joram.
- 17 Now the watchman was standing on the tower in Jezreel, and he spied the company of Jehu as he came, and said, "I see a company." Joram said, "Take a horseman, and send to meet them, and let him say, 'Is it peace?"
- 18 So there went one on horseback to meet him, and said, "Thus says the king, 'Is it peace?" Jehu said, "What do you have to do with peace? Fall in behind me!" The watchman said, "The messenger came to them, but he isn't coming back."
- 19 Then he sent out a second on horseback, who came to them, and said, "Thus says the king, 'Is it peace?" Jehu answered, "What do you have to do with peace? Fall in behind me!"

- 20 The watchman said, "He came to them, and isn't coming back. The driving is like the driving of Jehu the son of Nimshi; for he drives furiously."
- 21 Joram said, "Get ready!" They got his chariot ready. Joram king of Israel and Ahaziah king of Judah went out, each in his chariot, and they went out to meet Jehu, and found him in the portion of Naboth the Jezreelite.
- 22 It happened, when Joram saw Jehu, that he said, "Is it peace, Jehu?" He answered, "What peace, so long as the prostitution of your mother Jezebel and her witchcraft abound?"
- 23 Joram turned his hands, and fled, and said to Ahaziah, "There is treason, Ahaziah!"
- 24 Jehu drew his bow with his full strength, and struck Joram between his arms; and the arrow went out at his heart, and he sunk down in his chariot.
- 25 Then Jehu said to Bidkar his captain, "Pick him up, and throw him in the plot of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite; for remember how, when you and I rode together after Ahab his father, YAHWEH laid this burden on him:
- 26 'Surely I have seen yesterday the blood of Naboth, and the blood of his sons,' says YAHWEH; 'and I will repay you in this plot of ground,' says YAHWEH! Now therefore take and cast him onto the plot of ground, according to the word of YAHWEH!"

27 . Ahaziah of Judah Killed. .

But when Ahaziah the king of Judah saw this, he fled by the way of the garden house. Jehu followed after him, and said, "Strike him also in the chariot!" They struck him at the ascent of Gur, which is by Ibleam. He fled to Megiddo, and died there.

- 28 His servants carried him in a chariot to Jerusalem, and buried him in his tomb with his fathers in the city of David.
- 29 In the eleventh year of Joram the son of Ahab began Ahaziah to reign over Judah.

<u>. Jezebel's Violent Death.</u>

When Jehu had come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and she painted her eyes, and attired her head, and looked out at the window.

- 31 As Jehu entered in at the gate, she said, "Do you come in peace, Zimri, you murderer of your master?"
- 32 He lifted up his face to the window, and said, "Who is on my side? Who?" Two or three eunuchs looked out at him.
- 33 He said, "Throw her down!" So they threw her down; and some of her blood was sprinkled on the wall, and on the horses. Then he trampled her under foot.
- 34 When he had come in, he ate and drink; and he said, "See now to this cursed woman, and bury her; for she is a king's daughter."
- 35 They went to bury her; but they found no more of her than the skull, and the feet, and the palms of her hands.
- 36 Therefore they came back, and told him. He said, "This is the word of YAHWEH, which he spoke by his servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, "The dogs will eat the flesh of Jezebel on the plot of Jezreel,
- 37 and the body of Jezebel shall be as dung on the face of the field in the portion of Jezreel, so that they shall not say, "This is Jezebel.""

Jonah 4.

1 . Jonah's Anger and ELOHIM's Kindness. .

But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry.

- 2 He prayed to YAHWEH, and said, "Please, YAHWEH, wasn't this what I said when I was still in my own country? Therefore I hurried to flee to Tarshish, for I knew that you are a gracious ELOHIM, and merciful, slow to anger, and abundant in loving kindness, and you relent of doing harm.
- 3 Therefore now, YAHWEH, take, I beg you, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live."
- 4 YAHWEH said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"
- 5 Then Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made himself a booth, and sat under it in the shade, until he might see what would become of the city.
- 6 YAHWEH ELOHIM prepared a vine, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to deliver him from his discomfort. So Jonah was exceedingly glad because of the vine.
- 7 But ELOHIM prepared a worm at dawn the next day, and it chewed on the vine, so that it withered.
- 8 It happened, when the sun arose, that ELOHIM prepared a sultry east wind; and the sun beat on Jonah's head, so that he fainted, and requested for himself that he might die, and said, "It is better for me to die than to live."
- 9 ELOHIM said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the vine?" He said, "I am right to be angry, even to death."
- 10 YAHWEH said, "You have been concerned for the vine, for which you have not labored, neither made it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night.
- 11 Shouldn't I be concerned for Nineveh, that great city, in which are more than one hundred twenty thousand persons who can't discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much livestock?"

Psalms 30.

. A Psalm. A Song at the dedication of the house of David...

A Psalm. A Song for the Dedication of the Temple. By David. I will extol you, YAHWEH, for you have raised me up, and have not made my foes to rejoice over me.

- 2 YAHWEH my ELOHIM, I cried to you, and you have healed me.
- 3 YAHWEH, you have brought up my soul from Sheol. You have kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.
- 4 Sing praise to YAHWEH, you holy ones of his. Give thanks to his holy name.
- 5 For his anger is but for a moment. His favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may stay for the night, but joy comes in the morning.
- 6 As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved."
- 7 You, YAHWEH, when you favored me, made my mountain stand strong; but when you hid your face, I was troubled.
- 8 I cried to you, YAHWEH! To YAHWEH I made supplication:
- 9 "What profit is there in my destruction, if I go down to the pit? Shall the dust praise you? Shall it declare your truth?
- 10 Hear, YAHWEH, and have mercy on me. YAHWEH, be my helper."
- 11 You have turned my mourning into dancing for me. You have removed my sackcloth, and clothed me with gladness,
- 12 To the end that my heart may sing praise to you, and not be silent. YAHWEH my ELOHIM, I will give thanks to you forever!

Proverbs 14.

- 1 Every wise woman builds her house, but the foolish one tears it down with her own hands.
- 2 He who walks in his uprightness fears YAHWEH, but he who is perverse in his ways despises him.
- 3 The fool's talk brings a rod to his back, but the lips of the wise protect them.
- 4 Where no oxen are, the crib is clean, but much increase is by the strength of the ox.
- 5 A truthful witness will not lie, but a false witness pours out lies.
- 6 A scoffer seeks wisdom, and doesn't find it, but knowledge comes easily to a discerning person.
- 7 Stay away from a foolish man, for you won't find knowledge on his lips.
- 8 The wisdom of the prudent is to think about his way, but the folly of fools is deceit.
- 9 Fools mock at making atonement for sins, but among the upright there is good will.
- 10 The heart knows its own bitterness and joy; he will not share these with a stranger.
- 11 The house of the wicked will be overthrown, but the tent of the upright will flourish.
- 12 There is a way which seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.
- 13 Even in laughter the heart may be sorrowful, and mirth may end in heaviness.
- 14 The unfaithful will be repaid for his own ways; likewise a good man will be rewarded for his ways.
- 15 A simple man believes everything, but the prudent man carefully considers his ways.
- 16 A wise man fears, and shuns evil, but the fool is hotheaded and reckless.
- 17 He who is quick to become angry will commit folly, and a crafty man is hated.
- 18 The simple inherit folly, but the prudent are crowned with knowledge.
- 19 The evil bow down before the good, and the wicked at the gates of the righteous.
- 20 The poor person is shunned even by his own neighbor, but the rich person has many friends.
- 21 He who despises his neighbor sins, but blessed is he who has pity on the poor.
- 22 Don't they go astray who plot evil? But love and faithfulness belong to those who plan good.
- 23 In all hard work there is profit, but the talk of the lips leads only to poverty.
- 24 The crown of the wise is their riches, but the folly of fools crowns them with folly.
- 25 A truthful witness saves souls, but a false witness is deceitful.
- 26 In the fear of YAHWEH is a secure fortress, and he will be a refuge for his children.
- 27 The fear of YAHWEH is a fountain of life, turning people from the snares of death.
- 28 In the multitude of people is the king's glory, but in the lack of people is the destruction of the prince.
- 29 He who is slow to anger has great understanding, but he who has a quick temper displays folly.
- 30 The life of the body is a heart at peace, but envy rots the bones.
- 31 He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for his Maker, but he who is kind to the needy honors him.
- 32 The wicked is brought down in his calamity, but in death, the righteous has a refuge.
- 33 Wisdom rests in the heart of one who has understanding, and is even made known in the inward part of fools.
- 34 Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.
- 35 The king's favor is toward a servant who deals wisely, but his wrath is toward one who causes shame.

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

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