214. 1-August Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Kings 12.

. Jehoash Repairs the Temple. .

In the seventh year of Jehu began Jehoash to reign; and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Zibiah of Beersheba.

- 2 Jehoash did that which was right in the eyes of YAHWEH all his days in which Jehoiada the priest instructed him.
- 3 However the high places were not taken away; the people still sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places.
- 4 Jehoash said to the priests, "All the money of the holy things that is brought into the house of YAHWEH, in current money, the money of the persons for whom each man is rated, and all the money that it comes into any man's heart to bring into the house of YAHWEH,
- 5 let the priests take it to them, every man from his acquaintance; and they shall repair the breaches of the house, wherever any breach shall be found."
- 6 But it was so, that in the three and twentieth year of king Jehoash the priests had not repaired the breaches of the house.
- 7 Then king Jehoash called for Jehoiada the priest, and for the other priests, and said to them, "Why don't you repair the breaches of the house? Now therefore take no more money from your treasurers, but deliver it for the breaches of the house."
- 8 The priests consented that they should take no more money from the people, neither repair the breaches of the house.
- 9 But Jehoiada the priest took a chest, and bored a hole in its lid, and set it beside the altar, on the right side as one comes into the house of YAHWEH: and the priests who kept the threshold put therein all the money that was brought into the house of YAHWEH!
- 10 It was so, when they saw that there was much money in the chest, that the king's scribe and the high priest came up, and they put up in bags and counted the money that was found in the house of YAHWEH!
- 11 They gave the money that was weighed out into the hands of those who did the work, who had the oversight of the house of YAHWEH: and they paid it out to the carpenters and the builders, who worked on the house of YAHWEH,
- 12 and to the masons and the stone cutters, and for buying timber and cut stone to repair the breaches of the house of YAHWEH, and for all that was laid out for the house to repair it.
- 13 But there were not made for the house of YAHWEH cups of silver, snuffers, basins, shofars, any vessels of gold, or vessels of silver, of the money that was brought into the house of YAHWEH;
- 14 for they gave that to those who did the work, and repaired therewith the house of YAHWEH!
- 15 Moreover they didn't demand an accounting from the men into whose hand they delivered the money to give to those who did the work; for they dealt faithfully.
- 16 The money for the trespass offerings, and the money for the sin offerings, was not brought into the house of YAHWEH: it was the priests'.

. Hazael Threatens Jerusalem. .

Then Hazael king of Syria went up, and fought against Gath, and took it; and Hazael set his face to go up to Jerusalem.

18 Jehoash king of Judah took all the holy things that Jehoshaphat and Jehoram and

Ahaziah, his fathers, kings of Judah, had dedicated, and his own holy things, and all the gold that was found in the treasures of the house of YAHWEH, and of the king's house, and sent it to Hazael king of Syria: and he went away from Jerusalem.

. Death of Joash..

Now the rest of the acts of Joash, and all that he did, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

- 20 His servants arose, and made a conspiracy, and struck Joash at the house of Millo, on the way that goes down to Silla.
- 21 For Jozacar the son of Shimeath, and Jehozabad the son of Shomer, his servants, struck him, and he died; and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David: and Amaziah his son reigned in his place.

2 Kings 13.

Jehoahaz Reigns in Israel.

In the three and twentieth year of Joash the son of Ahaziah, king of Judah, Jehoahaz the son of Jehu began to reign over Israel in Samaria for seventeen years.

- 2 He did that which was evil in the sight of YAHWEH, and followed the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he made Israel to sin; he didn't depart from it.
- 3 The anger of YAHWEH was kindled against Israel, and he delivered them into the hand of Hazael king of Syria, and into the hand of Benhadad the son of Hazael, continually.
- 4 Jehoahaz begged YAHWEH, and YAHWEH listened to him; for he saw the oppression of Israel, how that the king of Syria oppressed them.
- 5 (YAHWEH gave Israel a savior, so that they went out from under the hand of the Syrians; and the children of Israel lived in their tents as before.
- 6 Nevertheless they didn't depart from the sins of the house of Jeroboam, with which he made Israel to sin, but walked therein: and there remained the Asherah also in Samaria.)
- 7 For he didn't leave to Jehoahaz of the people any more than fifty horsemen, and ten chariots, and ten thousand footmen; for the king of Syria destroyed them, and made them like the dust in threshing.
- 8 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoahaz, and all that he did, and his might, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?
- 9 Jehoahaz slept with his fathers; and they buried him in Samaria: and Joash his son reigned in his place.

10 . Jehoash Reigns in Israel. .

In the thirty-seventh year of Joash king of Judah, Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz began to reign over Israel in Samaria for sixteen years.

- 11 He did that which was evil in the sight of YAHWEH; he didn't depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, with which he made Israel to sin; but he walked therein.
- 12 Now the rest of the acts of Joash, and all that he did, and his might with which he fought against Amaziah king of Judah, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?
- 13 Joash slept with his fathers; and Jeroboam sat on his throne: and Joash was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.

. Death of Elisha. .

Now Elisha was fallen sick of his sickness of which he died: and Joash the king of Israel came down to him, and wept over him, and said, "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!"

- 15 Elisha said to him, "Take bow and arrows;" and he took to him bow and arrows.
- 16 He said to the king of Israel, "Put your hand on the bow;" and he put his hand on it. Elisha laid his hands on the king's hands.
- 17 He said, "Open the window eastward;" and he opened it. Then Elisha said, "Shoot!" and he shot. He said, "YAHWEH's arrow of victory, even the arrow of victory over Syria; for you shall strike the Syrians in Aphek, until you have consumed them."
- 18 He said, "Take the arrows;" and he took them. He said to the king of Israel, "Strike the ground;" and he struck three times, and stopped.
- 19 The man of ELOHIM was angry with him, and said, "You should have struck five or six times. Then you would have struck Syria until you had consumed it, whereas now you shall strike Syria just three times."
- 20 Elisha died, and they buried him. Now the bands of the Moabites invaded the land at the coming in of the year.
- 21 It happened, as they were burying a man, that behold, they spied a band; and they cast the man into the tomb of Elisha: and as soon as the man touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet.

. Israel Recaptures Cities from Syria. .

Hazael king of Syria oppressed Israel all the days of Jehoahaz.

- 23 But YAHWEH was gracious to them, and had compassion on them, and had respect to them, because of his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and would not destroy them, neither cast he them from his presence as yet.
- 24 Hazael king of Syria died; and Benhadad his son reigned in his place.
- 25 Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz took again out of the hand of Benhadad the son of Hazael the cities which he had taken out of the hand of Jehoahaz his father by war. Joash struck him three times, and recovered the cities of Israel.

Micah 3.

1 . Wicked Rulers and Prophets. .

I said, "Please listen, you heads of Jacob, and rulers of the house of Israel: Isn't it for you to know justice?

- 2 You who hate the good, and love the evil; who tear off their skin, and their flesh from off their bones;
- 3 who also eat the flesh of my people, and flay their skin from off them, and break their bones, and chop them in pieces, as for the pot, and as flesh within the caldron.
- 4 Then they will cry to YAHWEH, but he will not answer them. Yes, he will hide his face from them at that time, because they made their deeds evil."
- 5 Thus says YAHWEH concerning the prophets who lead my people astray; for those who feed their teeth, they proclaim, "Peace!" and whoever doesn't provide for their mouths, they prepare war against him:
- 6 "Therefore night is over you, with no vision, and it is dark to you, that you may not divine; and the sun will go down on the prophets, and the day will be black over them.
- 7 The seers shall be disappointed, and the diviners confounded. Yes, they shall all cover their lips; for there is no answer from ELOHIM!"
- 8 But as for me, I am full of power by the Spirit of YAHWEH, and of judgment, and of might, to declare to Jacob his disobedience, and to Israel his sin.

- 9 Please listen to this, you heads of the house of Jacob, and rulers of the house of Israel, who abhor justice, and pervert all equity.
- 10 They build up Zion with blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity.
- 11 Her leaders judge for bribes, and her priests teach for a price, and her prophets of it tell fortunes for money: yet they lean on YAHWEH, and say, "Isn't YAHWEH in the midst of us? No disaster will come on us."
- 12 Therefore Zion for your sake will be plowed like a field, and Jerusalem will become heaps of rubble, and the mountain of the temple like the high places of a forest.

Psalms 33.

1 . The Sovereignty of YAHWEH in Creation and History. .

Rejoice in YAHWEH, you righteous! Praise is fitting for the upright.

- 2 Give thanks to YAHWEH with the lyre. Sing praises to him with the harp of ten strings.
- 3 Sing to him a new song. Play skillfully with a shout of joy!
- 4 For the word of YAHWEH is right. All his work is done in faithfulness.
- 5 He loves righteousness and justice. The earth is full of the loving kindness of YAHWEH!
- 6 By YAHWEH's word, the heavens were made; all their army by the breath of his mouth.
- 7 He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap. He lays up the deeps in storehouses.
- 8 Let all the earth fear YAHWEH! Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.
- 9 For he spoke, and it was done. He commanded, and it stood firm.
- 10 YAHWEH brings the counsel of the nations to nothing. He makes the thoughts of the peoples to be of no effect.
- 11 The counsel of YAHWEH stands fast forever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.
- 12 Blessed is the nation whose ELOHIM is YAHWEH, the people whom he has chosen for his own inheritance.
- 13 YAHWEH looks from heaven. He sees all the sons of men.
- 14 From the place of his habitation he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth,
- 15 he who fashions all of their hearts; and he considers all of their works.
- 16 There is no king saved by the multitude of an army. A mighty man is not delivered by great strength.
- 17 A horse is a vain thing for safety, neither does he deliver any by his great power.
- 18 Behold, YAHWEH's eye is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his loving kindness;
- 19 to deliver their soul from death, to keep them alive in famine.
- 20 Our soul has waited for YAHWEH! He is our help and our shield.
- 21 For our heart rejoices in him, because we have trusted in his holy name.
- 22 Let your loving kindness be on us, YAHWEH, since we have hoped in you.

Proverbs 17.

- 1 Better is a dry morsel with quietness, than a house full of feasting with strife.
- 2 A servant who deals wisely will rule over a son who causes shame, and shall have a part in the inheritance among the brothers.
- 3 The refining pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold, but YAHWEH tests the hearts.

- 4 An evildoer heeds wicked lips. A liar gives ear to a mischievous tongue.
- 5 Whoever mocks the poor reproaches his Maker. He who is glad at calamity shall not be unpunished.
- 6 Children's children are the crown of old men; the glory of children are their parents.
- 7 Arrogant speech isn't fitting for a fool, much less do lying lips fit a prince.
- 8 A bribe is a precious stone in the eyes of him who gives it; wherever he turns, he prospers.
- 9 He who covers an offense promotes love; but he who repeats a matter separates best friends.
- 10 A rebuke enters deeper into one who has understanding than a hundred lashes into a fool.
- 11 An evil man seeks only rebellion; therefore a cruel messenger shall be sent against him.
- 12 Let a bear robbed of her cubs meet a man, rather than a fool in his folly.
- 13 Whoever rewards evil for good, evil shall not depart from his house.
- 14 The beginning of strife is like breaching a dam, therefore stop contention before quarreling breaks out.
- 15 He who justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the righteous, both of them alike are an abomination to YAHWEH!
- 16 Why is there money in the hand of a fool to buy wisdom, since he has no understanding?
- 17 A friend loves at all times; and a brother is born for adversity.
- 18 A man void of understanding strikes hands, and becomes collateral in the presence of his neighbor.
- 19 He who loves disobedience loves strife. One who builds a high gate seeks destruction.
- 20 One who has a perverse heart doesn't find prosperity, and one who has a deceitful tongue falls into trouble.
- 21 He who becomes the father of a fool grieves. The father of a fool has no joy.
- 22 A cheerful heart makes good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.
- 23 A wicked man receives a bribe in secret, to pervert the ways of justice.
- 24 Wisdom is before the face of one who has understanding, but the eyes of a fool wander to the ends of the earth.
- 25 A foolish son brings grief to his father, and bitterness to her who bore him.
- 26 Also to punish the righteous is not good, nor to flog officials for their integrity.
- 27 He who spares his words has knowledge. He who is even tempered is a man of understanding.
- 28 Even a fool, when he keeps silent, is counted wise. When he shuts his lips, he is thought to be discerning.

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

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