

5-11 Sep Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

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2 Chronicles 10.

1 . The Revolt Against Rehoboam. .

Rehoboam went to Shechem; for all Israel had come to Shechem to make him king.

2 It happened, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat heard of it, (for he was in Egypt, where he had fled from the presence of king Solomon), that Jeroboam returned out of Egypt.

3 They sent and called him; and Jeroboam and all Israel came, and they spoke to Rehoboam, saying,

4 “Your father made our yoke grievous: now therefore make you the grievous service of your father, and his heavy yoke which he put on us, lighter, and we will serve you.”

5 He said to them, “Come again to me after three days.” The people departed.

6 King Rehoboam took counsel with the old men, who had stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, saying, “What counsel do you give me to return answer to this people?”

7 They spoke to him, saying, “If you are kind to this people, and please them, and speak good words to them, then they will be your servants forever.”

8 But he forsook the counsel of the old men which they had given him, and took counsel with the young men who had grown up with him, who stood before him.

9 He said to them, “What counsel do you give, that we may return answer to this people, who have spoken to me, saying, ‘Make the yoke that your father put on us lighter?’”

10 The young men who had grown up with him spoke to him, saying, “Thus you shall tell the people who spoke to you, saying, ‘Your father made our yoke heavy, but make it lighter on us;’ thus you shall say to them, ‘My little finger is thicker than my father’s waist.

11 Now whereas my father burdened you with a heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke. My father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.”

12 So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam the third day, as the king asked, saying, “Come to me again the third day.”

13 The king answered them roughly; and king Rehoboam forsook the counsel of the old men,

14 and spoke to them after the counsel of the young men, saying, “My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to it. My father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.”

15 So the king didn’t listen to the people; for it was brought about of ELOHIM, that YAHWEH might establish his word, which he spoke by Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

16 When all Israel saw that the king didn’t listen to them, the people answered the king, saying, “What portion have we in David? Neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse! Every man to your tents, Israel! Now see to your own house, David.” So all Israel departed to their tents.

17 But as for the children of Israel who lived in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them.

18 Then king Rehoboam sent Hadoram, who was over the men subject to forced labor; and the children of Israel stoned him to death with stones. King Rehoboam made speed to get himself up to his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem.

19 So Israel rebelled against the house of David to this day.

2 Chronicles 11.

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1 When Rehoboam had come to Jerusalem, he assembled the house of Judah and Benjamin, one hundred eighty thousand chosen men, who were warriors, to fight against Israel, to bring the kingdom again to Rehoboam.

2 But the word of YAHWEH came to Shemaiah the man of ELOHIM, saying,

3 “Speak to Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all Israel in Judah and Benjamin, saying,

4 “Thus says YAHWEH, “You shall not go up, nor fight against your brothers! Return every man to his house; for this thing is of me.”” So they listened to the words of YAHWEH, and returned from going against Jeroboam.

5 **. Rehoboam Fortifies the Cities. .**

Rehoboam lived in Jerusalem, and built cities for defense in Judah.

6 He built Bethlehem, and Etam, and Tekoa,

7 Beth Zur, and Soco, and Adullam,

8 and Gath, and Mareshah, and Ziph,

9 and Adoraim, and Lachish, and Azekah,

10 and Zorah, and Aijalon, and Hebron, which are in Judah and in Benjamin, fortified cities.

11 He fortified the strongholds, and put captains in them, and stores of food, and oil and wine.

12 He put shields and spears in every city, and made them exceeding strong. Judah and Benjamin belonged to him.

13 **. Priests and Levites Move to Judah. .**

The priests and the Levites who were in all Israel resorted to him out of all their border.

14 For the Levites left their suburbs and their possession, and came to Judah and Jerusalem: for Jeroboam and his sons cast them off, that they should not execute the priest’s office to YAHWEH;

15 and he appointed him priests for the high places, and for the male goats, and for the calves which he had made.

16 After them, out of all the tribes of Israel, such as set their hearts to seek YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Israel, came to Jerusalem to sacrifice to YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of their fathers.

17 So they strengthened the kingdom of Judah, and made Rehoboam the son of Solomon strong, three years; for they walked three years in the way of David and Solomon.

18 **. The Family of Rehoboam. .**

Rehoboam took him a wife, Mahalath the daughter of Jerimoth the son of David, and of Abihail the daughter of Eliab the son of Jesse;

19 and she bore him sons: Jeush, and Shemariah, and Zaham.

20 After her he took Maacah the daughter of Absalom; and she bore him Abijah, and Attai, and Ziza, and Shelomith.

21 Rehoboam loved Maacah the daughter of Absalom above all his wives and his concubines: (for he took eighteen wives, and sixty concubines, and became the father of twenty-eight sons and sixty daughters.)

22 Rehoboam appointed Abijah the son of Maacah to be chief, the prince among his brothers; for he intended to make him king.

23 He dealt wisely, and dispersed of all his sons throughout all the lands of Judah and

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Benjamin, to every fortified city: and he gave them food in abundance. He sought for them many wives.

Psalms 75.

1 . To the Chief Musician. Set to Do Not Destroy. A Psalm of Asaph. A Song...

For the Chief Musician. To the tune of "Do Not Destroy." A Psalm by Asaph. A song. We give thanks to you, ELOHIM! We give thanks, for your Name is near. Men tell about your wondrous works.

2 When I choose the appointed time, I will judge blamelessly.

3 The earth and all its inhabitants quake. I firmly hold its pillars. Selah.

4 I said to the arrogant, "Don't boast!" I said to the wicked, "Don't lift up the horn.

5 Don't lift up your horn on high. Don't speak with a stiff neck."

6 For neither from the east, nor from the west, nor yet from the south, comes exaltation.

7 But ELOHIM is the judge. He puts down one, and lifts up another.

8 For in the hand of YAHWEH there is a cup, full of foaming wine mixed with spices. He pours it out. Indeed the wicked of the earth drink and drink it to its very dregs.

9 But I will declare this forever: I will sing praises to the ELOHIM of Jacob.

10 I will cut off all the horns of the wicked, but the horns of the righteous shall be lifted up.

Proverbs 21.

1 The king's heart is in YAHWEH's hand like the watercourses. He turns it wherever he desires.

2 Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but YAHWEH weighs the hearts.

3 To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to YAHWEH than sacrifice.

4 A high look, and a proud heart, the lamp of the wicked, is sin.

5 The plans of the diligent surely lead to profit; and everyone who is hasty surely rushes to poverty.

6 Getting treasures by a lying tongue is a fleeting vapor for those who seek death.

7 The violence of the wicked will drive them away, because they refuse to do what is right.

8 The way of the guilty is devious, but the conduct of the innocent is upright.

9 It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, than to share a house with a contentious woman.

10 The soul of the wicked desires evil; his neighbor finds no mercy in his eyes.

11 When the mocker is punished, the simple gains wisdom. When the wise is instructed, he receives knowledge.

12 The Righteous One considers the house of the wicked, and brings the wicked to ruin.

13 Whoever stops his ears at the cry of the poor, he will also cry out, but shall not be heard.

14 A gift in secret pacifies anger; and a bribe in the cloak, strong wrath.

15 It is joy to the righteous to do justice; but it is a destruction to the workers of iniquity.

16 The man who wanders out of the way of understanding shall rest in the assembly of the dead.

17 He who loves pleasure shall be a poor man. He who loves wine and oil shall not be rich.

18 The wicked is a ransom for the righteous; the treacherous for the upright.

19 It is better to dwell in a desert land, than with a contentious and fretful woman.

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- 20 There is precious treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man swallows it up.
- 21 He who follows after righteousness and kindness finds life, righteousness, and honor.
- 22 A wise man scales the city of the mighty, and brings down the strength of its confidence.
- 23 Whoever guards his mouth and his tongue keeps his soul from troubles.
- 24 The proud and haughty man, “scoffer” is his name; he works in the arrogance of pride.
- 25 The desire of the sluggard kills him, for his hands refuse to labor.
- 26 There are those who covet greedily all day long; but the righteous give and don’t withhold.
- 27 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination: how much more, when he brings it with a wicked mind!
- 28 A false witness will perish, and a man who listens speaks to eternity.
- 29 A wicked man hardens his face; but as for the upright, he establishes his ways.
- 30 There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against YAHWEH!
- 31 The horse is prepared for the day of battle; but victory is with YAHWEH!

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

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2 Chronicles 12.

1 . Egypt Attacks Judah. .

It happened, when the kingdom of Rehoboam was established, and he was strong, that he forsook the Torah (teaching and instruction) of YAHWEH, and all Israel with him.

2 It happened in the fifth year of king Rehoboam, that Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, because they had trespassed against YAHWEH,

3 with twelve hundred chariots, and sixty thousand horsemen. The people were without number who came with him out of Egypt: the Lubim, the Sukkiim, and the Ethiopians.

4 He took the fortified cities which pertained to Judah, and came to Jerusalem.

5 Now Shemaiah the prophet came to Rehoboam, and to the princes of Judah, who were gathered together to Jerusalem because of Shishak, and said to them, "Thus says YAHWEH, 'You have forsaken me, therefore have I also left you in the hand of Shishak.'"

6 Then the princes of Israel and the king humbled themselves; and they said, "YAHWEH is righteous."

7 When YAHWEH saw that they humbled themselves, the word of YAHWEH came to Shemaiah, saying, "They have humbled themselves. I will not destroy them; but I will grant them some deliverance, and my wrath shall not be poured out on Jerusalem by the hand of Shishak.

8 Nevertheless they shall be his servants, that they may know my service, and the service of the kingdoms of the countries."

9 So Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, and took away the treasures of the house of YAHWEH, and the treasures of the king's house. He took it all away. He also took away the shields of gold which Solomon had made.

10 King Rehoboam made in their place shields of brass, and committed them to the hands of the captains of the guard, who kept the door of the king's house.

11 It was so, that as often as the king entered into the house of YAHWEH, the guard came and bore them, and brought them back into the guard room.

12 When he humbled himself, the wrath of YAHWEH turned from him, so as not to destroy him altogether: and moreover in Judah there were good things found.

13 . The End of Rehoboam's Reign. .

So king Rehoboam strengthened himself in Jerusalem, and reigned: for Rehoboam was forty-one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which YAHWEH had chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, to put his name there: and his mother's name was Naamah the Ammonitess.

14 He did that which was evil, because he didn't set his heart to seek YAHWEH!

15 Now the acts of Rehoboam, first and last, aren't they written in the histories of Shemaiah the prophet and of Iddo the seer, after the way of genealogies? There were wars between Rehoboam and Jeroboam continually.

16 Rehoboam slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David: and Abijah his son reigned in his place.

2 Chronicles 13.

1 . Abijah Reigns in Judah. .

In the eighteenth year of king Jeroboam began Abijah to reign over Judah.

2 He reigned three years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Micaiah the daughter

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of Uriel of Gibeah. There was war between Abijah and Jeroboam.

3 Abijah joined battle with an army of valiant men of war, even four hundred thousand chosen men: and Jeroboam set the battle in array against him with eight hundred thousand chosen men, who were mighty men of valor.

4 Abijah stood up on Mount Zemaraim, which is in the hill country of Ephraim, and said, "Hear me, Jeroboam and all Israel:

5 Ought you not to know that YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Israel, gave the kingdom over Israel to David forever, even to him and to his sons by a covenant of salt?

6 Yet Jeroboam the son of Nebat, the servant of Solomon the son of David, rose up, and rebelled against his master.

7 There were gathered to him worthless men, base fellows, who strengthened themselves against Rehoboam the son of Solomon, when Rehoboam was young and tenderhearted, and could not withstand them.

8 "Now you think to withstand the kingdom of YAHWEH in the hand of the sons of David; and you are a great multitude, and there are with you the golden calves which Jeroboam made you for gods.

9 Haven't you driven out the priests of YAHWEH, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and made priests for yourselves after the ways of the peoples of other lands? so that whoever comes to consecrate himself with a young bull and seven rams, the same may be a priest of those who are no gods.

10 "But as for us, YAHWEH is our ELOHIM, and we have not forsaken him; and we have priests ministering to YAHWEH, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites in their work:

11 and they burn to YAHWEH every morning and every evening burnt offerings and sweet incense. They also set the show bread in order on the pure table; and the menorah of gold with its lamps, to burn every evening: for we keep the instruction of YAHWEH our ELOHIM; but you have forsaken him.

12 Behold, ELOHIM is with us at our head, and his priests with the shofars of alarm to sound an alarm against you. Children of Israel, don't fight against YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of your fathers; for you shall not prosper."

13 But Jeroboam caused an ambush to come about behind them: so they were before Judah, and the ambush was behind them.

14 When Judah looked back, behold, the battle was before and behind them; and they cried to YAHWEH, and the priests sounded with the shofars.

15 Then the men of Judah gave a shout: and as the men of Judah shouted, it happened, that ELOHIM struck Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah.

16 The children of Israel fled before Judah; and ELOHIM delivered them into their hand.

17 Abijah and his people killed them with a great slaughter: so there fell down slain of Israel five hundred thousand chosen men.

18 Thus the children of Israel were brought under at that time, and the children of Judah prevailed, because they relied on YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of their fathers.

19 Abijah pursued after Jeroboam, and took cities from him, Bethel with its towns, and Jeshanah with its towns, and Ephron with its towns.

20 Jeroboam didn't recover strength again in the days of Abijah. YAHWEH struck him, and he died.

21 But Abijah grew mighty, and took to himself fourteen wives, and became the father of twenty-two sons, and sixteen daughters.

22 The rest of the acts of Abijah, and his ways, and his sayings, are written in the commentary of the prophet Iddo.

Psalms 76.

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1 . To the Chief Musician. On stringed instruments. A Psalm of Asaph. A Song..

- For the Chief Musician. On stringed instruments. A Psalm by Asaph. A song. In Judah, ELOHIM is known. His name is great in Israel.
- 2 His tabernacle is also in Salem; His dwelling place in Zion.
 - 3 There he broke the flaming arrows of the bow, the shield, and the sword, and the weapons of war. Selah.
 - 4 Glorious are you, and excellent, more than mountains of game.
 - 5 Valiant men lie plundered, they have slept their last sleep. None of the men of war can lift their hands.
 - 6 At your rebuke, ELOHIM of Jacob, both chariot and horse are cast into a deep sleep.
 - 7 You, even you, are to be feared. Who can stand in your sight when you are angry?
 - 8 You pronounced judgment from heaven. The earth feared, and was silent,
 - 9 when ELOHIM arose to judgment, to save all the afflicted ones of the earth. Selah.
 - 10 Surely the wrath of man praises you. The survivors of your wrath are restrained.
 - 11 Make vows to YAHWEH your ELOHIM, and fulfill them! Let all of his neighbors bring presents to him who is to be feared.
 - 12 He will cut off the spirit of princes. He is feared by the kings of the earth.

Proverbs 22.

- 1 A good name is more desirable than great riches, and loving favor is better than silver and gold.
- 2 The rich and the poor have this in common: YAHWEH is the maker of them all.
- 3 A prudent man sees danger, and hides himself; but the simple pass on, and suffer for it.
- 4 The result of humility and the fear of YAHWEH is wealth, honor, and life.
- 5 Thorns and snares are in the path of the wicked: whoever guards his soul stays from them.
- 6 Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.
- 7 The rich rule over the poor. The borrower is servant to the lender.
- 8 He who sows wickedness reaps trouble, and the rod of his fury will be destroyed.
- 9 He who has a generous eye will be blessed; for he shares his food with the poor.
- 10 Drive out the mocker, and strife will go out; yes, quarrels and insults will stop.
- 11 He who loves purity of heart and speaks gracefully is the king's friend.
- 12 The eyes of YAHWEH watch over knowledge; but he frustrates the words of the unfaithful.
- 13 The sluggard says, "There is a lion outside! I will be killed in the streets!"
- 14 The mouth of an adulteress is a deep pit: he who is under YAHWEH's wrath will fall into it.
- 15 Folly is bound up in the heart of a child: the rod of discipline drives it far from him.
- 16 Whoever oppresses the poor for his own increase and whoever gives to the rich, both come to poverty.

17 . Sayings of the Wise..

- Turn your ear, and listen to the words of the wise. Apply your heart to my teaching.
- 18 For it is a pleasant thing if you keep them within you, if all of them are ready on your lips.
 - 19 That your trust may be in YAHWEH, I teach you today, even you.
 - 20 Haven't I written to you thirty excellent things of counsel and knowledge,

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- 21 To teach you truth, reliable words, to give sound answers to the ones who sent you?
22 Don't exploit the poor, because he is poor; and don't crush the needy in court;
23 for YAHWEH will plead their case, and plunder the life of those who plunder them.
24 Don't befriend a hot-tempered man, and don't associate with one who harbors anger:
25 lest you learn his ways, and ensnare your soul.
26 Don't you be one of those who strike hands, of those who are collateral for debts.
27 If you don't have means to pay, why should he take away your bed from under you?
28 Don't move the ancient boundary stone, which your fathers have set up.
29 Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will serve kings. He won't serve obscure men.

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

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251. 7-September Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Chronicles 14.

1 So Abijah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David; and Asa his son reigned in his place. In his days the land was quiet ten years.

2 . **Asa Reigns in Judah.** .

Asa did that which was good and right in the eyes of YAHWEH his ELOHIM:

3 for he took away the foreign altars, and the high places, and broke down the pillars, and cut down the Asherim,

4 and commanded Judah to seek YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of their fathers, and to do the Torah (teaching and instruction) and the commandment.

5 Also he took away out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the sun images: and the kingdom was quiet before him.

6 He built fortified cities in Judah; for the land was quiet, and he had no war in those years, because YAHWEH had given him rest.

7 For he said to Judah, "Let us build these cities, and make walls around them, with towers, gates, and bars. The land is yet before us, because we have sought YAHWEH our ELOHIM; we have sought him, and he has given us rest on every side." So they built and prospered.

8 Asa had an army that bore bucklers and spears, out of Judah three hundred thousand; and out of Benjamin, that bore shields and drew bows, two hundred eighty thousand: all these were mighty men of valor.

9 There came out against them Zerah the Ethiopian with an army of a million troops, and three hundred chariots; and he came to Mareshah.

10 Then Asa went out to meet him, and they set the battle in array in the valley of Zephathah at Mareshah.

11 Asa cried to YAHWEH his ELOHIM, and said, "YAHWEH, there is none besides you to help, between the mighty and him who has no strength. Help us, YAHWEH our ELOHIM; for we rely on you, and in your name are we come against this multitude. YAHWEH, you are our ELOHIM! Don't let man prevail against you."

12 So YAHWEH struck the Ethiopians before Asa, and before Judah; and the Ethiopians fled.

13 Asa and the people who were with him pursued them to Gerar: and there fell of the Ethiopians so many that they could not recover themselves; for they were destroyed before YAHWEH, and before his army; and they carried away very much booty.

14 They struck all the cities around Gerar; for the fear of YAHWEH came on them: and they despoiled all the cities; for there was much spoil in them.

15 They struck also the tents of livestock, and carried away sheep in abundance, and camels, and returned to Jerusalem.

2 Chronicles 15.

1 . **The Reforms of Asa.** .

The Spirit of ELOHIM came on Azariah the son of Oded:

2 and he went out to meet Asa, and said to him, "Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin! YAHWEH is with you, while you are with him; and if you seek him, he will be found by you; but if you forsake him, he will forsake you.

3 Now for a long time Israel was without the true ELOHIM, and without a teaching

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priest, and without Torah (teaching and instruction).

4 But when in their distress they turned to YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Israel, and sought him, he was found by them.

5 In those times there was no peace to him who went out, nor to him who came in; but great troubles were on all the inhabitants of the lands.

6 They were broken in pieces, nation against nation, and city against city; for ELOHIM troubled them with all adversity.

7 But you be strong, and don't let your hands be slack; for your work shall be rewarded."

8 When Asa heard these words, and the prophecy of Oded the prophet, he took courage, and put away the abominations out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities which he had taken from the hill country of Ephraim; and he renewed the altar of YAHWEH, that was before the porch of YAHWEH!

9 He gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and those who lived with them out of Ephraim and Manasseh, and out of Simeon: for they fell to him out of Israel in abundance, when they saw that YAHWEH his ELOHIM was with him.

10 So they gathered themselves together at Jerusalem in the third month, in the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa.

11 They sacrificed to YAHWEH in that day, of the spoil which they had brought, seven hundred head of cattle and seven thousand sheep.

12 They entered into the covenant to seek YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of their fathers, with all their heart and with all their soul;

13 and that whoever would not seek YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Israel, should be put to death, whether small or great, whether man or woman.

14 They swore to YAHWEH with a loud voice, and with shouting, and with shofars, and with cornets.

15 All Judah rejoiced at the oath; for they had sworn with all their heart, and sought him with their whole desire; and he was found of them: and YAHWEH gave them rest all around.

16 Also Maacah, the mother of Asa the king, he removed from being queen, because she had made an abominable image for an Asherah; and Asa cut down her image, and made dust of it, and burnt it at the brook Kidron.

17 But the high places were not taken away out of Israel: nevertheless the heart of Asa was perfect all his days.

18 He brought into the house of ELOHIM the things that his father had dedicated, and that he himself had dedicated, silver, and gold, and vessels.

19 There was no more war to the five and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa.

Psalms 77.

1 . To the Chief Musician. To Jeduthun. A Psalm of Asaph..

For the Chief Musician. To Jeduthun. A Psalm by Asaph. My cry goes to ELOHIM! Indeed, I cry to ELOHIM for help, and for him to listen to me.

2 In the day of my trouble I sought ADONAI. My hand was stretched out in the night, and didn't get tired. My soul refused to be comforted.

3 I remember ELOHIM, and I groan. I complain, and my spirit is overwhelmed. Selah.

4 You hold my eyelids open. I am so troubled that I can't speak.

5 I have considered the days of old, the years of ancient times.

6 I remember my song in the night. I consider in my own heart; my spirit diligently inquires:

7 "Will ADONAI reject us forever? Will he be favorable no more?

8 Has his loving kindness vanished forever? Does his promise fail for generations?

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- 9 Has EL forgotten to be gracious? Has he, in anger, withheld his compassion?" Selah.
10 Then I thought, "I will appeal to this: the years of the right hand of the Most High."
11 I will remember YAH's deeds; for I will remember your wonders of old.
12 I will also meditate on all your work, and consider your doings.
13 Your way, ELOHIM, is in the sanctuary. Who is a great EL like ELOHIM?
14 You are the EL who does wonders. You have made your strength known among the peoples.
15 You have redeemed your people with your arm, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah.
16 The waters saw you, ELOHIM! The waters saw you, and they writhed. The depths also convulsed.
17 The clouds poured out water. The skies resounded with thunder. Your arrows also flashed around.
18 The voice of your thunder was in the whirlwind. The lightnings lit up the world. The earth trembled and shook.
19 Your way was through the sea; your paths through the great waters. Your footsteps were not known.
20 You led your people like a flock, by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Proverbs 23.

- 1 When you sit to eat with a ruler, consider diligently what is before you;
2 put a knife to your throat, if you are a man given to appetite.
3 Don't be desirous of his dainties, since they are deceitful food.
4 Don't weary yourself to be rich. In your wisdom, show restraint.
5 Why do you set your eyes on that which is not? For it certainly sprouts wings like an eagle and flies in the sky.
6 Don't eat the food of him who has a stingy eye, and don't crave his delicacies:
7 for as he thinks about the cost, so he is. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, but his heart is not with you.
8 The morsel which you have eaten you shall vomit up, and lose your good words.
9 Don't speak in the ears of a fool, for he will despise the wisdom of your words.
10 Don't move the ancient boundary stone. Don't encroach on the fields of the fatherless:
11 for their Defender is strong. He will plead their case against you.
12 Apply your heart to instruction, and your ears to the words of knowledge.
13 Don't withhold correction from a child. If you punish him with the rod, he will not die.
14 Punish him with the rod, and save his soul from Sheol.
15 My son, if your heart is wise, then my heart will be glad, even mine:
16 yes, my heart will rejoice, when your lips speak what is right.
17 Don't let your heart envy sinners; but rather fear YAHWEH all the day long.
18 Indeed surely there is a future hope, and your hope will not be cut off.
19 Listen, my son, and be wise, and keep your heart on the right path!
20 Don't be among ones drinking too much wine, or those who gorge themselves on meat:
21 for the drunkard and the glutton shall become poor; and drowsiness clothes them in rags.
22 Listen to your father who gave you life, and don't despise your mother when she is old.
23 Buy the truth, and don't sell it. Get wisdom, discipline, and understanding.
24 The father of the righteous has great joy. Whoever fathers a wise child delights in

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him.

25 Let your father and your mother be glad! Let her who bore you rejoice!

26 My son, give me your heart; and let your eyes keep in my ways.

27 For a prostitute is a deep pit; and a wayward wife is a narrow well.

28 Yes, she lies in wait like a robber, and increases the unfaithful among men.

29 Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has strife? Who has complaints? Who has needless bruises? Who has bloodshot eyes?

30 Those who stay long at the wine; those who go to seek out mixed wine.

31 Don't look at the wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup, when it goes down smoothly.

32 In the end, it bites like a snake, and poisons like a viper.

33 Your eyes will see strange things, and your mind will imagine confusing things.

34 Yes, you will be as he who lies down in the midst of the sea, or as he who lies on top of the rigging:

35 "They hit me, and I was not hurt! They beat me, and I don't feel it! When will I wake up? I can do it again. I can find another."

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

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252. 8-September Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Chronicles 16.

1 . Asa's Treaty with Syria. .

In the six and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa, Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah, and built Ramah, that he might not allow anyone to go out or come in to Asa king of Judah.

2 Then Asa brought out silver and gold out of the treasures of the house of YAHWEH and of the king's house, and sent to Ben Hadad king of Syria, who lived at Damascus, saying,

3 "Let there be a treaty between me and you, as there was between my father and your father. Behold, I have sent you silver and gold. Go, break your treaty with Baasha king of Israel, that he may depart from me."

4 Ben Hadad listened to king Asa, and sent the captains of his armies against the cities of Israel; and they struck Ijon, and Dan, and Abel Maim, and all the storage cities of Naphtali.

5 It happened, when Baasha heard of it, that he left off building Ramah, and let his work cease.

6 Then Asa the king took all Judah; and they carried away the stones of Ramah, and its timber, with which Baasha had built; and he built therewith Geba and Mizpah.

7 . Hanani's Message to Asa. .

At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah, and said to him, "Because you have relied on the king of Syria, and have not relied on YAHWEH your ELOHIM, therefore is the army of the king of Syria escaped out of your hand.

8 Weren't the Ethiopians and the Lubim a huge army, with chariots and horsemen exceeding many? Yet, because you relied on YAHWEH, he delivered them into your hand.

9 For the eyes of YAHWEH run back and forth throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein you have done foolishly; for from henceforth you shall have wars."

10 Then Asa was angry with the seer, and put him in the prison; for he was in a rage with him because of this thing. Asa oppressed some of the people at the same time.

11 . Illness and Death of Asa. .

Behold, the acts of Asa, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

12 In the thirty-ninth year of his reign Asa was diseased in his feet; his disease was exceeding great: yet in his disease he didn't seek YAHWEH, but to the physicians.

13 Asa slept with his fathers, and died in the one and fortieth year of his reign.

14 They buried him in his own tombs, which he had dug out for himself in the city of David, and laid him in the bed which was filled with sweet odors and various kinds of spices prepared by the perfumers' art: and they made a very great burning for him.

2 Chronicles 17.

1 . Jehoshaphat Reigns in Judah. .

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Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place, and strengthened himself against Israel.
2 He placed forces in all the fortified cities of Judah, and set garrisons in the land of Judah, and in the cities of Ephraim, which Asa his father had taken.
3 YAHWEH was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the first ways of his father David, and didn't seek the Baals,
4 but sought to the ELOHIM of his father, and walked in his commandments, and not after the doings of Israel.
5 Therefore YAHWEH established the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah brought to Jehoshaphat tribute; and he had riches and honor in abundance.
6 His heart was lifted up in the ways of YAHWEH: and furthermore he took away the high places and the Asherim out of Judah.
7 Also in the third year of his reign he sent his princes, even Ben Hail, and Obadiah, and Zechariah, and Nethanel, and Micaiah, to teach in the cities of Judah;
8 and with them the Levites, even Shemaiah, and Nethaniah, and Zebadiah, and Asahel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehonathan, and Adonijah, and Tobijah, and Tobadonijah, the Levites; and with them Elishama and Jehoram, the priests.
9 They taught in Judah, having the scroll of the Torah of YAHWEH with them; and they went about throughout all the cities of Judah, and taught among the people.
10 The fear of YAHWEH fell on all the kingdoms of the lands that were around Judah, so that they made no war against Jehoshaphat.
11 Some of the Philistines brought Jehoshaphat presents, and silver for tribute; the Arabians also brought him flocks, seven thousand and seven hundred rams, and seven thousand and seven hundred male goats.
12 Jehoshaphat grew great exceedingly; and he built in Judah castles and cities of store.
13 He had many works in the cities of Judah; and men of war, mighty men of valor, in Jerusalem.
14 This was the numbering of them according to their fathers' houses: Of Judah, the captains of thousands: Adnah the captain, and with him mighty men of valor three hundred thousand;
15 and next to him Jehohanan the captain, and with him two hundred eighty thousand;
16 and next to him Amasiah the son of Zichri, who willingly offered himself to YAHWEH; and with him two hundred thousand mighty men of valor.
17 Of Benjamin: Eliada a mighty man of valor, and with him two hundred thousand armed with bow and shield;
18 and next to him Jehozabad and with him one hundred eighty thousand ready prepared for war.
19 These were those who waited on the king, besides those whom the king put in the fortified cities throughout all Judah.

Psalms 78:1-20.

1 . A Contemplation of Asaph.. .

A contemplation by Asaph. Hear my teaching, my people. Turn your ears to the words of my mouth.
2 I will open my mouth in a parable. I will utter dark sayings of old,
3 Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.
4 We will not hide them from their children, telling to the generation to come the praises of YAHWEH, his strength, and his wondrous works that he has done.
5 For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a teaching in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children;
6 that the generation to come might know, even the children who should be born; who

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should arise and tell their children,

7 that they might set their hope in ELOHIM, and not forget the works of EL, but keep his commandments,

8 and might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation that didn't make their hearts loyal, whose spirit was not steadfast with EL!

9 The children of Ephraim, being armed and carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle.

10 They didn't keep ELOHIM's covenant, and refused to walk by his Torah.

11 They forgot his doings, his wondrous works that he had shown them.

12 He did marvelous things in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

13 He split the sea, and caused them to pass through. He made the waters stand as a heap.

14 In the daytime he also led them with a cloud, and all night with a light of fire.

15 He split rocks in the wilderness, and gave them drink abundantly as out of the depths.

16 He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers.

17 Yet they still went on to sin against him, to rebel against the Most High in the desert.

18 They tempted EL in their heart by asking food according to their desire.

19 Yes, they spoke against ELOHIM! They said, "Can EL prepare a table in the wilderness?"

20 Behold, he struck the rock, so that waters gushed out, and streams overflowed. Can he give bread also? Will he provide flesh for his people?"

Proverbs 24.

1 Don't be envious of evil men; neither desire to be with them:

2 for their hearts plot violence, and their lips talk about mischief.

3 Through wisdom a house is built; by understanding it is established;

4 by knowledge the rooms are filled with all rare and beautiful treasure.

5 A wise man has great power; and a knowledgeable man increases strength;

6 for by wise guidance you wage your war; and victory is in many advisors.

7 Wisdom is too high for a fool: he doesn't open his mouth in the gate.

8 One who plots to do evil will be called a schemer.

9 The schemes of folly are sin. The mocker is detested by men.

10 If you falter in the time of trouble, your strength is small.

11 Rescue those who are being led away to death! Indeed, hold back those who are staggering to the slaughter!

12 If you say, "Behold, we didn't know this;" doesn't he who weighs the hearts consider it? He who keeps your soul, doesn't he know it? Shall he not render to every man according to his work?

13 My son, eat honey, for it is good; the droppings of the honeycomb, which are sweet to your taste:

14 so you shall know wisdom to be to your soul; if you have found it, then there will be a reward, your hope will not be cut off.

15 Don't lay in wait, wicked man, against the habitation of the righteous. Don't destroy his resting place:

16 for a righteous man falls seven times, and rises up again; but the wicked are overthrown by calamity.

17 Don't rejoice when your enemy falls. Don't let your heart be glad when he is overthrown;

18 lest YAHWEH see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him.

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- 19 Don't fret yourself because of evildoers; neither be envious of the wicked:
20 for there will be no reward to the evil man; and the lamp of the wicked shall be snuffed out.
21 My son, fear YAHWEH and the king. Don't join those who are rebellious:
22 for their calamity will rise suddenly; the destruction from them both who knows?

23 **. Further Sayings of the Wise. .**

- These also are sayings of the wise. To show partiality in judgment is not good.
24 He who says to the wicked, "You are righteous;" peoples shall curse him, and nations shall abhor him
25 but it will go well with those who convict the guilty, and a rich blessing will come on them.
26 An honest answer is like a kiss on the lips.
27 Prepare your work outside, and get your fields ready. Afterwards, build your house.
28 Don't be a witness against your neighbor without cause. Don't deceive with your lips.
29 Don't say, "I will do to him as he has done to me; I will render to the man according to his work."
30 I went by the field of the sluggard, by the vineyard of the man void of understanding;
31 Behold, it was all grown over with thorns. Its surface was covered with nettles, and its stone wall was broken down.
32 Then I saw, and considered well. I saw, and received instruction:
33 a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep;
34 so your poverty will come as a robber, and your want as an armed man.

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

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253. 9-September Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Chronicles 18.

1 . Micaiah Warns Ahab. .

Now Jehoshaphat had riches and honor in abundance; and he joined affinity with Ahab.

2 After certain years he went down to Ahab to Samaria. Ahab killed sheep and cattle for him in abundance, and for the people who were with him, and moved him to go up with him to Ramoth Gilead.

3 Ahab king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat king of Judah, "Will you go with me to Ramoth Gilead?" He answered him, "I am as you are, and my people as your people. We will be with you in the war."

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

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

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

7 The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "There is yet one man by whom we may inquire of YAHWEH; but I hate him, for he never prophesies good concerning me, but always evil. He is Micaiah the son of Imla." Jehoshaphat said, "Don't let the king say so."

8 Then the king of Israel called an officer, and said, "Get Micaiah the son of Imla quickly."

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

10 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.'"

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

12 The messenger who went to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying, "Behold, the words of the prophets declare good to the king with one mouth. Let your word therefore, please be like one of theirs, and speak good."

13 Micaiah said, "As YAHWEH lives, what my ELOHIM says, that will I speak."

14 When he had come to the king, the king said to him, "Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth Gilead to battle, or shall I forbear?" He said, "Go up, and prosper. They shall be delivered into your hand."

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

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

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

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

19 YAHWEH said, 'Who shall entice Ahab king of Israel, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth Gilead?' One spoke saying in this way, and another saying in that way.

20 A spirit came out, stood before YAHWEH, and said, 'I will entice him.' "YAHWEH said to him, 'How?'

21 "He said, 'I will go forth, and will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' "He

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said, 'You will entice him, and will prevail also. Go forth, and do so.'

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

23 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?"

24 Micaiah said, "Behold, you shall see on that day, when you shall go into an inner room to hide yourself."

25 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;

26 and 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 return in peace.'"

27 Micaiah said, "If you return at all in peace, YAHWEH has not spoken by me." He said, "Listen, you peoples, all of you!"

28 .Ahab Dies in Battle.

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

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

30 Now the king of Syria had commanded the captains of his chariots, saying, "Fight neither with small nor great, except only with the king of Israel."

31 It happened, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, "It is the king of Israel!" Therefore they turned around to fight against him. But Jehoshaphat cried out, and YAHWEH helped him; and ELOHIM moved them to depart from him.

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

33 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 the chariot, "Turn your hand, and carry me out of the army; for I am severely wounded."

34 The battle increased that day. However the king of Israel propped himself up in his chariot against the Syrians until the evening; and about the time of the going down of the sun, he died.

Psalms 78:21-37.

21 Therefore YAHWEH heard, and was angry. A fire was kindled against Jacob, anger also went up against Israel,

22 because they didn't believe in ELOHIM, and didn't trust in his salvation [yeshuat].

23 Yet he commanded the skies above, and opened the doors of heaven.

24 He rained down manna on them to eat, and gave them food from the sky.

25 Man ate the bread of angels. He sent them food to the full.

26 He caused the east wind to blow in the sky. By his power he guided the south wind.

27 He rained also flesh on them as the dust; winged birds as the sand of the seas.

28 He let them fall in the midst of their camp, around their habitations.

29 So they ate, and were well filled. He gave them their own desire.

30 They didn't turn from their cravings. Their food was yet in their mouths,

31 when the anger of ELOHIM went up against them, killed some of their fattest, and struck down the young men of Israel.

32 For all this they still sinned, and didn't believe in his wondrous works.

33 Therefore he consumed their days in vanity, and their years in terror.

34 When he killed them, then they inquired after him. They returned and sought EL

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earnestly.

35 They remembered that ELOHIM was their rock, the Most High ELOHIM, their redeemer.

36 But they flattered him with their mouth, and lied to him with their tongue.

37 For their heart was not right with him, neither were they faithful in his covenant.

Proverbs 25.

1 These also are proverbs of Solomon, which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied out.

2 It is the glory of ELOHIM to conceal a thing, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter.

3 As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth, so the hearts of kings are unsearchable.

4 Take away the dross from the silver, and material comes out for the refiner;

5 Take away the wicked from the king's presence, and his throne will be established in righteousness.

6 Don't exalt yourself in the presence of the king, or claim a place among great men;

7 for it is better that it be said to you, "Come up here," than that you should be put lower in the presence of the prince, whom your eyes have seen.

8 Don't be hasty in bringing charges to court. What will you do in the end when your neighbor shames you?

9 Debate your case with your neighbor, and don't betray the confidence of another;

10 lest one who hears it put you to shame, and your bad reputation never depart.

11 A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.

12 As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprovener to an obedient ear.

13 As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to those who send him; for he refreshes the soul of his masters.

14 As clouds and wind without rain, so is he who boasts of gifts deceptively.

15 By patience a ruler is persuaded. A soft tongue breaks the bone.

16 Have you found honey? Eat as much as is sufficient for you, lest you eat too much, and vomit it.

17 Let your foot be seldom in your neighbor's house, lest he be weary of you, and hate you.

18 A man who gives false testimony against his neighbor is like a club, a sword, or a sharp arrow.

19 Confidence in someone unfaithful in time of trouble is like a bad tooth, or a lame foot.

20 As one who takes away a garment in cold weather, or vinegar on soda, so is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.

21 If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat. If he is thirsty, give him water to drink:

22 for you will heap coals of fire on his head, and YAHWEH will reward you.

23 The north wind brings forth rain: so a backbiting tongue brings an angry face.

24 It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, than to share a house with a contentious woman.

25 Like cold water to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.

26 Like a muddied spring, and a polluted well, so is a righteous man who gives way before the wicked.

27 It is not good to eat much honey; nor is it honorable to seek one's own honor.

28 Like a city that is broken down and without walls is a man whose spirit is without restraint.

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254. 10-September Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Chronicles 19.

- 1 Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned to his house in peace to Jerusalem.
2 Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, "Should you help the wicked, and love those who hate YAHWEH? Because of this, wrath is on you from before YAHWEH!
3 Nevertheless there are good things found in you, in that you have put away the Asheroth out of the land, and have set your heart to seek ELOHIM!"

4 . The Reforms of Jehoshaphat. .

- Jehoshaphat lived at Jerusalem: and he went out again among the people from Beersheba to the hill country of Ephraim, and brought them back to YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of their fathers.
5 He set judges in the land throughout all the fortified cities of Judah, city by city,
6 and said to the judges, "Consider what you do: for you don't judge for man, but for YAHWEH; and he is with you in the judgment.
7 Now therefore let the fear of YAHWEH be on you. Take heed and do it: for there is no iniquity with YAHWEH our ELOHIM, nor respect of persons, nor taking of bribes."
8 Moreover in Jerusalem Jehoshaphat appointed Levites and priests, and of the heads of the fathers' households of Israel, for the judgment of YAHWEH, and for controversies. They returned to Jerusalem.
9 He commanded them, saying, "Thus you shall do in the fear of YAHWEH, faithfully, and with a perfect heart.
10 Whenever any controversy shall come to you from your brothers who dwell in their cities, between blood and blood, between Torah (teaching and instruction) and commandment, statutes and ordinances, you shall warn them, that they not be guilty towards YAHWEH, and so wrath come on you and on your brothers. Do this, and you shall not be guilty.
11 Behold, Amariah the chief priest is over you in all matters of YAHWEH; and Zebadiah the son of Ishmael, the ruler of the house of Judah, in all the king's matters: also the Levites shall be officers before you. Deal courageously, and may YAHWEH be with the good."

Psalms 78:38-55.

- 38 But he, being merciful, forgave iniquity, and didn't destroy them. Yes, many times he turned his anger away, and didn't stir up all his wrath.
39 He remembered that they were but flesh, a wind that passes away, and doesn't come again.
40 How often they rebelled against him in the wilderness, and grieved him in the desert!
41 They turned again and tempted EL, and provoked the Holy One of Israel.
42 They didn't remember his hand, nor the day when he redeemed them from the adversary;
43 how he set his signs in Egypt, his wonders in the field of Zoan,
44 he turned their rivers into blood, and their streams, so that they could not drink.
45 He sent among them swarms of flies, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them.
46 He gave also their increase to the caterpillar, and their labor to the locust.
47 He destroyed their vines with hail, their sycamore fig trees with frost.

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- 48 He gave over their livestock also to the hail, and their flocks to hot thunderbolts.
49 He threw on them the fierceness of his anger, wrath, indignation, and trouble, and a band of angels of evil.
50 He made a path for his anger. He didn't spare their soul from death, but gave their life over to the pestilence,
51 and struck all the firstborn in Egypt, the chief of their strength in the tents of Ham.
52 But he led forth his own people like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.
53 He led them safely, so that they weren't afraid, but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.
54 He brought them to the border of his sanctuary, to this mountain, which his right hand had taken.
55 He also drove out the nations before them, allotted them for an inheritance by line, and made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.

Proverbs 26.

- 1 Like snow in summer, and as rain in harvest, so honor is not fitting for a fool.
2 Like a fluttering sparrow, like a darting swallow, so the undeserved curse doesn't come to rest.
3 A whip is for the horse, a bridle for the donkey, and a rod for the back of fools!
4 Don't answer a fool according to his folly, lest you also be like him.
5 Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own eyes.
6 One who sends a message by the hand of a fool is cutting off feet and drinking violence.
7 Like the legs of the lame that hang loose: so is a parable in the mouth of fools.
8 As one who binds a stone in a sling, so is he who gives honor to a fool.
9 Like a thornbush that goes into the hand of a drunkard, so is a parable in the mouth of fools.
10 As an archer who wounds all, so is he who hires a fool or he who hires those who pass by.
11 As a dog that returns to his vomit, so is a fool who repeats his folly.
12 Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.
13 The sluggard says, "There is a lion in the road! A fierce lion roams the streets!"
14 As the door turns on its hinges, so does the sluggard on his bed.
15 The sluggard buries his hand in the dish. He is too lazy to bring it back to his mouth.
16 The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who answer with discretion.
17 Like one who grabs a dog's ears is one who passes by and meddles in a quarrel not his own.
18 Like a madman who shoots torches, arrows, and death,
19 is the man who deceives his neighbor and says, "Am I not joking?"
20 For lack of wood a fire goes out. Without gossip, a quarrel dies down.
21 As coals are to hot embers, and wood to fire, so is a contentious man to kindling strife.
22 The words of a whisperer are as dainty morsels, they go down into the innermost parts.
23 Like silver dross on an earthen vessel are the lips of a fervent one with an evil heart.
24 A malicious man disguises himself with his lips, but he harbors evil in his heart.
25 When his speech is charming, don't believe him; for there are seven abominations in his heart.
26 His malice may be concealed by deception, but his wickedness will be exposed in the

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assembly.

27 Whoever digs a pit shall fall into it. Whoever rolls a stone, it will come back on him.

28 A lying tongue hates those it hurts; and a flattering mouth works ruin.

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5-11 Sep Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

255. 11-September Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Chronicles 20.,21:1.

1 . Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir Defeated. .

It happened after this, that the children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with them some of the Ammonites, came against Jehoshaphat to battle.

2 Then some came who told Jehoshaphat, saying, "A great multitude is coming against you from beyond the sea from Syria. Behold, they are in Hazazon Tamar" (that is, En Gedi).

3 Jehoshaphat was alarmed, and set himself to seek to YAHWEH! He proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

4 Judah gathered themselves together, to seek help from YAHWEH! They came out of all the cities of Judah to seek YAHWEH!

5 Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of YAHWEH, before the new court;

6 and he said, "YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of our fathers, aren't you ELOHIM in heaven? Aren't you ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations? Power and might are in your hand, so that no one is able to withstand you.

7 Didn't you, our ELOHIM, drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel, and give it to the seed of Abraham your friend forever?

8 They lived in it, and have built you a sanctuary in it for your name, saying,

9 'If evil comes on us the sword, judgment, pestilence, or famine we will stand before this house, and before you, (for your name is in this house), and cry to you in our affliction, and you will hear and save.'

10 Now, behold, the children of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir, whom you would not let Israel invade, when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned aside from them, and didn't destroy them;

11 behold, how they reward us, to come to cast us out of your possession, which you have given us to inherit.

12 Our ELOHIM, will you not judge them? For we have no might against this great company that comes against us; neither know we what to do, but our eyes are on you."

13 All Judah stood before YAHWEH, with their little ones, their wives, and their children.

14 Then the Spirit of YAHWEH came on Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, the Levite, of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly;

15 and he said, "Listen, all Judah, and you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you king Jehoshaphat. Thus says YAHWEH to you, 'Don't be afraid, neither be dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but ELOHIM's.

16 Tomorrow go down against them. Behold, they are coming up by the ascent of Ziz. You shall find them at the end of the valley, before the wilderness of Jeruel.

17 You will not need to fight this battle. Set yourselves, stand still, and see the salvation of YAHWEH with you, O Judah and Jerusalem. Don't be afraid, nor be dismayed. Go out against them tomorrow, for YAHWEH is with you."

18 Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground; and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell down before YAHWEH, worshipping YAHWEH!

19 The Levites, of the children of the Kohathites and of the children of the Korahites, stood up to praise YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Israel, with an exceeding loud voice.

20 They rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Listen to me, Judah, and you inhabitants

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of Jerusalem! Believe in YAHWEH your ELOHIM, so you shall be established! Believe his prophets, so you shall prosper.”

21 When he had taken counsel with the people, he appointed those who should sing to YAHWEH, and give praise in holy array, as they went out before the army, and say, Give thanks to YAHWEH; for his loving kindness endures forever.

22 When they began to sing and to praise, YAHWEH set ambushers against the children of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were struck.

23 For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of Mount Seir, utterly to kill and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, everyone helped to destroy another.

24 When Judah came to the place overlooking the wilderness, they looked at the multitude; and behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and there were none who escaped.

25 When Jehoshaphat and his people came to take their spoil, they found among them in abundance both riches and dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and they were three days in taking the spoil, it was so much.

26 On the fourth day they assembled themselves in the valley of Beracah; for there they blessed YAHWEH: therefore the name of that place was called The valley of Beracah to this day.

27 Then they returned, every man of Judah and Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat in their forefront, to go again to Jerusalem with joy; for YAHWEH had made them to rejoice over their enemies.

28 They came to Jerusalem with stringed instruments and harps and shofars to the house of YAHWEH!

29 The fear of ELOHIM was on all the kingdoms of the countries, when they heard that YAHWEH fought against the enemies of Israel.

30 So the realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet; for his ELOHIM gave him rest all around.

31 . The End of Jehoshaphat's Reign. .

Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah: he was thirty-five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty-five years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Azubah the daughter of Shilhi.

32 He walked in the way of Asa his father, and didn't turn aside from it, doing that which was right in the eyes of YAHWEH!

33 However the high places were not taken away; neither as yet had the people set their hearts to the ELOHIM of their fathers.

34 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, first and last, behold, they are written in the history of Jehu the son of Hanani, which is inserted in the book of the kings of Israel.

35 After this Jehoshaphat king of Judah joined himself with Ahaziah king of Israel. The same did very wickedly:

36 and he joined himself with him to make ships to go to Tarshish; and they made the ships in Ezion Geber.

37 Then Eliezer the son of Dodavahu of Mareshah prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, “Because you have joined yourself with Ahaziah, YAHWEH has destroyed your works.” The ships were broken, so that they were not able to go to Tarshish.

1 . Jehoram Reigns in Judah. .

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

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Psalms 78:56-72.

56 Yet they tempted and rebelled against the Most High ELOHIM, and didn't keep his testimonies;
57 but turned back, and dealt treacherously like their fathers. They were turned aside like a deceitful bow.
58 For they provoked him to anger with their high places, and moved him to jealousy with their engraved images.
59 When ELOHIM heard this, he was angry, and greatly abhorred Israel;
60 So that he forsook the tent of Shiloh, the tent which he placed among men;
61 and delivered his strength into captivity, his glory into the adversary's hand.
62 He also gave his people over to the sword, and was angry with his inheritance.
63 Fire devoured their young men. Their virgins had no wedding song.
64 Their priests fell by the sword, and their widows couldn't weep.
65 Then ADONAI awakened as one out of sleep, like a mighty man who shouts by reason of wine.
66 He struck his adversaries backward. He put them to a perpetual reproach.
67 Moreover he rejected the tent of Joseph, and didn't choose the tribe of Ephraim,
68 But chose the tribe of Judah, Mount Zion which he loved.
69 He built his sanctuary like the heights, like the earth which he has established forever.
70 He also chose David his servant, and took him from the sheepfolds;
71 from following the ewes that have their young, he brought him to be the shepherd of Jacob, his people, and Israel, his inheritance.
72 So he was their shepherd according to the integrity of his heart, and guided them by the skillfulness of his hands.

Proverbs 27.

1 Don't boast about tomorrow; for you don't know what a day may bring forth.
2 Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips.
3 A stone is heavy, and sand is a burden; but a fool's provocation is heavier than both.
4 Wrath is cruel, and anger is overwhelming; but who is able to stand before jealousy?
5 Better is open rebuke than hidden love.
6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend; although the kisses of an enemy are profuse.
7 A full soul loathes a honeycomb; but to a hungry soul, every bitter thing is sweet.
8 As a bird that wanders from her nest, so is a man who wanders from his home.
9 Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart; so does earnest counsel from a man's friend.
10 Don't forsake your friend and your father's friend. Don't go to your brother's house in the day of your disaster: better is a neighbor who is near than a distant brother.
11 Be wise, my son, and bring joy to my heart, then I can answer my tormentor.
12 A prudent man sees danger and takes refuge; but the simple pass on, and suffer for it.
13 Take his garment when he puts up collateral for a stranger. Hold it for a wayward woman!
14 He who blesses his neighbor with a loud voice early in the morning, it will be taken as a curse by him.
15 A continual dropping on a rainy day and a contentious wife are alike:
16 restraining her is like restraining the wind, or like grasping oil in his right hand.
17 Iron sharpens iron; so a man sharpens his friend's countenance.
18 Whoever tends the fig tree shall eat its fruit. He who looks after his master shall be

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honored.

19 As water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man.

20 Sheol and Abaddon are never satisfied; and a man's eyes are never satisfied.

21 The crucible is for silver, and the furnace for gold; but man is refined by his praise.

22 Though you grind a fool in a mortar with a pestle along with grain, yet his foolishness will not be removed from him.

23 Know well the state of your flocks, and pay attention to your herds:

24 for riches are not forever, nor does even the crown endure to all generations.

25 The hay is removed, and the new growth appears, the grasses of the hills are gathered in.

26 The lambs are for your clothing, and the goats are the price of a field.

27 There will be plenty of goats' milk for your food, for your family's food, and for the nourishment of your servant girls.

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Praise Yah!!**

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