

12-18 Sep Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

256. 12-September Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Chronicles 21:2-to-end,22:1-12.

2 He had brothers, the sons of Jehoshaphat: Azariah, and Jehiel, and Zechariah, and Azariah, and Michael, and Shephatiah; all these were the sons of Jehoshaphat king of Israel.

3 Their father gave them great gifts, of silver, and of gold, and of precious things, with fortified cities in Judah: but the kingdom gave he to Jehoram, because he was the firstborn.

4 Now when Jehoram was risen up over the kingdom of his father, and had strengthened himself, he killed all his brothers with the sword, and various also of the princes of Israel.

5 Jehoram was thirty-two years old when he began to reign; and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.

6 He walked in the way of the kings of Israel, as did the house of Ahab; for he had the daughter of Ahab as wife: and he did that which was evil in the sight of YAHWEH!

7 However YAHWEH would not destroy the house of David, because of the covenant that he had made with David, and as he promised to give a lamp to him and to his children always.

8 In his days Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah, and made a king over themselves.

9 Then Jehoram passed over with his captains, and all his chariots with him: and he rose up by night, and struck the Edomites who surrounded him, along with the captains of the chariots.

10 So Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah to this day: then Libnah revolted at the same time from under his hand, because he had forsaken YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of his fathers.

11 Moreover he made high places in the mountains of Judah, and made the inhabitants of Jerusalem to play the prostitute, and led Judah astray.

12 A letter came to him from Elijah the prophet, saying, "Thus says YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of David your father, 'Because you have not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat your father, nor in the ways of Asa king of Judah,

13 but have walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and have made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to play the prostitute, like the house of Ahab did, and also have slain your brothers of your father's house, who were better than yourself:

14 behold, YAHWEH will strike with a great plague your people, and your children, and your wives, and all your substance;

15 and you shall have great sickness by disease of your bowels, until your bowels fall out by reason of the sickness, day by day.'"

16 YAHWEH stirred up against Jehoram the spirit of the Philistines, and of the Arabians who are beside the Ethiopians:

17 and they came up against Judah, and broke into it, and carried away all the substance that was found in the king's house, and his sons also, and his wives; so that there was never a son left him, except Jehoahaz, the youngest of his sons.

18 After all this YAHWEH struck him in his bowels with an incurable disease.

19 It happened, in process of time, at the end of two years, that his bowels fell out by reason of his sickness, and he died of severe diseases. His people made no burning for him, like the burning of his fathers.

20 Thirty-two years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight years: and he departed without being desired; and they buried him in the city of David, but not in the tombs of the kings.

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1 **. Ahaziah Reigns in Judah. .**

The inhabitants of Jerusalem made Ahaziah his youngest son king in his place; for the band of men who came with the Arabians to the camp had slain all the eldest. So Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah reigned.

2 Forty-two years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign; and he reigned one year in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Athaliah the daughter of Omri.

3 He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab; for his mother was his counselor to do wickedly.

4 He did that which was evil in the sight of YAHWEH, as did the house of Ahab; for they were his counselors after the death of his father, to his destruction.

5 He walked also after their counsel, and went with Jehoram the son of Ahab king of Israel to war against Hazael king of Syria at Ramoth Gilead: and the Syrians wounded Joram.

6 He returned to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which they had given him at Ramah, when he fought against Hazael king of Syria. Azariah the son of Jehoram king of Judah went down to see Jehoram the son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was sick.

7 Now the destruction of Ahaziah was of ELOHIM, in that he went to Joram: for when he had come, he went out with Jehoram against Jehu the son of Nimshi, whom YAHWEH had anointed to cut off the house of Ahab.

8 It happened, when Jehu was executing judgment on the house of Ahab, that he found the princes of Judah, and the sons of the brothers of Ahaziah, ministering to Ahaziah, and killed them.

9 He sought Ahaziah, and they caught him (now he was hiding in Samaria), and they brought him to Jehu, and killed him; and they buried him, for they said, "He is the son of Jehoshaphat, who sought YAHWEH with all his heart." The house of Ahaziah had no power to hold the kingdom.

10 **. Athaliah Reigns in Judah. .**

Now when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the royal seed of the house of Judah.

11 But Jehoshabeath, the daughter of the king, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him away from among the king's sons who were slain, and put him and his nurse in the bedroom. So Jehoshabeath, the daughter of king Jehoram, the wife of Jehoiada the priest (for she was the sister of Ahaziah), hid him from Athaliah, so that she didn't kill him.

12 He was with them hidden in the house of ELOHIM six years: and Athaliah reigned over the land.

Psalms 79.

1 **. A Psalm of Asaph. . .**

A Psalm by Asaph. ELOHIM, the nations have come into your inheritance. They have defiled your holy temple. They have laid Jerusalem in heaps.

2 They have given the dead bodies of your servants to be food for the birds of the sky, the flesh of your holy ones to the animals of the earth.

3 Their blood they have shed like water around Jerusalem. There was no one to bury them.

4 We have become a reproach to our neighbors, a scoffing and derision to those who are around us.

5 How long, YAHWEH? Will you be angry forever? Will your jealousy burn like fire?

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- 6 Pour out your wrath on the nations that don't know you; on the kingdoms that don't call on your name;
- 7 For they have devoured Jacob, and destroyed his homeland.
- 8 Don't hold the iniquities of our forefathers against us. Let your tender mercies speedily meet us, for we are in desperate need.
- 9 Help us, ELOHIM of our salvation, for the glory of your name. Deliver us, and forgive our sins, for your name's sake.
- 10 Why should the nations say, "Where is their ELOHIM?" Let it be known among the nations, before our eyes, that vengeance for your servants' blood is being poured out.
- 11 Let the sighing of the prisoner come before you. According to the greatness of your power, preserve those who are sentenced to death.
- 12 Pay back to our neighbors seven times into their bosom their reproach with which they have reproached you, ADONAI.
- 13 So we, your people and sheep of your pasture, will give you thanks forever. We will praise you forever, to all generations.

Proverbs 28.

- 1 The wicked flee when no one pursues; but the righteous are as bold as a lion.
- 2 In rebellion, a land has many rulers, but order is maintained by a man of understanding and knowledge.
- 3 A needy man who oppresses the poor is like a driving rain which leaves no crops.
- 4 Those who forsake the Torah praise the wicked; but those who keep the Torah contend with them.
- 5 Evil men don't understand justice; but those who seek YAHWEH understand it fully.
- 6 Better is the poor who walks in his integrity, than he who is perverse in his ways, and he is rich.
- 7 Whoever keeps the Torah is a wise son; but he who is a companion of gluttons shames his father.
- 8 He who increases his wealth by excessive interest gathers it for one who has pity on the poor.
- 9 He who turns away his ear from hearing the Torah, even his prayer is an abomination.
- 10 Whoever causes the upright to go astray in an evil way, he will fall into his own trap; but the blameless will inherit good.
- 11 The rich man is wise in his own eyes; but the poor who has understanding sees through him.
- 12 When the righteous triumph, there is great glory; but when the wicked rise, men hide themselves.
- 13 He who conceals his sins doesn't prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.
- 14 Blessed is the man who always fears; but one who hardens his heart falls into trouble.
- 15 As a roaring lion or a charging bear, so is a wicked ruler over helpless people.
- 16 A tyrannical ruler lacks judgment. One who hates ill-gotten gain will have long days.
- 17 A man who is tormented by life blood will be a fugitive until death; no one will support him.
- 18 Whoever walks blamelessly is kept safe; but one with perverse ways will fall suddenly.
- 19 One who works his land will have an abundance of food; but one who chases fantasies will have his fill of poverty.
- 20 A faithful man is rich with blessings; but one who is eager to be rich will not go unpunished.
- 21 To show partiality is not good; yet a man will do wrong for a piece of bread.

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- 22 A stingy man hurries after riches, and doesn't know that poverty waits for him.
- 23 One who rebukes a man will afterward find more favor than one who flatters with the tongue.
- 24 Whoever robs his father or his mother, and says, "It's not wrong." He is a partner with a destroyer.
- 25 One who is greedy stirs up strife; but one who trusts in YAHWEH will prosper.
- 26 One who trusts in himself is a fool; but one who walks in wisdom is kept safe.
- 27 One who gives to the poor has no lack; but one who closes his eyes will have many curses.
- 28 When the wicked rise, men hide themselves; but when they perish, the righteous thrive.

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

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257. 13-September Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Chronicles 23.

1 . Joash Crowned King of Judah. .

In the seventh year Jehoiada strengthened himself, and took the captains of hundreds, Azariah the son of Jeroham, and Ishmael the son of Jehohanan, and Azariah the son of Obed, and Maaseiah the son of Adaiah, and Elishaphat the son of Zichri, into covenant with him.

2 They went about in Judah, and gathered the Levites out of all the cities of Judah, and the heads of fathers' households of Israel, and they came to Jerusalem.

3 All the assembly made a covenant with the king in the house of ELOHIM! He said to them, "Behold, the king's son shall reign, as YAHWEH has spoken concerning the sons of David.

4 This is the thing that you shall do. A third part of you, who come in on the Sabbath, of the priests and of the Levites, shall be porters of the thresholds.

5 A third part shall be at the king's house; and a third part at the gate of the foundation. All the people shall be in the courts of YAHWEH's house.

6 But let no one come into the house of YAHWEH, except the priests, and those who minister of the Levites. They shall come in, for they are holy, but all the people shall follow YAHWEH's instructions.

7 The Levites shall surround the king, every man with his weapons in his hand. Whoever comes into the house, let him be slain. Be with the king when he comes in, and when he goes out."

8 So the Levites and all Judah did according to all that Jehoiada the priest commanded: and they took every man his men, those who were to come in on the Sabbath; with those who were to go out on the Sabbath; for Jehoiada the priest didn't dismiss the shift.

9 Jehoiada the priest delivered to the captains of hundreds the spears, and bucklers, and shields, that had been king David's, which were in the house of ELOHIM!

10 He set all the people, every man with his weapon in his hand, from the right side of the house to the left side of the house, along by the altar and the house, around the king.

11 Then they brought out the king's son, and put the crown on him, and gave him the testimony, and made him king: and Jehoiada and his sons anointed him; and they said, "Long live the king!"

12 . Death of Athaliah. .

When Athaliah heard the noise of the people running and praising the king, she came to the people into the house of YAHWEH:

13 and she looked, and, behold, the king stood by his pillar at the entrance, and the captains and the shofars by the king; and all the people of the land rejoiced, and blew shofars; the singers also played musical instruments, and led the singing of praise. Then Athaliah tore her clothes, and said, "Treason! treason!"

14 Jehoiada the priest brought out the captains of hundreds who were set over the army, and said to them, "Bring her out between the ranks; and whoever follows her, let him be slain with the sword." For the priest said, "Don't kill her in YAHWEH's house."

15 So they made way for her. She went to the entrance of the horse gate to the king's house; and they killed her there.

16 Jehoiada made a covenant between himself, and all the people, and the king, that they should be YAHWEH's people.

17 All the people went to the house of Baal, and broke it down, and broke his altars and his images in pieces, and killed Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars.

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18 Jehoiada appointed the officers of the house of YAHWEH under the hand of the priests the Levites, whom David had distributed in the house of YAHWEH, to offer the burnt offerings of YAHWEH, as it is written in the Torah of Moses, with rejoicing and with singing, according to the order of David.

19 He set the porters at the gates of the house of YAHWEH, that no one who was unclean in anything should enter in.

20 He took the captains of hundreds, and the nobles, and the governors of the people, and all the people of the land, and brought down the king from the house of YAHWEH: and they came through the upper gate to the king's house, and set the king on the throne of the kingdom.

21 So all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was quiet. Athaliah they had slain with the sword.

Psalms 80.

1 . To the Chief Musician. Set to The Lilies. A Testimony of Asaph. A Psalm...

For the Chief Musician. To the tune of "The Lilies of the Covenant." A Psalm by Asaph. Hear us, Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock, you who sit above the cherubim, shine forth.

2 Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might! Come to save us!

3 Turn us again, ELOHIM! Cause your face to shine, and we will be saved.

4 YAHWEH ELOHIM of Hosts, How long will you be angry against the prayer of your people?

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in large measure.

6 You make us a source of contention to our neighbors. Our enemies laugh among themselves.

7 Turn us again, ELOHIM of Hosts. Cause your face to shine, and we will be saved.

8 You brought a vine out of Egypt. You drove out the nations, and planted it.

9 You cleared the ground for it. It took deep root, and filled the land.

10 The mountains were covered with its shadow. Its boughs were like ELOHIM's cedars.

11 It sent out its branches to the sea, Its shoots to the River.

12 Why have you broken down its walls, so that all those who pass by the way pluck it?

13 The boar out of the wood ravages it. The wild animals of the field feed on it.

14 Turn again, we beg you, ELOHIM of Hosts. Look down from heaven, and see, and visit this vine,

15 the stock which your right hand planted, the branch that you made strong for yourself.

16 It's burned with fire. It's cut down. They perish at your rebuke.

17 Let your hand be on the man of your right hand, on the son of man whom you made strong for yourself.

18 So we will not turn away from you. Revive us, and we will call on your name.

19 Turn us again, YAHWEH ELOHIM of Hosts. Cause your face to shine, and we will be saved.

Proverbs 29.

1 He who is often rebuked and stiffens his neck will be destroyed suddenly, with no remedy.

2 When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice; but when the wicked rule, the people

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groan.

- 3 Whoever loves wisdom brings joy to his father; but a companion of prostitutes squanders his wealth.
- 4 The king by justice makes the land stable, but he who takes bribes tears it down.
- 5 A man who flatters his neighbor spreads a net for his feet.
- 6 An evil man is snared by his sin, but the righteous can sing and be glad.
- 7 The righteous care about justice for the poor. The wicked aren't concerned about knowledge.
- 8 Mockers stir up a city, but wise men turn away anger.
- 9 If a wise man goes to court with a foolish man, the fool rages or scoffs, and there is no peace.
- 10 The bloodthirsty hate a man of integrity; and they seek the life of the upright.
- 11 A fool vents all of his anger, but a wise man brings himself under control.
- 12 If a ruler listens to lies, all of his officials are wicked.
- 13 The poor man and the oppressor have this in common: YAHWEH gives sight to the eyes of both.
- 14 The king who fairly judges the poor, his throne shall be established forever.
- 15 The rod of correction gives wisdom, but a child left to himself causes shame to his mother.
- 16 When the wicked increase, sin increases; but the righteous will see their downfall.
- 17 Correct your son, and he will give you peace; yes, he will bring delight to your soul.
- 18 Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; but one who keeps the Torah is blessed.
- 19 A servant can't be corrected by words. Though he understands, yet he will not respond.
- 20 Do you see a man who is hasty in his words? There is more hope for a fool than for him.
- 21 He who pampers his servant from youth will have him become a son in the end.
- 22 An angry man stirs up strife, and a wrathful man abounds in sin.
- 23 A man's pride brings him low, but one of lowly spirit gains honor.
- 24 Whoever is an accomplice of a thief is an enemy of his own soul. He takes an oath, but dares not testify.
- 25 The fear of man proves to be a snare, but whoever puts his trust in YAHWEH is kept safe.
- 26 Many seek the ruler's favor, but a man's justice comes from YAHWEH!
- 27 A dishonest man detests the righteous, and the upright in their ways detest the wicked.

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

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258. 14-September Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Chronicles 24.

1 . Joash Repairs the Temple. .

Joash was seven years old when he began to reign; and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Zibiah, of Beersheba.

2 Joash did that which was right in the eyes of YAHWEH all the days of Jehoiada the priest.

3 Jehoiada took for him two wives; and he became the father of sons and daughters.

4 It happened after this, that Joash intended to restore the house of YAHWEH!

5 He gathered together the priests and the Levites, and said to them, "Go out to the cities of Judah, and gather money to repair the house of your ELOHIM from all Israel from year to year. See that you expedite this matter." However the Levites didn't do it right away.

6 The king called for Jehoiada the chief, and said to him, "Why haven't you required of the Levites to bring in the tax of Moses the servant of YAHWEH, and of the assembly of Israel, out of Judah and out of Jerusalem, for the tent of the testimony?"

7 For the sons of Athaliah, that wicked woman, had broken up the house of ELOHIM; and they also gave all the dedicated things of the house of YAHWEH to the Baals.

8 So the king commanded, and they made a chest, and set it outside at the gate of the house of YAHWEH!

9 They made a proclamation through Judah and Jerusalem, to bring in for YAHWEH the tax that Moses the servant of ELOHIM laid on Israel in the wilderness.

10 All the princes and all the people rejoiced, and brought in, and cast into the chest, until they had made an end.

11 It was so, that whenever the chest was brought to the king's officers by the hand of the Levites, and when they saw that there was much money, the king's scribe and the chief priest's officer came and emptied the chest, and took it, and carried it to its place again. Thus they did day by day, and gathered money in abundance.

12 The king and Jehoiada gave it to such as did the work of the service of the house of YAHWEH; and they hired masons and carpenters to restore the house of YAHWEH, and also such as worked iron and brass to repair the house of YAHWEH!

13 So the workmen worked, and the work of repairing went forward in their hands, and they set up the house of ELOHIM in its state, and strengthened it.

14 When they had made an end, they brought the rest of the money before the king and Jehoiada, of which were made vessels for the house of YAHWEH, even vessels with which to minister and to offer, and spoons, and vessels of gold and silver. They offered burnt offerings in the house of YAHWEH continually all the days of Jehoiada.

15 . Apostasy of Joash. .

But Jehoiada grew old and was full of days, and he died; one hundred thirty years old was he when he died.

16 They buried him in the city of David among the kings, because he had done good in Israel, and toward ELOHIM and his house.

17 Now after the death of Jehoiada came the princes of Judah, and made obeisance to the king. Then the king listened to them.

18 They forsook the house of YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of their fathers, and served the Asherim and the idols: and wrath came on Judah and Jerusalem for this their guiltiness.

19 Yet he sent prophets to them, to bring them again to YAHWEH; and they testified against them: but they would not give ear.

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20 The Spirit of ELOHIM came on Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest; and he stood above the people, and said to them, "Thus says ELOHIM, 'Why do you disobey the commandments of YAHWEH, so that you can't prosper? Because you have forsaken YAHWEH, he has also forsaken you.'"

21 They conspired against him, and stoned him with stones at the commandment of the king in the court of the house of YAHWEH!

22 Thus Joash the king didn't remember the kindness which Jehoiada his father had done to him, but killed his son. When he died, he said, "May YAHWEH look at it, and repay it."

23 **. Death of Joash. .**

It happened at the end of the year, that the army of the Syrians came up against him: and they came to Judah and Jerusalem, and destroyed all the princes of the people from among the people, and sent all their spoil to the king of Damascus.

24 For the army of the Syrians came with a small company of men; and YAHWEH delivered a very great army into their hand, because they had forsaken YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of their fathers. So they executed judgment on Joash.

25 When they were departed for him (for they left him very sick), his own servants conspired against him for the blood of the sons of Jehoiada the priest, and killed him on his bed, and he died; and they buried him in the city of David, but they didn't bury him in the tombs of the kings.

26 These are those who conspired against him: Zabad the son of Shimeath the Ammonitess, and Jehozabad the son of Shimrith the Moabitess.

27 Now concerning his sons, and the greatness of the burdens laid on him, and the rebuilding of the house of ELOHIM, behold, they are written in the commentary of the book of the kings. Amaziah his son reigned in his place.

Psalms 81.

1 **. To the Chief Musician. On an instrument of Gath. A Psalm of Asaph..**

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For the Chief Musician. On an instrument of Gath. By Asaph. Sing aloud to ELOHIM, our strength! Make a joyful shout to the ELOHIM of Jacob!

2 Raise a song, and bring here the tambourine, the pleasant lyre with the harp.

3 Blow the shofar at the New Moon, at the full moon, on our feast day.

4 For it is a statute for Israel, an ordinance of the ELOHIM of Jacob.

5 He appointed it in Joseph for a testimony, when he went out over the land of Egypt, I heard a language that I didn't know.

6 "I removed his shoulder from the burden. His hands were freed from the basket.

7 You called in trouble, and I delivered you. I answered you in the secret place of thunder. I tested you at the waters of Meribah." Selah.

8 "Hear, my people, and I will testify to you, Israel, if you would listen to me!

9 There shall be no strange god in you, neither shall you worship any foreign god.

10 I am YAHWEH, your ELOHIM, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

11 But my people didn't listen to my voice. Israel desired none of me.

12 So I let them go after the stubbornness of their hearts, that they might walk in their own counsels.

13 Oh that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways!

14 I would soon subdue their enemies, and turn my hand against their adversaries.

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15 The haters of YAHWEH would cringe before him, and their punishment would last forever.

16 But he would have also fed them with the finest of the wheat. I will satisfy you with honey out of the rock.”

Proverbs 30.

1 . The Wisdom of Agur. .

The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, the oracle: the man says to Ithiel, to Ithiel and Ucal:

2 “Surely I am the most ignorant man, and don’t have a man’s understanding.

3 I have not learned wisdom, neither do I have the knowledge of the Holy One.

4 Who has ascended up into heaven, and descended? Who has gathered the wind in his fists? Who has bound the waters in his garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and what is his son’s name, if you know?

5 “Every word of ELOHIM is flawless. He is a shield to those who take refuge in him.

6 Don’t you add to his words, lest he reprove you, and you be found a liar.

7 “Two things I have asked of you; don’t deny me before I die:

8 Remove far from me falsehood and lies. Give me neither poverty nor riches. Feed me with the food that is needful for me;

9 lest I be full, deny you, and say, ‘Who is YAHWEH?’ or lest I be poor, and steal, and so dishonor the name of my ELOHIM!

10 “Don’t slander a servant to his master, lest he curse you, and you be held guilty.

11 There is a generation that curses their father, and doesn’t bless their mother.

12 There is a generation that is pure in their own eyes, yet are not washed from their filthiness.

13 There is a generation, oh how lofty are their eyes! Their eyelids are lifted up.

14 There is a generation whose teeth are like swords, and their jaws like knives, to devour the poor from the earth, and the needy from among men.

15 “The leach has two daughters: ‘Give, give.’ “There are three things that are never satisfied; four that don’t say, ‘Enough:’

16 Sheol, the barren womb; the earth that is not satisfied with water; and the fire that doesn’t say, ‘Enough.’

17 “The eye that mocks at his father, and scorns obedience to his mother: the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, the young eagles shall eat it.

18 “There are three things which are too amazing for me, four which I don’t understand:

19 The way of an eagle in the air; the way of a serpent on a rock; the way of a ship in the midst of the sea; and the way of a man with a maiden.

20 “So is the way of an adulterous woman: she eats and wipes her mouth, and says, ‘I have done nothing wrong.’

21 “For three things the earth tremble, and under four, it can’t bear up:

22 For a servant when he is king; a fool when he is filled with food;

23 for an unloved woman when she is married; and a handmaid who is heir to her mistress.

24 “There are four things which are little on the earth, but they are exceedingly wise:

25 the ants are not a strong people, yet they provide their food in the summer.

26 The conies are but a feeble folk, yet make they their houses in the rocks.

27 The locusts have no king, yet they advance in ranks.

28 You can catch a lizard with your hands, yet it is in kings’ palaces.

29 “There are three things which are stately in their march, four which are stately in going:

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- 30 The lion, which is mightiest among animals, and doesn't turn away for any;
31 the greyhound, the male goat also; and the king against whom there is no rising up.
32 "If you have done foolishly in lifting up yourself, or if you have thought evil, put your hand over your mouth.
33 For as the churning of milk brings forth butter, and the wringing of the nose brings forth blood; so the forcing of wrath brings forth strife."

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

12-18 Sep Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

259. 15-September Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Chronicles 25.

1 . Amaziah Reigns in Judah.

Amaziah was twenty-five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Jehoaddan, of Jerusalem.

2 He did that which was right in the eyes of YAHWEH, but not with a perfect heart.

3 Now it happened, when the kingdom was established to him, that he killed his servants who had killed the king his father.

4 But he didn't put their children to death, but did according to that which is written in the Torah in the book of Moses, as YAHWEH commanded, saying, "The fathers shall not die for the children, neither shall the children die for the fathers; but every man shall die for his own sin."

5 . The War Against Edom.

Moreover Amaziah gathered Judah together, and ordered them according to their fathers' houses, under captains of thousands and captains of hundreds, even all Judah and Benjamin: and he numbered them from twenty years old and upward, and found them three hundred thousand chosen men, able to go forth to war, who could handle spear and shield.

6 He hired also one hundred thousand mighty men of valor out of Israel for one hundred talents of silver.

7 A man of ELOHIM came to him, saying, "O king, don't let the army of Israel go with you; for YAHWEH is not with Israel, with all the children of Ephraim.

8 But if you will go, take action, be strong for the battle. ELOHIM will overthrow you before the enemy; for ELOHIM has power to help, and to overthrow."

9 Amaziah said to the man of ELOHIM, "But what shall we do for the hundred talents which I have given to the army of Israel?" The man of ELOHIM answered, "YAHWEH is able to give you much more than this."

10 Then Amaziah separated them, the army that had come to him out of Ephraim, to go home again: therefore their anger was greatly kindled against Judah, and they returned home in fierce anger.

11 Amaziah took courage, and led forth his people, and went to the Valley of Salt, and struck ten thousand of the children of Seir.

12 The children of Judah carry away ten thousand alive, and brought them to the top of the rock, and threw them down from the top of the rock, so that they all were broken in pieces.

13 But the men of the army whom Amaziah sent back, that they should not go with him to battle, fell on the cities of Judah, from Samaria even to Beth Horon, and struck of them three thousand, and took much spoil.

14 Now it happened, after that Amaziah had come from the slaughter of the Edomites, that he brought the gods of the children of Seir, and set them up to be his gods, and bowed down himself before them, and burned incense to them.

15 Therefore the anger of YAHWEH was kindled against Amaziah, and he sent to him a prophet, who said to him, "Why have you sought after the gods of the people, which have not delivered their own people out of your hand?"

16 It happened, as he talked with him, that the king said to him, "Have we made you one of the king's counselors? Stop! Why should you be struck down?" Then the prophet stopped, and said, "I know that ELOHIM has determined to destroy you, because you have done this, and have not listened to my counsel."

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17 **. Israel Defeats Judah. .**

Then Amaziah king of Judah consulted his advisers, and sent to Joash, the son of Jehoahaz the son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, "Come, let us look one another in the face."

18 Joash king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, "The thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, 'Give your daughter to my son as his wife; then a wild animal that was in Lebanon passed by, and trampled down the thistle.

19 You say to yourself that you have struck Edom; and your heart lifts you up to boast. Now stay at home. Why should you meddle with trouble, that you should fall, even you, and Judah with you?"

20 But Amaziah would not listen; for it was of ELOHIM, that he might deliver them into the hand of their enemies, because they had sought after the gods of Edom.

21 So Joash king of Israel went up; and he and Amaziah king of Judah looked one another in the face at Beth Shemesh, which belongs to Judah.

22 Judah was defeated by Israel; and they fled every man to his tent.

23 Joash king of Israel took Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Joash the son of Jehoahaz, at Beth Shemesh, and brought him to Jerusalem, and broke down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim to the corner gate, four hundred cubits.

24 He took all the gold and silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of ELOHIM with Obed-Edom, and the treasures of the king's house, the hostages also, and returned to Samaria.

25 **. Death of Amaziah. .**

Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah lived after the death of Joash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel fifteen years.

26 Now the rest of the acts of Amaziah, first and last, behold, aren't they written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel?

27 Now from the time that Amaziah turned away from following YAHWEH, they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem. He fled to Lachish; but they sent after him to Lachish, and killed him there.

28 They brought him on horses, and buried him with his fathers in the city of Judah.

Psalms 82.

1 **. A Psalm of Asaph... .**

A Psalm by Asaph. ELOHIM presides in the great assembly. He judges among the gods.

2 "How long will you judge unjustly, and show partiality to the wicked?" Selah.

3 "Defend the weak, the poor, and the fatherless. Maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed.

4 Rescue the weak and needy. Deliver them out of the hand of the wicked."

5 They don't know, neither do they understand. They walk back and forth in darkness. All the foundations of the earth are shaken.

6 I said, "You are gods, all of you are sons of the Most High.

7 Nevertheless you shall die like men, and fall like one of the rulers."

8 Arise, ELOHIM, judge the earth, for you inherit all of the nations.

12-18 Sep Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Proverbs 31.

1 . The Words of King Lemuel's Mother.

The words of king Lemuel; the oracle which his mother taught him.

2 “Oh, my son! Oh, son of my womb! Oh, son of my vows!

3 Don't give your strength to women, nor your ways to that which destroys kings.

4 It is not for kings, Lemuel; it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes to say, 'Where is strong drink?'

5 lest they drink, and forget the decree, and pervert the justice due to anyone who is afflicted.

6 Give strong drink to him who is ready to perish; and wine to the bitter in soul:

7 Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.

8 Open your mouth for the mute, in the cause of all who are left desolate.

9 Open your mouth, judge righteously, and serve justice to the poor and needy.”

10 . The Virtuous Wife.

Who can find a worthy woman? For her price is far above rubies.

11 The heart of her husband trusts in her. He shall have no lack of gain.

12 She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life.

13 She seeks wool and flax, and works eagerly with her hands.

14 She is like the merchant ships. She brings her bread from afar.

15 She rises also while it is yet night, gives food to her household, and portions for her servant girls.

16 She considers a field, and buys it. With the fruit of her hands, she plants a vineyard.

17 She arms her waist with strength, and makes her arms strong.

18 She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp doesn't go out by night.

19 She lays her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle.

20 She opens her arms to the poor; yes, she extends her hands to the needy.

21 She is not afraid of the snow for her household; for all her household are clothed with scarlet.

22 She makes for herself carpets of tapestry. Her clothing is fine linen and purple.

23 Her husband is respected in the gates, when he sits among the elders of the land.

24 She makes linen garments and sells them, and delivers sashes to the merchant.

25 Strength and dignity are her clothing. She laughs at the time to come.

26 She opens her mouth with wisdom. Faithful instruction is on her tongue.

27 She looks well to the ways of her household, and doesn't eat the bread of idleness.

28 Her children rise up and call her blessed. Her husband also praises her:

29 “Many women do noble things, but you excel them all.”

30 Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain; but a woman who fears YAHWEH, she shall be praised.

31 Give her of the fruit of her hands! Let her works praise her in the gates!

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

12-18 Sep Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

260. 16-September Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Chronicles 26.

1 . Uzziah Reigns in Judah. .

All the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king in the place of his father Amaziah.

2 He built Eloth, and restored it to Judah, after that the king slept with his fathers.

3 Sixteen years old was Uzziah when he began to reign; and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Jechiliah, of Jerusalem.

4 He did that which was right in the eyes of YAHWEH, according to all that his father Amaziah had done.

5 He set himself to seek ELOHIM in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the vision of ELOHIM: and as long as he sought YAHWEH, ELOHIM made him to prosper.

6 He went forth and warred against the Philistines, and broke down the wall of Gath, and the wall of Jabneh, and the wall of Ashdod; and he built cities in the country of Ashdod, and among the Philistines.

7 ELOHIM helped him against the Philistines, and against the Arabians who lived in Gur Baal, and the Meunim.

8 The Ammonites gave tribute to Uzziah: and his name spread abroad even to the entrance of Egypt; for he grew exceeding strong.

9 Moreover Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem at the corner gate, and at the valley gate, and at the turning of the wall, and fortified them.

10 He built towers in the wilderness, and dug out many cisterns, for he had much livestock; in the lowland also, and in the plain: and he had farmers and vineyard keepers in the mountains and in the fruitful fields; for he loved farming.

11 Moreover Uzziah had an army of fighting men, who went out to war by bands, according to the number of their reckoning made by Jeiel the scribe and Maaseiah the officer, under the hand of Hananiah, one of the king's captains.

12 The whole number of the heads of fathers' households, even the mighty men of valor, was two thousand and six hundred.

13 Under their hand was an army, three hundred thousand and seven thousand and five hundred, who made war with mighty power, to help the king against the enemy.

14 Uzziah prepared for them, even for all the army, shields, and spears, and helmets, and coats of mail, and bows, and stones for slinging.

15 He made in Jerusalem engines, invented by skillful men, to be on the towers and on the battlements, with which to shoot arrows and great stones. His name spread far abroad; for he was marvelously helped, until he was strong.

16 . The Penalty for Uzziah's Pride. .

But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up, so that he did corruptly, and he trespassed against YAHWEH his ELOHIM; for he went into the temple of YAHWEH to burn incense on the altar of incense.

17 Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him eighty priests of YAHWEH, who were valiant men:

18 and they resisted Uzziah the king, and said to him, "It isn't for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to YAHWEH, but for the priests the sons of Aaron, who are consecrated to burn incense. Go out of the sanctuary; for you have trespassed; neither shall it be for your honor from YAHWEH ELOHIM!"

19 Then Uzziah was angry; and he had a censer in his hand to burn incense; and while he

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was angry with the priests, the leprosy broke forth in his forehead before the priests in the house of YAHWEH, beside the altar of incense.

20 Azariah the chief priest, and all the priests, looked on him, and behold, he was leprous in his forehead, and they thrust him out quickly from there; yes, himself hurried also to go out, because YAHWEH had struck him.

21 Uzziah the king was a leper to the day of his death, and lived in a separate house, being a leper; for he was cut off from the house of YAHWEH: and Jotham his son was over the king's house, judging the people of the land.

22 Now the rest of the acts of Uzziah, first and last, Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, wrote.

23 So Uzziah slept with his fathers; and they buried him with his fathers in the field of burial which belonged to the kings; for they said, "He is a leper." Jotham his son reigned in his place.

Psalms 83.

1 . A Song. A Psalm of Asaph.. .

A song. A Psalm by Asaph. ELOHIM, don't keep silent. Don't keep silent, and don't be still, ELOHIM!

2 For, behold, your enemies are stirred up. Those who hate you have lifted up their heads.

3 They conspire with cunning against your people. They plot against your cherished ones.

4 "Come," they say, "and let's destroy them as a nation, that the name of Israel may be remembered no more."

5 For they have conspired together with one mind. They form an alliance against you.

6 The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites; Moab, and the Hagrites;

7 Gebal, Ammon, and Amalek; Philistia with the inhabitants of Tyre;

8 Assyria also is joined with them. They have helped the children of Lot. Selah.

9 Do to them as you did to Midian, as to Sisera, as to Jabin, at the river Kishon;

10 who perished at Endor, who became as dung for the earth.

11 Make their nobles like Oreb and Zeeb; yes, all their princes like Zebah and Zalmunna;

12 who said, "Let us take possession of ELOHIM's pasturelands."

13 My ELOHIM, make them like tumbleweed; like chaff before the wind.

14 As the fire that burns the forest, as the flame that sets the mountains on fire,

15 so pursue them with your tempest, and terrify them with your storm.

16 Fill their faces with confusion, that they may seek your name, YAHWEH!

17 Let them be disappointed and dismayed forever. Yes, let them be confounded and perish;

18 that they may know that you alone, whose name is YAHWEH, are the Most High over all the earth.

Proverbs 1.

1 . The Beginning of Knowledge.. . Proverbs!

The proverbs of Solomon, the son of David, king of Israel:

2 to know wisdom and instruction; to discern the words of understanding;

3 to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity;

4 to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the young man:

5 that the wise man may hear, and increase in learning; that the man of understanding

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may attain to sound counsel:

6 to understand a proverb, and parables, the words and riddles of the wise.

7 The fear of YAHWEH is the beginning of knowledge; but the foolish despise wisdom and instruction.

8 . Shun Evil Counsel. .

My son, listen to your father's instruction, and don't forsake your mother's teaching:

9 for they will be a garland to grace your head, and chains around your neck.

10 My son, if sinners entice you, don't consent.

11 If they say, "Come with us, Let's lay in wait for blood; let's lurk secretly for the innocent without cause;

12 let's swallow them up alive like Sheol, and whole, like those who go down into the pit.

13 We'll find all valuable wealth. We'll fill our houses with spoil.

14 You shall cast your lot among us. We'll all have one purse."

15 My son, don't walk in the way with them. Keep your foot from their path,

16 for their feet run to evil. They hurry to shed blood.

17 For in vain is the net spread in the sight of any bird:

18 but these lay wait for their own blood. They lurk secretly for their own lives.

19 So are the ways of everyone who is greedy for gain. It takes away the life of its owners.

20 . The Call of Wisdom. .

Wisdom calls aloud in the street. She utters her voice in the public squares.

21 She calls at the head of noisy places. At the entrance of the city gates, she utters her words:

22 "How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity? How long will mockers delight themselves in mockery, and fools hate knowledge?

23 Turn at my reproof. Behold, I will pour out my spirit on you. I will make known my words to you.

24 Because I have called, and you have refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no one has paid attention;

25 but you have ignored all my counsel, and wanted none of my reproof;

26 I also will laugh at your disaster. I will mock when calamity overtakes you;

27 when calamity overtakes you like a storm, when your disaster comes on like a whirlwind; when distress and anguish come on you.

28 Then will they call on me, but I will not answer. They will seek me diligently, but they will not find me;

29 because they hated knowledge, and didn't choose the fear of YAHWEH!

30 They wanted none of my counsel. They despised all my reproof.

31 Therefore they will eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own schemes.

32 For the backsliding of the simple will kill them. The careless ease of fools will destroy them.

33 But whoever listens to me will dwell securely, and will be at ease, without fear of harm."

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

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261. 17-September Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Chronicles 27.

1 . Jotham Reigns in Judah. .

Jotham was twenty-five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Jerushah the daughter of Zadok.

2 He did that which was right in the eyes of YAHWEH, according to all that his father Uzziah had done: however he didn't enter into the temple of YAHWEH! The people still did corruptly.

3 He built the upper gate of the house of YAHWEH, and on the wall of Ophel he built much.

4 Moreover he built cities in the hill country of Judah, and in the forests he built castles and towers.

5 He fought also with the king of the children of Ammon, and prevailed against them. The children of Ammon gave him the same year one hundred talents of silver, and ten thousand measures of wheat, and ten thousand of barley. The children of Ammon gave that much to him in the second year also, and in the third.

6 So Jotham became mighty, because he ordered his ways before YAHWEH his ELOHIM!

7 Now the rest of the acts of Jotham, and all his wars, and his ways, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

8 He was five and twenty years old when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem.

9 Jotham slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David: and Ahaz his son reigned in his place.

2 Chronicles 28.

1 . Ahaz Reigns in Judah. .

Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign; and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem: and he didn't do that which was right in the eyes of YAHWEH, like David his father;

2 but he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, and made also molten images for the Baals.

3 Moreover he burnt incense in the valley of the son of Hinnom, and burnt his children in the fire, according to the abominations of the nations whom YAHWEH cast out before the children of Israel.

4 He sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.

5 . Syria and Israel Defeat Judah. .

Therefore YAHWEH his ELOHIM delivered him into the hand of the king of Syria; and they struck him, and carried away of his a great multitude of captives, and brought them to Damascus. He was also delivered into the hand of the king of Israel, who struck him with a great slaughter.

6 For Pekah the son of Remaliah killed in Judah one hundred twenty thousand in one day, all of them valiant men; because they had forsaken YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of their fathers.

7 Zichri, a mighty man of Ephraim, killed Maaseiah the king's son, and Azrikam the ruler

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of the house, and Elkanah who was next to the king.

8 The children of Israel carried away captive of their brothers two hundred thousand, women, sons, and daughters, and took also away much spoil from them, and brought the spoil to Samaria.

9 . Israel Returns the Captives. .

But a prophet of YAHWEH was there, whose name was Oded: and he went out to meet the army that came to Samaria, and said to them, "Behold, because YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of your fathers, was angry with Judah, he has delivered them into your hand, and you have slain them in a rage which has reached up to heaven.

10 Now you purpose to keep under the children of Judah and Jerusalem for bondservants and bondmaids for yourselves. Aren't there even with you trespasses of your own against YAHWEH your ELOHIM?

11 Now hear me therefore, and send back the captives, that you have taken captive from your brothers; for the fierce wrath of YAHWEH is on you."

12 Then some of the heads of the children of Ephraim, Azariah the son of Yochanan, Berechiah the son of Meshillemoth, and Jehizkiah the son of Shallum, and Amasa the son of Hadlai, stood up against those who came from the war,

13 and said to them, "You shall not bring in the captives here: for you purpose that which will bring on us a trespass against YAHWEH, to add to our sins and to our trespass; for our trespass is great, and there is fierce wrath against Israel."

14 So the armed men left the captives and the spoil before the princes and all the assembly.

15 The men who have been mentioned by name rose up, and took the captives, and with the spoil clothed all who were naked among them, dressed them, gave them sandals, and gave them something to eat and to drink, anointed them, carried all the feeble of them on donkeys, and brought them to Jericho, the city of palm trees, to their brothers. Then they returned to Samaria.

16 . Assyria Refuses to Help Judah. .

At that time king Ahaz sent to the kings of Assyria to help him.

17 For again the Edomites had come and struck Judah, and carried away captives.

18 The Philistines also had invaded the cities of the lowland, and of the South of Judah, and had taken Beth Shemesh, and Aijalon, and Gederoth, and Soco with its towns, and Timnah with its towns, Gimzo also and its towns: and they lived there.

19 For YAHWEH brought Judah low because of Ahaz king of Israel; for he had dealt wantonly in Judah, and trespassed severely against YAHWEH!

20 Tilgath Pilneser king of Assyria came to him, and distressed him, but didn't strengthen him.

21 For Ahaz took away a portion out of the house of YAHWEH, and out of the house of the king and of the princes, and gave it to the king of Assyria: but it didn't help him.

22 . Apostasy and Death of Ahaz. .

In the time of his distress, he trespassed yet more against YAHWEH, this same king Ahaz.

23 For he sacrificed to the gods of Damascus, which struck him; and he said, "Because the gods of the kings of Syria helped them, so I will sacrifice to them, that they may help me." But they were the ruin of him, and of all Israel.

24 Ahaz gathered together the vessels of the house of ELOHIM, and cut in pieces the

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vessels of the house of ELOHIM, and shut up the doors of the house of YAHWEH; and he made him altars in every corner of Jerusalem.

25 In every city of Judah he made high places to burn incense to other gods, and provoked to anger YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of his fathers.

26 Now the rest of his acts, and all his ways, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

27 Ahaz slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city, even in Jerusalem; for they didn't bring him into the tombs of the kings of Israel: and Hezekiah his son reigned in his place.

Psalms 84.

1 . To the Chief Musician. On an instrument of Gath. A Psalm of the sons of Korah.. .

For the Chief Musician. On an instrument of Gath. A Psalm by the sons of Korah. How lovely are your dwellings, YAHWEH of Hosts!

2 My soul longs, and even faints for the courts of YAHWEH! My heart and my flesh cry out for the living ELOHIM!

3 Yes, the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young, near your altars, YAHWEH of Hosts, my King, and my ELOHIM!

4 Blessed are those who dwell in your house. They are always praising you. Selah.

5 Blessed are those whose strength is in you; who have set their hearts on a pilgrimage.

6 Passing through the valley of Weeping, they make it a place of springs. Yes, the autumn rain covers it with blessings.

7 They go from strength to strength. Everyone of them appears before ELOHIM in Zion.

8 YAHWEH, ELOHIM of Hosts, hear my prayer. Listen, ELOHIM of Jacob. Selah.

9 Behold, ELOHIM our shield, look at the face of your anointed.

10 For a day in your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my ELOHIM, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

11 For YAHWEH ELOHIM is a sun and a shield. YAHWEH will give grace and glory. He withholds no good thing from those who walk blamelessly.

12 YAHWEH of Hosts, blessed is the man who trusts in you.

Proverbs 2.

1 . The Value of Wisdom.. .

My son, if you will receive my words, and store up my commandments within you;

2 So as to turn your ear to wisdom, and apply your heart to understanding;

3 Yes, if you call out for discernment, and lift up your voice for understanding;

4 If you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures:

5 then you will understand the fear of YAHWEH, and find the knowledge of ELOHIM!

6 For YAHWEH gives wisdom. Out of his mouth comes knowledge and understanding.

7 He lays up sound wisdom for the upright. He is a shield to those who walk in integrity;

8 that he may guard the paths of justice, and preserve the way of his holy ones.

9 Then you will understand righteousness and justice, equity and every good path.

10 For wisdom will enter into your heart. Knowledge will be pleasant to your soul.

11 Discretion will watch over you. Understanding will keep you,

12 to deliver you from the way of evil, from the men who speak perverse things;

13 who forsake the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness;

14 who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the perverseness of evil;

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15 who are crooked in their ways, and wayward in their paths:

16 To deliver you from the strange woman, even from the foreigner who flatters with her words;

17 who forsakes the friend of her youth, and forgets the covenant of her ELOHIM:

18 for her house leads down to death, her paths to the dead.

19 None who go to her return again, neither do they attain to the paths of life:

20 that you may walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous.

21 For the upright will dwell in the land. The perfect will remain in it.

22 But the wicked will be cut off from the land. The treacherous will be rooted out of it.

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

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262. 18-September Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Chronicles 29.

1 . Hezekiah Reigns in Judah. .

Hezekiah began to reign when he was twenty-five years old; and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Abijah, the daughter of Zechariah.

2 He did that which was right in the eyes of YAHWEH, according to all that David his father had done.

3 . Hezekiah Cleanses the Temple. .

He in the first year of his reign, in the first month, opened the doors of the house of YAHWEH, and repaired them.

4 He brought in the priests and the Levites, and gathered them together into the broad place on the east,

5 and said to them, "Listen to me, you Levites! Now sanctify yourselves, and sanctify the house of YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of your fathers, and carry out the filthiness out of the holy place.

6 For our fathers have trespassed, and done that which was evil in the sight of YAHWEH our ELOHIM, and have forsaken him, and have turned away their faces from the habitation of YAHWEH, and turned their backs.

7 Also they have shut up the doors of the porch, and put out the lamps, and have not burned incense nor offered burnt offerings in the holy place to the ELOHIM of Israel.

8 Therefore the wrath of YAHWEH was on Judah and Jerusalem, and he has delivered them to be tossed back and forth, to be an astonishment, and a hissing, as you see with your eyes.

9 For, behold, our fathers have fallen by the sword, and our sons and our daughters and our wives are in captivity for this.

10 Now it is in my heart to make a covenant with YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Israel, that his fierce anger may turn away from us.

11 My sons, don't be negligent now; for YAHWEH has chosen you to stand before him, to minister to him, and that you should be his ministers, and burn incense."

12 Then the Levites arose, Mahath, the son of Amasai, and Joel the son of Azariah, of the sons of the Kohathites; and of the sons of Merari, Kish the son of Abdi, and Azariah the son of Jehallelel; and of the Gershonites, Joah the son of Zimmah, and Eden the son of Joah;

13 and of the sons of Elizaphan, Shimri and Jeuel; and of the sons of Asaph, Zechariah and Mattaniah;

14 and of the sons of Heman, Jehuel and Shimei; and of the sons of Jeduthun, Shemaiah and Uzziel.

15 They gathered their brothers, and sanctified themselves, and went in, according to the commandment of the king by the words of YAHWEH, to cleanse the house of YAHWEH!

16 The priests went in to the inner part of the house of YAHWEH, to cleanse it, and brought out all the uncleanness that they found in the temple of YAHWEH into the court of the house of YAHWEH! The Levites took it, to carry it out abroad to the brook Kidron.

17 Now they began on the first day of the first month to sanctify, and on the eighth day of the month came they to the porch of YAHWEH; and they sanctified the house of YAHWEH in eight days: and on the sixteenth day of the first month they made an end.

18 Then they went in to Hezekiah the king within the palace, and said, "We have cleansed all the house of YAHWEH, and the altar of burnt offering, with all its vessels, and the table of show bread, with all its vessels.

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19 Moreover all the vessels, which king Ahaz in his reign threw away when he trespassed, have we prepared and sanctified; and behold, they are before the altar of YAHWEH!”

20 . Hezekiah Restores Temple Worship. .

Then Hezekiah the king arose early, and gathered the princes of the city, and went up to the house of YAHWEH!

21 They brought seven bulls, and seven rams, and seven lambs, and seven male goats, for a sin offering for the kingdom and for the sanctuary and for Judah. He commanded the priests the sons of Aaron to offer them on the altar of YAHWEH!

22 So they killed the bulls, and the priests received the blood, and sprinkled it on the altar: and they killed the rams, and sprinkled the blood on the altar: they killed also the lambs, and sprinkled the blood on the altar.

23 They brought near the male goats for the sin offering before the king and the assembly; and they laid their hands on them:

24 and the priests killed them, and they made a sin offering with their blood on the altar, to make atonement for all Israel; for the king commanded that the burnt offering and the sin offering should be made for all Israel.

25 He set the Levites in the house of YAHWEH with cymbals, with stringed instruments, and with harps, according to the commandment of David, and of Gad the king’s seer, and Nathan the prophet; for the commandment was of YAHWEH by his prophets.

26 The Levites stood with the instruments of David, and the priests with the shofars.

27 Hezekiah commanded to offer the burnt offering on the altar. When the burnt offering began, the song of YAHWEH began also, and the shofars, together with the instruments of David king of Israel.

28 All the assembly worshiped, and the singers sang, and the trumpeters sounded; all this continued until the burnt offering was finished.

29 When they had made an end of offering, the king and all who were present with him bowed themselves and worshiped.

30 Moreover Hezekiah the king and the princes commanded the Levites to sing praises to YAHWEH with the words of David, and of Asaph the seer. They sang praises with gladness, and they bowed their heads and worshiped.

31 Then Hezekiah answered, “Now you have consecrated yourselves to YAHWEH; come near and bring sacrifices and thank offerings into the house of YAHWEH!” The assembly brought in sacrifices and thank offerings; and as many as were of a willing heart brought burnt offerings.

32 The number of the burnt offerings which the assembly brought was seventy bulls, one hundred rams, and two hundred lambs: all these were for a burnt offering to YAHWEH!

33 The consecrated things were six hundred head of cattle and three thousand sheep.

34 But the priests were too few, so that they could not flay all the burnt offerings: therefore their brothers the Levites helped them, until the work was ended, and until the priests had sanctified themselves; for the Levites were more upright in heart to sanctify themselves than the priests.

35 Also the burnt offerings were in abundance, with the fat of the peace offerings, and with the drink offerings for every burnt offering. So the service of the house of YAHWEH was set in order.

36 Hezekiah rejoiced, and all the people, because of that which ELOHIM had prepared for the people: for the thing was done suddenly.

Psalms 85.

1 . To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the sons of Korah. .

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For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by the sons of Korah. YAHWEH, you have been favorable to your land. You have restored the fortunes of Jacob.
2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people. You have covered all their sin. Selah.
3 You have taken away all your wrath. You have turned from the fierceness of your anger.
4 Turn us, ELOHIM of our salvation, and cause your indignation toward us to cease.
5 Will you be angry with us forever? Will you draw out your anger to all generations?
6 Won't you revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?
7 Show us your loving kindness, YAHWEH! Grant us your salvation.
8 I will hear what EL, YAHWEH, will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, his holy ones; but let them not turn again to folly.
9 Surely his salvation is near those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.
10 Mercy and truth meet together. Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
11 Truth springs out of the earth. Righteousness has looked down from heaven.
12 Yes, YAHWEH will give that which is good. Our land will yield its increase.
13 Righteousness goes before him, And prepares the way for his steps.

Proverbs 3.

1 . Guidance for the Young. .

My son, don't forget my teaching; but let your heart keep my commandments:
2 for length of days, and years of life, and peace, will they add to you.
3 Don't let kindness and truth forsake you. Bind them around your neck. Write them on the tablet of your heart.
4 So you will find favor, and good understanding in the sight of ELOHIM and man.
5 Trust in YAHWEH with all your heart, and don't lean on your own understanding.
6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.
7 Don't be wise in your own eyes. Fear YAHWEH, and depart from evil.
8 It will be health to your body, and nourishment to your bones.
9 Honor YAHWEH with your substance, with the first fruits of all your increase:
10 so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.
11 My son, don't despise YAHWEH's discipline, neither be weary of his reproof:
12 for whom YAHWEH loves, he reproves; even as a father reproves the son in whom he delights.
13 Happy is the man who finds wisdom, the man who gets understanding.
14 For her good profit is better than getting silver, and her return is better than fine gold.
15 She is more precious than rubies. None of the things you can desire are to be compared to her.
16 Length of days is in her right hand. In her left hand are riches and honor.
17 Her ways are ways of pleasantness. All her paths are peace.
18 She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her. Happy is everyone who retains her.
19 By wisdom YAHWEH founded the earth. By understanding, he established the heavens.
20 By his knowledge, the depths were broken up, and the skies drop down the dew.
21 My son, let them not depart from your eyes. Keep sound wisdom and discretion:
22 so they will be life to your soul, and grace for your neck.
23 Then you shall walk in your way securely. Your foot won't stumble.
24 When you lie down, you will not be afraid. Yes, you will lie down, and your sleep will be sweet.
25 Don't be afraid of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it comes:

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- 26 for YAHWEH will be your confidence, and will keep your foot from being taken.
27 Don't withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in the power of your hand to do it.
28 Don't say to your neighbor, "Go, and come again; tomorrow I will give it to you," when you have it by you.
29 Don't devise evil against your neighbor, since he dwells securely by you.
30 Don't strive with a man without cause, if he has done you no harm.
31 Don't envy the man of violence. Choose none of his ways.
32 For the perverse is an abomination to YAHWEH, but his friendship is with the upright.
33 YAHWEH's curse is in the house of the wicked, but he blesses the habitation of the righteous.
34 Surely he mocks the mockers, but he gives grace to the humble.
35 The wise will inherit glory, but shame will be the promotion of fools.

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