Judges 13, Job 41, Psalms 132, Proverbs 28.

132. 11-May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Judges 13.

1 Washington The Birth of Samson.

The children of Israel again did that which was evil in the sight of YHWH; and YHWH delivered them into the hand of the Philistines forty years.

2 There was a certain man of Zorah, of the family of the Danites, whose name was Manoah; and his wife was barren, and didn't bear.

3 The angel of YHWH appeared to the woman, and said to her, "See now, you are barren, and don't bear; but you shall conceive, and bear a son.

4 Now therefore please beware and drink no wine nor strong drink, and don't eat any unclean thing:

5 for, behold, you shall conceive, and bear a son; and no razor shall come on his head; for the child shall be a Nazirite to ELOHIM from the womb: and he shall begin to save Israel out of the hand of the Philistines."

6 Then the woman came and told her husband, saying, "A man of ELOHIM came to me, and his face was like the face of the angel of ELOHIM, very awesome; and I didn't ask him where he was from, neither did he tell me his name:

7 but he said to me, 'Behold, you shall conceive, and bear a son; and now drink no wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean thing; for the child shall be a Nazirite to ELOHIM from the womb to the day of his death."

8 Then Manoah entreated YHWH, and said, "Oh, ADONAI, please let the man of ELOHIM whom you did send come again to us, and teach us what we shall do to the child who shall be born."

9 ELOHIM listened to the voice of Manoah; and the angel of ELOHIM came again to the woman as she sat in the field: but Manoah, her husband, wasn't with her.

10 The woman made haste, and ran, and told her husband, and said to him, "Behold, the man has appeared to me, who came to me that day."

11 Manoah arose, and went after his wife, and came to the man, and said to him, "Are you the man who spoke to the woman?" He said, "I am."

12 Manoah said, "Now let your words happen. What shall the child's way of life and mission be?"

13 The angel of YHWH said to Manoah, "Of all that I said to the woman let her beware.
14 She may not eat of anything that comes of the vine, neither let her drink wine or strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing; all that I commanded her let her observe."
15 Manoah said to the angel of YHWH, "Please, let us detain you, that we may make a young goat ready for you."

16 The angel of YHWH said to Manoah, "Though you detain me, I won't eat of your bread; and if you will prepare a burnt offering, you must offer it to YHWH!" For Manoah didn't know that he was the angel of YHWH!

17 Manoah said to the angel of YHWH, "What is your name, that when your words happen, we may honor you?"

18 The angel of YHWH said to him, "Why do you ask about my name, since it is wonderful?"

19 So Manoah took the young goat with the meal offering, and offered it on the rock to YHWH! Then the angel did a wonderful thing as Manoah and his wife looked on. 20 For it happened, when the flame went up toward the sky from off the altar, that the

angel of YHWH ascended in the flame of the altar: and Manoah and his wife looked on; and they fell on their faces to the ground.

21 But the angel of YHWH didn't appear to Manoah or to his wife any more. Then

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Manoah knew that he was the angel of YHWH!

22 Manoah said to his wife, "We shall surely die, because we have seen ELOHIM!" 23 But his wife said to him, "If YHWH were pleased to kill us, he wouldn't have received a burnt offering and a meal offering at our hand, neither would he have shown us all these things, nor would at this time have told such things as these."

24 The woman bore a son, and named him Samson: and the child grew, and YHWH blessed him.

25 The Spirit of YHWH began to move him in Mahaneh Dan, between Zorah and Eshtaol.

Job 41.

1 "Can you draw out Leviathan with a fishhook, or press down his tongue with a cord?2 Can you put a rope into his nose, or pierce his jaw through with a hook?

3 Will he make many petitions to you, or will he speak soft words to you?

4 Will he make a covenant with you, that you should take him for a servant forever?

5 Will you play with him as with a bird? Or will you bind him for your girls?

6 Will traders barter for him? Will they part him among the merchants?

7 Can you fill his skin with barbed irons, or his head with fish spears?

8 Lay your hand on him. Remember the battle, and do so no more.

9 Behold, the hope of him is in vain. Won't one be cast down even at the sight of him?

10 None is so fierce that he dare stir him up. Who then is he who can stand before me? 11 Who has first given to me, that I should repay him? Everything under the heavens is mine.

12 "I will not keep silence concerning his limbs, nor his mighty strength, nor his goodly frame.

13 Who can strip off his outer garment? Who shall come within his jaws?

14 Who can open the doors of his face? Around his teeth is terror.

15 Strong scales are his pride, shut up together with a close seal.

16 One is so near to another, that no air can come between them.

17 They are joined one to another. They stick together, so that they can't be pulled apart.

18 His sneezing flashes out light. His eyes are like the eyelids of the morning.

19 Out of his mouth go burning torches. Sparks of fire leap forth.

20 Out of his nostrils a smoke goes, as of a boiling pot over a fire of reeds.

21 His breath kindles coals. A flame goes forth from his mouth.

22 There is strength in his neck. Terror dances before him.

23 The flakes of his flesh are joined together. They are firm on him. They can't be moved.

24 His heart is as firm as a stone, yes, firm as the lower millstone.

25 When he raises himself up, the mighty are afraid. They retreat before his thrashing. 26 If one attacks him with the sword, it can't prevail; nor the spear, the dart, nor the pointed shaft.

27 He counts iron as straw; and brass as rotten wood.

28 The arrow can't make him flee. Sling stones are like chaff to him.

29 Clubs are counted as stubble. He laughs at the rushing of the javelin.

30 His undersides are like sharp potsherds, leaving a trail in the mud like a threshing sledge.

31 He makes the deep to boil like a pot. He makes the sea like a pot of ointment.

32 He makes a path shine after him. One would think the deep had white hair.

33 On earth there is not his equal, that is made without fear.

34 He sees everything that is high. He is king over all the sons of pride."

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Psalms 132.

1 Number of Ascents.

A Song of Ascents. YHWH, remember David and all his affliction,

2 how he swore to YHWH, and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob:

3 "Surely I will not come into the structure of my house, nor go up into my bed;

4 I will not give sleep to my eyes, or slumber to my eyelids;

5 until I find out a place for YHWH, a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob."

6 Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah. We found it in the field of Jaar:

7 "We will go into his dwelling place. We will worship at his footstool.

8 Arise, YHWH, into your resting place; you, and the ark of your strength.

9 Let your priest be clothed with righteousness. Let your holy ones shout for joy!"

10 For your servant David's sake, don't turn away the face of your anointed one.

11 YHWH has sworn to David in truth. He will not turn from it: "I will set the fruit of your body on your throne.

12 If your children will keep my covenant, my testimony that I will teach them, their children also will sit on your throne forevermore."

13 For YHWH has chosen Zion. He has desired it for his habitation.

14 "This is my resting place forever. Here I will live, for I have desired it.

15 I will abundantly bless her provision. I will satisfy her poor with bread.

16 Her priests I will also clothe with salvation. Her holy ones will shout aloud for joy.

17 There I will make the horn of David to bud. I have ordained a lamp for my anointed.

18 I will clothe his enemies with shame, but on himself, his crown will be resplendent."

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 YHWH 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.

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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.

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 YHWH 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.)