305. 31-October Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Isaiah 34.

1 <u>Judgment on the Nations.</u>

Come near, you nations, to hear! Listen, you peoples. Let the earth and all it contains hear; the world, and everything that comes from it.

2 For YAHWEH is enraged against all the nations, and angry with all their armies. He has utterly destroyed them. He has given them over for slaughter.

3 Their slain will also be cast out, and the stench of their dead bodies will come up; and the mountains will melt in their blood.

4 All of the army of the sky will be dissolved. The sky will be rolled up like a scroll, and all its armies will fade away, as a leaf fades from off a vine or a fig-tree.

5 For my sword has drunk its fill in the sky. Behold, it will come down on Edom, and on the people of my curse, for judgment.

6 YAHWEH's sword is filled with blood. It is covered with fat, with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams; for YAHWEH has a sacrifice in Bozrah, And a great slaughter in the land of Edom.

7 The wild oxen will come down with them, and the young bulls with the mighty bulls; and their land will be drunken with blood, and their dust made greasy with fat.

8 For YAHWEH has a day of vengeance, a year of recompense for the cause of Zion. 9 Its streams will be turned into pitch, its dust into sulfur, And its land will become burning pitch.

10 It won't be quenched night nor day. Its smoke will go up forever. From generation to generation, it will lie waste. No one will pass through it forever and ever.

11 But the pelican and the porcupine will possess it. The owl and the raven will dwell in it. He will stretch the line of confusion over it, and the plumb line of emptiness.

12 They shall call its nobles to the kingdom, but none shall be there; and all its princes shall be nothing.

13 Thorns will come up in its palaces, nettles and thistles in its fortresses; and it will be a habitation of jackals, a court for ostriches.

14 The wild animals of the desert will meet with the wolves, and the wild goat will cry to his fellow. Yes, the night creature shall settle there, and shall find herself a place of rest. 15 The arrow snake will make her nest there, and lay, hatch, and gather under her shade. Yes, the kites will be gathered there, every one with her mate.

16 Search in the book of YAHWEH, and read: not one of these will be missing. none will lack her mate. For my mouth has commanded, and his Spirit has gathered them.

17 He has cast the lot for them, and his hand has divided it to them with a measuring line. They shall possess it forever. From generation to generation they will dwell in it.

Isaiah 35.

1 . The Future Glory of Zion. .

The wilderness and the dry land will be glad. The desert will rejoice and blossom like a rose.

2 It will blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing. Lebanon's glory Lebanon will be given to it, the excellence of Carmel and Sharon. They will see YAHWEH's glory, the excellence of our ELOHIM!

3 Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

4 Tell those who have a fearful heart, "Be strong. Don't be afraid. Behold, your ELOHIM will come with vengeance, ELOHIM's retribution. He will come and save you.

5 Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf will be unstopped. 6 Then the lame man will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute will sing; for waters will break out in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.

7 The burning sand will become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water. Grass with reeds and rushes will be in the habitation of jackals, where they lay.

8 A highway will be there, a road, and it will be called The Holy Way. The unclean shall not pass over it, but it will be for those who walk in the Way. Wicked fools will not go there.

9 No lion will be there, nor will any ravenous animal go up on it. They will not be found there; but the redeemed will walk there.

10 The YAHWEH's ransomed ones will return, and come with singing to Zion; and everlasting joy will be on their heads. They will obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing will flee away."

Psalms 119:65-96.

65 <u>. TETH. .</u>

Do good to your servant, according to your word, YAHWEH!

66 Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe in your commandments.

67 Before I was afflicted, I went astray; but now I observe your word.

68 You are good, and do good. Teach me your statutes.

69 The proud have smeared a lie upon me. With my whole heart, I will keep your precepts.

70 Their heart is as callous as the fat, but I delight in your Torah.

71 It is good for me that I have been afflicted, that I may learn your statutes.

72 The Torah you have spoken is better to me than thousands of pieces of gold and silver.

73 <u>. YOD. .</u>

Your hands have made me and formed me. Give me understanding, that I may learn your commandments.

74 Those who fear you will see me and be glad, because I have put my hope in your word.

75 YAHWEH, I know that your judgments are righteous, that in faithfulness you have afflicted me.

76 Please let your loving kindness be for my comfort, according to your word to your servant.

77 Let your tender mercies come to me, that I may live; for your Torah is my delight. 78 Let the proud be disappointed, for they have overthrown me wrongfully. I will

78 Let the proud be disappointed, for they have overthrown me wrongfully. I will meditate on your precepts.

79 Let those who fear you turn to me. They will know your statutes.

80 Let my heart be blameless toward your decrees, that I may not be disappointed.

81 <u>. KAPH. .</u>

My soul faints for your salvation. I hope in your word.

82 My eyes fail for your word. I say, "When will you comfort me?"

83 For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke. I don't forget your statutes.

84 How many are the days of your servant? When will you execute judgment on those who persecute me?

85 The proud have dug pits for me, contrary to your Torah.

86 All of your commandments are faithful. They persecute me wrongfully. Help me!
87 They had almost wiped me from the earth, but I didn't forsake your precepts.
88 Preserve my life according to your loving kindness, so I will obey the statutes of your mouth.

89 <u>. LAMED. .</u>

YAHWEH, your word is settled in heaven forever.

90 Your faithfulness is to all generations. You have established the earth, and it remains.

91 Your Torah (teachings and instructions) remain to this day, for all things serve you.

92 Unless your Torah had been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.

93 I will never forget your precepts, for with them, you have revived me.

94 I am yours. Save me, for I have sought your precepts.

95 The wicked have waited for me, to destroy me. I will consider your statutes.

96 I have seen a limit to all perfection, but your commands are boundless.

Proverbs 15.

1 A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

2 The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouth of fools gush out folly.

3 YAHWEH's eyes are everywhere, keeping watch on the evil and the good.

4 A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but deceit in it crushes the spirit.

5 A fool despises his father's correction, but he who heeds reproof shows prudence.

6 In the house of the righteous is much treasure, but the income of the wicked brings trouble.

7 The lips of the wise spread knowledge; not so with the heart of fools.

8 The sacrifice made by the wicked is an abomination to YAHWEH, but the prayer of the upright is his delight.

9 The way of the wicked is an abomination to YAHWEH, but he loves him who follows after righteousness.

10 There is stern discipline for one who forsakes the way: whoever hates reproof shall die.

11 Sheol and Abaddon are before YAHWEH how much more then the hearts of the children of men!

12 A scoffer doesn't love to be reproved; he will not go to the wise.

13 A glad heart makes a cheerful face; but an aching heart breaks the spirit.

14 The heart of one who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouths of fools feed on folly.

15 All the days of the afflicted are wretched, but one who has a cheerful heart enjoys a continual feast.

16 Better is little, with the fear of YAHWEH, than great treasure with trouble.

17 Better is a dinner of herbs, where love is, than a fattened calf with hatred.

18 A wrathful man stirs up contention, but one who is slow to anger appeases strife.

19 The way of the sluggard is like a thorn patch, but the path of the upright is a highway. 20 A wise son makes a father glad, but a foolish man despises his mother.

21 Folly is joy to one who is void of wisdom, but a man of understanding keeps his way straight.

22 Where there is no counsel, plans fail; but in a multitude of counselors they are established.

23 Joy comes to a man with the reply of his mouth. How good is a word at the right

time!

24 The path of life leads upward for the wise, to keep him from going downward to Sheol.

25 YAHWEH will uproot the house of the proud, but he will keep the widow's borders intact.

26 YAHWEH detests the thoughts of the wicked, but the thoughts of the pure are pleasing.

27 He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house, but he who hates bribes will live.28 The heart of the righteous weighs answers, but the mouth of the wicked gushes out

evil.

29 YAHWEH is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous.

30 The light of the eyes rejoices the heart. Good news gives health to the bones.

31 The ear that listens to reproof lives, and will be at home among the wise.

32 He who refuses correction despises his own soul, but he who listens to reproof gets understanding.

33 The fear of YAHWEH teaches wisdom. Before honor is humility.

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

306. 1-November Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Isaiah 36.

1 . Sennacherib Boasts Against YAHWEH. .

Now it happened in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah, that Sennacherib king of Assyria attacked all of the fortified cities of Judah, and captured them.

2 The king of Assyria sent Rabshakeh from Lachish to Jerusalem to king Hezekiah with a large army. He stood by the aqueduct from the upper pool in the fuller's field highway. 3 Then Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah, the son of Asaph, the recorder came out to him.

4 Rabshakeh said to them, "Now tell Hezekiah, 'Thus says the great king, the king of Assyria, "What confidence is this in which you trust?

5 I say that your counsel and strength for the war are only vain words. Now in whom do you trust, that you have rebelled against me?

⁶ Behold, you trust in the staff of this bruised reed, even in Egypt, which if a man leans on it, it will go into his hand and pierce it. So is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who trust in him.

7 But if you tell me, 'We trust in YAHWEH our ELOHIM,' isn't that he whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah has taken away, and has said to Judah and to Jerusalem, 'You shall worship before this altar?'"

8 Now therefore, please make a pledge to my master the king of Assyria, and I will give you two thousand horses, if you are able on your part to set riders on them.

9 How then can you turn away the face of one captain of the least of my master's servants, and put your trust on Egypt for chariots and for horsemen?

10 Have I come up now without YAHWEH against this land to destroy it? YAHWEH said to me, "Go up against this land, and destroy it.""

11 Then Eliakim, Shebna and Joah said to Rabshakeh, "Please speak to your servants in Aramaic, for we understand it; and don't speak to us in the Jews' language in the hearing of the people who are on the wall."

12 But Rabshakeh said, "Has my master sent me only to your master and to you, to speak these words, and not to the men who sit on the wall, who will eat their own dung and drink their own urine with you?"

13 Then Rabshakeh stood, and called out with a loud voice in the Jews' language, and said, "Hear the words of the great king, the king of Assyria!

14 Thus says the king, 'Don't let Hezekiah deceive you; for he will not be able to deliver you.

15 Don't let Hezekiah make you trust in YAHWEH, saying, "YAHWEH will surely deliver us. This city won't be given into the hand of the king of Assyria."

16 Don't listen to Hezekiah, for thus says the king of Assyria, 'Make your peace with me, and come out to me; and each of you eat from his vine, and each one from his fig-tree, and each one of you drink the waters of his own cistern;

17 until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and new wine, a land of bread and vineyards.

18 Beware lest Hezekiah persuade you, saying, "YAHWEH will deliver us." Have any of the idol_gods of the nations delivered their lands from the hand of the king of Assyria?19 Where are the idol_gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the idol_gods of Sepharvaim? Have they delivered Samaria from my hand?

20 Who are they among all the idol_gods of these countries that have delivered their country out of my hand, that YAHWEH should deliver Jerusalem out of my hand?" 21 But they remained silent, and said nothing in reply, for the king's commandment was,

"Don't answer him."

22 Then Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah, the son of Asaph, the recorder, came to Hezekiah with their clothes torn, and told him the words of Rabshakeh.

Isaiah 37.

1 <u>. Isaiah Assures Deliverance. .</u>

It happened, when king Hezekiah heard it, that he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth, and went into YAHWEH's house.

2 He sent Eliakim, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz.

3 They said to him, "Thus says Hezekiah, 'This day is a day of trouble, and of rebuke, and of rejection; for the children have come to the birth, and there is no strength to bring forth.

4 It may be YAHWEH your ELOHIM will hear the words of Rabshakeh, whom the king of Assyria his master has sent to defy the living ELOHIM, and will rebuke the words which YAHWEH your ELOHIM has heard. Therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left."

5 So the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah.

⁶ Isaiah said to them, "Tell your master, 'Thus says YAHWEH, "Don't be afraid of the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me.

7 Behold, I will put a spirit in him and he will hear news, and will return to his own land. I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.""

8 . Sennacherib's Threat and Hezekiah's Prayer. .

So Rabshakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria warring against Libnah, for he had heard that he was departed from Lachish.

9 He heard news concerning Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, "He has come out to fight against you." When he heard it, he sent messengers to Hezekiah, saying,

10 "Thus you shall speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying, 'Don't let your ELOHIM in whom you trust deceive you, saying, "Jerusalem won't be given into the hand of the king of Assyria."

11 Behold, you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by destroying them utterly. Shall you be delivered?

12 Have the idol_gods of the nations delivered them, which my fathers have destroyed, Gozan, Haran, Rezeph, and the children of Eden who were in Telassar?

13 Where is the king of Hamath, and the king of Arpad, and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivvah?"

14 Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers and read it. Then Hezekiah went up to YAHWEH's house, and spread it before YAHWEH!

15 Hezekiah prayed to YAHWEH, saying,

16 "YAHWEH of Hosts, the ELOHIM of Israel, who is enthroned among the cherubim, you are the ELOHIM, even you alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.

17 Turn your ear, YAHWEH, and hear. Open your eyes, YAHWEH, and behold. Hear all of the words of Sennacherib, who has sent to defy the living ELOHIM!

18 Truly, YAHWEH, the kings of Assyria have destroyed all the countries and their land, 19 and have cast their idol_gods into the fire; for they were no idol_gods, but the work of

men's hands, wood and stone; therefore they have destroyed them.

20 Now therefore, YAHWEH our ELOHIM, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you are YAHWEH, even you only."

21 . The Word of YAHWEH Concerning Sennacherib. .

Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, "Thus says YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Israel, 'Because you have prayed to me against Sennacherib king of Assyria, 22 this is the word which YAHWEH has spoken concerning him. The virgin daughter of Zion has despised you and ridiculed you. The daughter of Jerusalem has shaken her head at you.

23 Whom have you defied and blasphemed? Against whom have you exalted your voice and lifted up your eyes on high? Against the Holy One of Israel.

24 By your servants, have you defied ADONAI, and have said, "With the multitude of my chariots I have come up to the height of the mountains, to the innermost parts of Lebanon. I will cut down its tall cedars and its choice fir trees. I will enter into its farthest height, the forest of its fruitful field.

25 I have dug and drunk water, and with the sole of my feet I will dry up all the rivers of Egypt."

26 Have you not heard how I have done it long ago, and formed it in ancient times? Now I have brought it to pass, that it should be yours to destroy fortified cities, turning them into ruinous heaps.

27 Therefore their inhabitants had little power. They were dismayed and confounded. They were like the grass of the field, and like the green herb, like the grass on the housetops, and like a field before its crop has grown.

28 But I know your sitting down, your going out, your coming in, and your raging against me.

29 Because of your raging against me, and because your arrogance has come up into my ears, therefore will I put my hook in your nose and my bridle in your lips, and I will turn you back by the way by which you came.

30 This shall be the sign to you. You will eat this year that which grows of itself, and in the second year that which springs from the same; and in the third year sow and reap and plant vineyards, and eat their fruit.

31 The remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah will again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.

32 For out of Jerusalem a remnant will go forth, and survivors will escape from Mount Zion. The zeal of YAHWEH of Hosts will perform this.'

33 Therefore thus says YAHWEH concerning the king of Assyria, 'He will not come to this city, nor shoot an arrow there, neither will he come before it with shield, nor cast up a mound against it.

34 By the way that he came, by the same he shall return, and he shall not come to this city,' says YAHWEH!

35 'For I will defend this city to save it, for my own sake, and for my servant David's sake."

36 . Sennacherib's Defeat and Death. .

The angel of YAHWEH went out and struck one hundred and eighty-five thousand men in the camp of the Assyrians. When men arose early in the morning, behold, these were all dead bodies.

37 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, went away, returned to Nineveh, and stayed there.

38 It happened, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his idol_god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons struck him with the sword; and they escaped into the land of Ararat. Esar Haddon his son reigned in his place.

Psalms 119:97-128.

97 <u>. MEM. .</u>

How I love your Torah! It is my meditation all day.

98 Your commandments make me wiser than my enemies, for your commandments are always with me.

99 I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation.

100 I understand more than the aged, because I have kept your precepts.

101 I have kept my feet from every evil way, that I might observe your word.

102 I have not turned aside from your ordinances, for you have taught me.

103 How sweet are your promises to my taste, more than honey to my mouth!

104 Through your precepts, I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

105 <u>. NUN. .</u>

Your word is a lamp to my feet, and a light for my path.

106 I have sworn, and have confirmed it, that I will obey your righteous ordinances.

107 I am afflicted very much. Revive me, YAHWEH, according to your word.

108 Accept, I beg you, the willing offerings of my mouth. YAHWEH, teach me your ordinances.

109 My soul is continually in my hand, yet I won't forget your Torah.

110 The wicked have laid a snare for me, yet I haven't gone astray from your precepts.

111 I have taken your testimonies as a heritage forever, for they are the joy of my heart.

112 I have set my heart to perform your statutes forever, even to the end.

113 <u>. SAMEK. .</u>

I hate double-minded men, but I love your Torah.

114 You are my hiding place and my shield. I hope in your word.

115 Depart from me, you evildoers, that I may keep the commandments of my ELOHIM! 116 Uphold me according to your word, that I may live. Let me not be ashamed of my hope.

117 Hold me up, and I will be safe, and will have respect for your statutes continually.

118 You reject all those who stray from your statutes, for their deceit is in vain.

119 You put away all the wicked of the earth like dross. Therefore I love your testimonies.

120 My flesh trembles for fear of you. I am afraid of your judgments.

121 <u>. AYIN. .</u>

I have done what is just and righteous. Don't leave me to my oppressors.

122 Ensure your servant's well-being. Don't let the proud oppress me.

123 My eyes fail looking for your salvation, for your righteous word.

124 Deal with your servant according to your loving kindness. Teach me your statutes.

125 I am your servant. Give me understanding, that I may know your testimonies.

126 It is time to act, YAHWEH, for they break your Torah.

127 Therefore I love your commandments more than gold, yes, more than pure gold.128 Therefore I consider all of your precepts to be right. I hate every false way.

Proverbs 16.

1 The plans of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from YAHWEH! 2 All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but YAHWEH weighs the motives.

3 Commit your deeds to YAHWEH, and your plans shall succeed.

4 YAHWEH has made everything for its own end yes, even the wicked for the day of evil.

5 Everyone who is proud in heart is an abomination to YAHWEH: they shall certainly not be unpunished.

6 By mercy and truth iniquity is atoned for. By the fear of YAHWEH men depart from evil.

7 When a man's ways please YAHWEH, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

8 Better is a little with righteousness, than great revenues with injustice.

9 A man's heart plans his course, but YAHWEH directs his steps.

10 Inspired judgments are on the lips of the king. He shall not betray his mouth.

11 Honest balances and scales are YAHWEH's; all the weights in the bag are his work.

12 It is an abomination for kings to do wrong, for the throne is established by righteousness.

13 Righteous lips are the delight of kings. They value one who speaks the truth.

14 The king's wrath is a messenger of death, but a wise man will pacify it.

15 In the light of the king's face is life. His favor is like a cloud of the spring rain.

16 How much better it is to get wisdom than gold! Yes, to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

17 The highway of the upright is to depart from evil. He who keeps his way preserves his soul.

18 Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

19 It is better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor, than to divide the plunder with the proud.

20 He who heeds the Word finds prosperity. Whoever trusts in YAHWEH is blessed.

21 The wise in heart shall be called prudent. Pleasantness of the lips promotes instruction.

22 Understanding is a fountain of life to one who has it, but the punishment of fools is their folly.

23 The heart of the wise instructs his mouth, and adds learning to his lips.

24 Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.

25 There is a way which seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.

26 The appetite of the laboring man labors for him; for his mouth urges him on.

27 A worthless man devises mischief. His speech is like a scorching fire.

28 A perverse man stirs up strife. A whisperer separates close friends.

29 A man of violence entices his neighbor, and leads him in a way that is not good.

30 One who winks his eyes to plot perversities, one who compresses his lips, is bent on evil.

31 Gray hair is a crown of glory. It is attained by a life of righteousness.

32 One who is slow to anger is better than the mighty; one who rules his spirit, than he who takes a city.

33 The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from YAHWEH!

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

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