01 May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Joshua 22, Job 31, Psalms 122, Proverbs 18.

Day 122. 1-May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Joshua 22.

. Eastern Tribes Return to Their Lands..

Then Joshua called the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh,

- 2 and said to them, "You have kept all that Moses the servant of YHWH commanded you, and have listened to my voice in all that I commanded you.
- 3 You have not left your brothers these many days to this day, but have performed the duty of the commandment of YHWH your ELOHIM!
- 4 Now YHWH your ELOHIM has given rest to your brothers, as he spoke to them. Therefore now return and go to your tents, to the land of your possession, which Moses the servant of YHWH gave you beyond the Jordan.
- 5 Only take diligent heed to do the commandment and the Torah (teaching and instruction) which Moses the servant of YHWH commanded you, to love YHWH your ELOHIM, to walk in all his ways, to keep his commandments, to hold fast to him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul."
- 6 So Joshua blessed them, and sent them away; and they went to their tents.
- 7 Now to the one half-tribe of Manasseh Moses had given inheritance in Bashan; but to the other half gave Joshua among their brothers beyond the Jordan westward. Moreover when Joshua sent them away to their tents, he blessed them,
- 8 and spoke to them, saying, "Return with much wealth to your tents, with very much livestock, with silver, with gold, with brass, with iron, and with very much clothing. Divide the spoil of your enemies with your brothers."
- 9 The children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh returned, and departed from the children of Israel out of Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan, to go to the land of Gilead, to the land of their possession, which they owned, according to the commandment of YHWH by Moses.

10 . An Altar by the Jordan. .

When they came to the region about the Jordan, that is in the land of Canaan, the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh built there an altar by the Jordan, a great altar to look at.

- 11 The children of Israel heard this, "Behold, the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh have built an altar in the forefront of the land of Canaan, in the region about the Jordan, on the side that pertains to the children of Israel."
- 12 When the children of Israel heard of it, the whole congregation of the children of Israel gathered themselves together at Shiloh, to go up against them to war.
- 13 The children of Israel sent to the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the half-tribe of Manasseh, into the land of Gilead, Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest,
- 14 and with him ten princes, one prince of a fathers' house for each of the tribes of Israel; and they were everyone of them head of their fathers' houses among the thousands of Israel.
- 15 They came to the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the half-tribe of Manasseh, to the land of Gilead, and they spoke with them, saying,
- 16 "Thus says the whole congregation of YHWH, 'What trespass is this that you have committed against the ELOHIM of Israel, to turn away this day from following YHWH, in that you have built yourselves an altar, to rebel this day against YHWH?
- 17 Is the iniquity of Peor too little for us, from which we have not cleansed ourselves to

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this day, although there came a plague on the congregation of YHWH,

- 18 that you must turn away this day from following YHWH? It will be, since you rebel today against YHWH, that tomorrow he will be angry with the whole congregation of Israel.
- 19 However, if the land of your possession is unclean, then pass over to the land of the possession of YHWH, in which YHWH's tabernacle dwells, and take possession among us; but don't rebel against YHWH, nor rebel against us, in building an altar other than the altar of YHWH our ELOHIM!
- 20 Didn't Achan the son of Zerah commit a trespass in the devoted thing, and wrath fell on all the congregation of Israel? That man didn't perish alone in his iniquity."
- 21 Then the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh answered, and spoke to the heads of the thousands of Israel.
- 22 "The Mighty One, EL, YHWH, the Mighty One, EL, YHWH, he knows; and Israel shall know: if it was in rebellion, or if in trespass against YHWH (don't save us this day),
- 23 that we have built us an altar to turn away from following YHWH; or if to offer burnt offering or meal offering, or if to offer sacrifices of peace offerings, let YHWH himself require it.
- 24 "If we have not out of concern done this, and for a reason, saying, 'In time to come your children might speak to our children, saying, "What have you to do with YHWH, the **ELOHIM of Israel?**
- 25 For YHWH has made the Jordan a border between us and you, you children of Reuben and children of Gad. You have no portion in YHWH!" So your children might make our children cease from fearing YHWH!
- 26 "Therefore we said, 'Let's now prepare to build ourselves an altar, not for burnt offering, nor for sacrifice;
- 27 but it will be a witness between us and you, and between our generations after us, that we may perform the service of YHWH before him with our burnt offerings, with our sacrifices, and with our peace offerings; that your children may not tell our children in time to come, 'You have no portion in YHWH!'
- 28 "Therefore we said, 'It shall be, when they tell us or our generations this in time to come, that we shall say, "Behold the pattern of the altar of YHWH, which our fathers made, not for burnt offering, nor for sacrifice; but it is a witness between us and you."
- 29 "Far be it from us that we should rebel against YHWH, and turn away this day from following YHWH, to build an altar for burnt offering, for meal offering, or for sacrifice, besides the altar of YHWH our ELOHIM that is before his tabernacle!
- 30 When Phinehas the priest, and the princes of the congregation, even the heads of the thousands of Israel that were with him, heard the words that the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the children of Manasseh spoke, it pleased them well.
- 31 Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest said to the children of Reuben, to the children of Gad, and to the children of Manasseh, "Today we know that YHWH is in the midst of us, because you have not committed this trespass against YHWH! Now you have delivered the children of Israel out of the hand of YHWH!"
- 32 Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest, and the princes, returned from the children of Reuben, and from the children of Gad, out of the land of Gilead, to the land of Canaan, to the children of Israel, and brought them word again.
- 33 The thing pleased the children of Israel; and the children of Israel blessed ELOHIM, and spoke no more of going up against them to war, to destroy the land in which the children of Reuben and the children of Gad lived.
- 34 The children of Reuben and the children of Gad named the altar "A Witness Between Us that YHWH is ELOHIM!"

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Job 31.

- 1 "I made a covenant with my eyes, how then should I look lustfully at a young woman?
- 2 For what is the portion from ELOHIM above, and the heritage from the Almighty on high?
- 3 Is it not calamity to the unrighteous, and disaster to the workers of iniquity?
- 4 Doesn't he see my ways, and number all my steps?
- 5 "If I have walked with falsehood, and my foot has hurried to deceit
- 6 (let me be weighed in an even balance, that ELOHIM may know my integrity);
- 7 if my step has turned out of the way, if my heart walked after my eyes, if any defilement has stuck to my hands,
- 8 then let me sow, and let another eat. Yes, let the produce of my field be rooted out.
- 9 "If my heart has been enticed to a woman, and I have laid wait at my neighbor's door,
- 10 then let my wife grind for another, and let others sleep with her.
- 11 For that would be a heinous crime. Yes, it would be an iniquity to be punished by the judges:
- 12 For it is a fire that consumes to destruction, and would root out all my increase.
- 13 "If I have despised the cause of my male servant or of my female servant, when they contended with me;
- 14 What then shall I do when EL rises up? When he visits, what shall I answer him?
- 15 Didn't he who made me in the womb make him? Didn't one fashion us in the womb?
- 16 "If I have withheld the poor from their desire, or have caused the eyes of the widow to fail,
- 17 or have eaten my morsel alone, and the fatherless has not eaten of it
- 18 (no, from my youth he grew up with me as with a father, her have I guided from my mother's womb);
- 19 if I have seen any perish for want of clothing, or that the needy had no covering;
- 20 if his heart hasn't blessed me, if he hasn't been warmed with my sheep's fleece;
- 21 if I have lifted up my hand against the fatherless, because I saw my help in the gate,
- 22 then let my shoulder fall from the shoulder blade, and my arm be broken from the bone.
- 23 For calamity from EL is a terror to me. Because his majesty, I can do nothing.
- 24 "If I have made gold my hope, and have said to the fine gold, 'You are my confidence;'
- 25 If I have rejoiced because my wealth was great, and because my hand had gotten much;
- 26 if I have seen the sun when it shined, or the moon moving in splendor,
- 27 and my heart has been secretly enticed, and my hand threw a kiss from my mouth,
- 28 this also would be an iniquity to be punished by the judges; for I should have denied the EL who is above.
- 29 "If I have rejoiced at the destruction of him who hated me, or lifted up myself when evil found him;
- 30 (yes, I have not allowed my mouth to sin by asking his life with a curse);
- 31 if the men of my tent have not said, 'Who can find one who has not been filled with his meat?'
- 32 (the foreigner has not lodged in the street, but I have opened my doors to the traveler):
- 33 if like Adam I have covered my transgressions, by hiding my iniquity in my heart,
- 34 because I feared the great multitude, and the contempt of families terrified me, so that I kept silence, and didn't go out of the door
- 35 oh that I had one to hear me! (behold, here is my signature, let the Almighty answer me); let the accuser write my indictment!
- 36 Surely I would carry it on my shoulder; and I would bind it to me as a crown.

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- 37 I would declare to him the number of my steps. as a prince would I go near to him.
- 38 If my land cries out against me, and its furrows weep together;
- 39 if I have eaten its fruits without money, or have caused its owners to lose their life,
- 40 let briars grow instead of wheat, and stinkweed instead of barley." The words of Job are ended.

Psalms 122.

1 . A Song of Ascents. Of David...

A Song of Ascents. By David. I was glad when they said to me, "Let's go to YHWH's house!"

- 2 Our feet are standing within your gates, Jerusalem;
- 3 Jerusalem, that is built as a city that is compact together;
- 4 where the tribes go up, even YAH's tribes, according to an ordinance for Israel, to give thanks to the name of YHWH!
- 5 For there are set thrones for judgment, the thrones of David's house.
- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Those who love you will prosper.
- 7 Peace be within your walls, and prosperity within your palaces.
- 8 For my brothers' and companions' sakes, I will now say, "Peace be within you."
- 9 For the sake of the house of YHWH our ELOHIM, I will seek your good.

Proverbs 18.

- 1 An unfriendly man pursues selfishness, and defies all sound judgment.
- 2 A fool has no delight in understanding, but only in revealing his own opinion.
- 3 When wickedness comes, contempt also comes, and with shame comes disgrace.
- 4 The words of a man's mouth are like deep waters. The fountain of wisdom is like a flowing brook.
- 5 To be partial to the faces of the wicked is not good, nor to deprive the innocent of justice.
- 6 A fool's lips come into strife, and his mouth invites beatings.
- 7 A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are a snare to his soul.
- 8 The words of a gossip are like dainty morsels: they go down into a person's innermost parts.
- 9 One who is slack in his work is brother to him who is a master of destruction.
- 10 The name of YHWH is a strong tower: the righteous run to him, and are safe.
- 11 The rich man's wealth is his strong city, like an unscalable wall in his own imagination.
- 12 Before destruction the heart of man is proud, but before honor is humility.
- 13 He who gives answer before he hears, that is folly and shame to him.
- 14 A man's spirit will sustain him in sickness, but a crushed spirit, who can bear?
- 15 The heart of the discerning gets knowledge. The ear of the wise seeks knowledge.
- 16 A man's gift makes room for him, and brings him before great men.
- 17 He who pleads his cause first seems right; until another comes and questions him.
- 18 The lot settles disputes, and keeps strong ones apart.
- 19 A brother offended is more difficult than a fortified city; and disputes are like the bars of a castle.
- 20 A man's stomach is filled with the fruit of his mouth. With the harvest of his lips he is

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satisfied.

- 21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue; those who love it will eat its fruit.
- 22 Whoever finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor of YHWH!
- 23 The poor plead for mercy, but the rich answer harshly.
- 24 A man of many companions may be ruined, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother...

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