

4 May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Judges 2, 3, Job 34, Psalms 125, Proverbs 21.

Day 125. 4-May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Judges 2.

1 . Israel's Disobedience. .

The angel of YHWH came up from Gilgal to Bochim. He said, "I made you to go up out of Egypt, and have brought you to the land which I swore to your fathers; and I said, 'I will never break my covenant with you:

2 and you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall break down their altars.' But you have not listened to my voice: why have you done this?

3 Therefore I also said, I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare to you."

4 It happened, when the angel of YHWH spoke these words to all the children of Israel, that the people lifted up their voice, and wept.

5 They called the name of that place Bochim: and they sacrificed there to YHWH!

6 Now when Joshua had sent the people away, the children of Israel went every man to his inheritance to possess the land.

7 . Death of Joshua. .

The people served YHWH all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great work of YHWH that he had worked for Israel.

8 Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of YHWH, died, being one hundred ten years old.

9 They buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnath Heres, in the hill country of Ephraim, on the north of the mountain of Gaash.

10 Also all that generation were gathered to their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, who didn't know YHWH, nor yet the work which he had worked for Israel.

11 . Israel's Unfaithfulness. .

The children of Israel did that which was evil in the sight of YHWH, and served the Baals;

12 and they forsook YHWH, the ELOHIM of their fathers, who brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed themselves down to them: and they provoked YHWH to anger.

13 They forsook YHWH, and served Baal and the Ashtaroath.

14 The anger of YHWH was kindled against Israel, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers who despoiled them; and he sold them into the hands of their enemies all around, so that they could not any longer stand before their enemies.

15 Wherever they went out, the hand of YHWH was against them for evil, as YHWH had spoken, and as YHWH had sworn to them: and they were very distressed.

16 YHWH raised up judges, who saved them out of the hand of those who despoiled them.

17 Yet they didn't listen to their judges; for they played the prostitute after other gods, and bowed themselves down to them: they turned aside quickly out of the way in which their fathers walked, obeying the commandments of YHWH! They didn't do so.

18 When YHWH raised them up judges, then YHWH was with the judge, and saved them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge: for it grieved YHWH because of their groaning by reason of those who oppressed them and troubled them.

19 But it happened, when the judge was dead, that they turned back, and dealt more corruptly than their fathers, in following other gods to serve them, and to bow down to

4 May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Judges 2, 3, Job 34, Psalms 125, Proverbs 21.

them; they didn't cease from their doings, nor from their stubborn way.

20 The anger of YHWH was kindled against Israel; and he said, "Because this nation have transgressed my covenant which I commanded their fathers, and have not listened to my voice;

21 I also will not henceforth drive out any from before them of the nations that Joshua left when he died;

22 that by them I may prove Israel, whether they will keep the way of YHWH to walk therein, as their fathers kept it, or not."

23 So YHWH left those nations, without driving them out hastily; neither delivered he them into the hand of Joshua.

Judges 3.

1 . The Nations Remaining in the Land. .

Now these are the nations which YHWH left, to prove Israel by them, even as many as had not known all the wars of Canaan;

2 only that the generations of the children of Israel might know, to teach them war, at the least such as before knew nothing of it:

3 the five masters of the Philistines, and all the Canaanites, and the Sidonians, and the Hivites who lived on Mount Lebanon, from Mount Baal Hermon to the entrance of Hamath.

4 They were left to test Israel by them, to know whether they would listen to the commandments of YHWH, which he commanded their fathers by Moses.

5 The children of Israel lived among the Canaanites, the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites:

6 and they took their daughters to be their wives, and gave their own daughters to their sons and served their gods.

7 . Othniel. .

The children of Israel did that which was evil in the sight of YHWH, and forgot YHWH their ELOHIM, and served the Baals and the Asheroth.

8 Therefore the anger of YHWH was kindled against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of Cushan Rishathaim king of Mesopotamia: and the children of Israel served Cushan Rishathaim eight years.

9 When the children of Israel cried to YHWH, YHWH raised up a savior to the children of Israel, who saved them, even Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother.

10 The Spirit of YHWH came on him, and he judged Israel; and he went out to war, and YHWH delivered Cushan Rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand: and his hand prevailed against Cushan Rishathaim.

11 The land had rest forty years. Othniel the son of Kenaz died.

12 . Ehud. .

The children of Israel again did that which was evil in the sight of YHWH: and YHWH strengthened Eglon the king of Moab against Israel, because they had done that which was evil in the sight of YHWH!

13 He gathered to him the children of Ammon and Amalek; and he went and struck Israel, and they possessed the city of palm trees.

14 The children of Israel served Eglon the king of Moab eighteen years.

15 But when the children of Israel cried to YHWH, YHWH raised them up a savior, Ehud

4 May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Judges 2, 3, Job 34, Psalms 125, Proverbs 21.

the son of Gera, the Benjamite, a man left-handed. The children of Israel sent tribute by him to Eglon the king of Moab.

16 Ehud made him a sword which had two edges, a cubit in length; and he wore it under his clothing on his right thigh.

17 He offered the tribute to Eglon king of Moab: now Eglon was a very fat man.

18 When he had made an end of offering the tribute, he sent away the people who bore the tribute.

19 But he himself turned back from the quarries that were by Gilgal, and said, "I have a secret errand to you, king." The king said, "Keep silence!" All who stood by him went out from him.

20 Ehud came to him; and he was sitting by himself alone in the cool upper room. Ehud said, "I have a message from ELOHIM to you." He arose out of his seat.

21 Ehud put forth his left hand, and took the sword from his right thigh, and thrust it into his body:

22 and the handle also went in after the blade; and the fat closed on the blade, for he didn't draw the sword out of his body; and it came out behind.

23 Then Ehud went forth into the porch, and shut the doors of the upper room on him, and locked them.

24 Now when he was gone out, his servants came; and they saw, and behold, the doors of the upper room were locked; and they said, "Surely he is covering his feet in the upper room."

25 They waited until they were ashamed; and behold, he didn't open the doors of the upper room: therefore they took the key, and opened them, and behold, their master was fallen down dead on the earth.

26 Ehud escaped while they waited, and passed beyond the quarries, and escaped to Seirah.

27 It happened, when he had come, that he blew a shofar in the hill country of Ephraim; and the children of Israel went down with him from the hill country, and he before them.

28 He said to them, "Follow me; for YHWH has delivered your enemies the Moabites into your hand." They followed him, and took the fords of the Jordan against the Moabites, and didn't allow any man to pass over.

29 They struck of Moab at that time about ten thousand men, every lusty man, and every man of valor; and there escaped not a man.

30 So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. The land had rest eighty years.

31 . **Shamgar.** .

After him was Shamgar the son of Anath, who struck of the Philistines six hundred men with an oxgoad: and he also saved Israel.

Job 34.

1 . **Elihu Proclaims ELOHIM's Justice.** .

Moreover Elihu answered,

2 "Hear my words, you wise men. Give ear to me, you who have knowledge.

3 For the ear tries words, as the palate tastes food.

4 Let us choose for us that which is right. Let us know among ourselves what is good.

5 For Job has said, 'I am righteous, EL has taken away my right:

6 Notwithstanding my right I am considered a liar. My wound is incurable, though I am without disobedience.'

4 May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Judges 2, 3, Job 34, Psalms 125, Proverbs 21.

- 7 What man is like Job, who drinks scorn like water,
8 Who goes in company with the workers of iniquity, and walks with wicked men?
9 For he has said, 'It profits a man nothing that he should delight himself with ELOHIM!'
10 "Therefore listen to me, you men of understanding: far be it from EL, that he should do wickedness, from the Almighty, that he should commit iniquity.
11 For the work of a man he will render to him, and cause every man to find according to his ways.
12 Yes surely, EL will not do wickedly, neither will the Almighty pervert justice.
13 Who put him in charge of the earth? or who has appointed him over the whole world?
14 If he set his heart on himself, If he gathered to himself his spirit and his breath,
15 all flesh would perish together, and man would turn again to dust.
16 "If now you have understanding, hear this. Listen to the voice of my words.
17 Shall even one who hates justice govern? Will you condemn him who is righteous and mighty?
18 Who says to a king, 'Vile!' or to nobles, 'Wicked!?'
19 Who doesn't respect the persons of princes, nor respects the rich more than the poor; for they all are the work of his hands.
20 In a moment they die, even at midnight. The people are shaken and pass away. The mighty are taken away without a hand.
21 "For his eyes are on the ways of a man. He sees all his goings.
22 There is no darkness, nor thick gloom, where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves.
23 For he doesn't need to consider a man further, that he should go before EL in judgment.
24 He breaks in pieces mighty men in ways past finding out, and sets others in their place.
25 Therefore he takes knowledge of their works. He overturns them in the night, so that they are destroyed.
26 He strikes them as wicked men in the open sight of others;
27 because they turned aside from following him, and wouldn't pay attention to any of his ways,
28 so that they caused the cry of the poor to come to him. He heard the cry of the afflicted.
29 When he gives quietness, who then can condemn? When he hides his face, who then can see him? Alike whether to a nation, or to a man,
30 that the godless man may not reign, that there be no one to ensnare the people.
31 "For has any said to EL, 'I am guilty, but I will not offend any more.'
32 Teach me that which I don't see. If I have done iniquity, I will do it no more?'
33 Shall his recompense be as you desire, that you refuse it? For you must choose, and not I. Therefore speak what you know.
34 Men of understanding will tell me, yes, every wise man who hears me:
35 'Job speaks without knowledge. His words are without wisdom.'
36 I wish that Job were tried to the end, because of his answering like wicked men.
37 For he adds rebellion to his sin. He claps his hands among us, and multiplies his words against EL!"

Psalms 125.

1. A Song of Ascents..

4 May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Judges 2, 3, Job 34, Psalms 125, Proverbs 21.

A Song of Ascents. Those who trust in YHWH are as Mount Zion, which can't be moved, but remains forever.

2 As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so YHWH surrounds his people from this time forth and forevermore.

3 For the scepter of wickedness won't remain over the allotment of the righteous; so that the righteous won't use their hands to do evil.

4 Do good, YHWH, to those who are good, to those who are upright in their hearts.

5 But as for those who turn aside to their crooked ways, YHWH will lead them away with the workers of iniquity. Peace be on Israel.

Proverbs 21.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 There is precious treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man swallows it up.

21 He who follows after righteousness and kindness finds life, righteousness, and honor.

22 A wise man scales the city of the mighty, and brings down the strength of its confidence.

23 Whoever guards his mouth and his tongue keeps his soul from troubles.

24 The proud and haughty man, "scoffer" is his name; he works in the arrogance of pride.

25 The desire of the sluggard kills him, for his hands refuse to labor.

26 There are those who covet greedily all day long; but the righteous give and don't withhold.

27 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination: how much more, when he brings it

4 May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Judges 2, 3, Job 34, Psalms 125, Proverbs 21.

with a wicked mind!

28 A false witness will perish, and a man who listens speaks to eternity.

29 A wicked man hardens his face; but as for the upright, he establishes his ways.

30 There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against YHWH!

31 The horse is prepared for the day of battle; but victory is with YHWH!

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