

## 7 May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Judges 7,8, Job 37, Psalms 128, Proverbs 24.

### Day 128. 7-May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

#### Judges 7.

##### **1 . Gideon's Valiant Three Hundred. .**

Then Jerubbaal, who is Gideon, and all the people who were with him, rose up early, and encamped beside the spring of Harod: and the camp of Midian was on the north side of them, by the hill of Moreh, in the valley.

2 YHWH said to Gideon, "The people who are with you are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hand, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, 'My own hand has saved me.'

3 Now therefore proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, 'Whoever is fearful and trembling, let him return and depart from Mount Gilead.'" Twenty-two thousand of the people returned, and ten thousand remained.

4 YHWH said to Gideon, "The people are still too many. Bring them down to the water, and I will test them for you there. It shall be, that of whom I tell you, 'This shall go with you,' the same shall go with you; and of whoever I tell you, 'This shall not go with you,' the same shall not go."

5 So he brought down the people to the water; and YHWH said to Gideon, "Everyone who laps of the water with his tongue, like a dog laps, you shall set him by himself; likewise everyone who bows down on his knees to drink."

6 The number of those who lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, was three hundred men; but all the rest of the people bowed down on their knees to drink water.

7 YHWH said to Gideon, "By the three hundred men who lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into your hand. Let all the other people go, each to his own place."

8 So the people took food in their hand, and their shofars; and he sent all the men of Israel every man to his tent, but retained the three hundred men: and the camp of Midian was beneath him in the valley.

9 It happened the same night, that YHWH said to him, "Arise, go down into the camp; for I have delivered it into your hand.

10 But if you are afraid to go down, go with Purah your servant down to the camp:

11 and you shall hear what they say; and afterward your hands will be strengthened to go down into the camp." Then went he down with Purah his servant to the outermost part of the armed men who were in the camp.

12 The Midianites and the Amalekites and all the children of the east lay along in the valley like locusts for multitude; and their camels were without number, as the sand which is on the seashore for multitude.

13 When Gideon had come, behold, there was a man telling a dream to his fellow; and he said, "Behold, I dreamed a dream; and behold, a cake of barley bread tumbled into the camp of Midian, and came to the tent, and struck it so that it fell, and turned it upside down, so that the tent lay flat."

14 His fellow answered, "This is nothing other than the sword of Gideon the son of Joash, a man of Israel. ELOHIM has delivered Midian into his hand, with all the army."

15 It was so, when Gideon heard the telling of the dream, and its interpretation, that he worshiped; and he returned into the camp of Israel, and said, "Arise; for YHWH has delivered the army of Midian into your hand!"

16 He divided the three hundred men into three companies, and he put into the hands of all of them shofars, and empty pitchers, with torches within the pitchers.

17 He said to them, "Watch me, and do likewise. Behold, when I come to the outermost part of the camp, it shall be that, as I do, so you shall do.

18 When I blow the shofar, I and all who are with me, then blow the shofars also on every

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side of all the camp, and shout, 'For YHWH and for Gideon!'"

19 So Gideon, and the hundred men who were with him, came to the outermost part of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch, when they had but newly set the watch: and they blew the shofars, and broke in pieces the pitchers that were in their hands.

20 The three companies blew the shofars, and broke the pitchers, and held the torches in their left hands, and the shofars in their right hands with which to blow; and they shouted, "The sword of YHWH and of Gideon!"

21 They each stood in his place around the camp; and all the army ran; and they shouted, and put them to flight.

22 They blew the three hundred shofars, and YHWH set every man's sword against his fellow, and against all the army; and the army fled as far as Beth Shittah toward Zererah, as far as the border of Abel Meholah, by Tabbath.

23 The men of Israel were gathered together out of Naphtali, and out of Asher, and out of all Manasseh, and pursued after Midian.

24 Gideon sent messengers throughout all the hill country of Ephraim, saying, "Come down against Midian, and take before them the waters, as far as Beth Barah, even the Jordan!" So all the men of Ephraim were gathered together, and took the waters as far as Beth Barah, even the Jordan.

25 They took the two princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb; and they killed Oreb at the rock of Oreb, and Zeeb they killed at the winepress of Zeeb, and pursued Midian: and they brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon beyond the Jordan.

### Judges 8.

#### 1. Gideon Subdues the Midianites.

The men of Ephraim said to him, "Why have you treated us this way, that you didn't call us, when you went to fight with Midian?" They rebuked him sharply.

2 He said to them, "What have I now done in comparison with you? Isn't the gleaning of the grapes of Ephraim better than the vintage of Abiezer?"

3 ELOHIM has delivered into your hand the princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb! What was I able to do in comparison with you?" Then their anger was abated toward him, when he had said that.

4 Gideon came to the Jordan, and passed over, he, and the three hundred men who were with him, faint, yet pursuing.

5 He said to the men of Succoth, "Please give loaves of bread to the people who follow me; for they are faint, and I am pursuing after Zebah and Zalmunna, the kings of Midian."

6 The princes of Succoth said, "Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna now in your hand, that we should give bread to your army?"

7 Gideon said, "Therefore when YHWH has delivered Zebah and Zalmunna into my hand, then I will tear your flesh with the thorns of the wilderness and with briers."

8 He went up there to Penuel, and spoke to them in the same way; and the men of Penuel answered him as the men of Succoth had answered.

9 He spoke also to the men of Penuel, saying, "When I come again in peace, I will break down this tower."

10 Now Zebah and Zalmunna were in Karkor, and their armies with them, about fifteen thousand men, all who were left of all the army of the children of the east; for there fell one hundred twenty thousand men who drew sword.

11 Gideon went up by the way of those who lived in tents on the east of Nobah and Jogbehah, and struck the army; for the army was secure.

12 Zebah and Zalmunna fled; and he pursued after them; and he took the two kings of

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Midian, Zebah and Zalmunna, and confused all the army.

13 Gideon the son of Joash returned from the battle from the ascent of Heres.

14 He caught a young man of the men of Succoth, and inquired of him: and he described for him the princes of Succoth, and its elders, seventy-seven men.

15 He came to the men of Succoth, and said, "See Zebah and Zalmunna, concerning whom you taunted me, saying, 'Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna now in your hand, that we should give bread to your men who are weary?'"

16 He took the elders of the city, and thorns of the wilderness and briers, and with them he taught the men of Succoth.

17 He broke down the tower of Penuel, and killed the men of the city.

18 Then he said to Zebah and Zalmunna, "What kind of men were they whom you killed at Tabor?" They answered, "They were like you. Each one resembled the children of a king."

19 He said, "They were my brothers, the sons of my mother. As YHWH lives, if you had saved them alive, I would not kill you."

20 He said to Jether his firstborn, "Get up, and kill them!" But the youth didn't draw his sword; for he was afraid, because he was yet a youth.

21 Then Zebah and Zalmunna said, "Rise and fall on us; for as the man is, so is his strength." Gideon arose, and killed Zebah and Zalmunna, and took the crescents that were on their camels' necks.

### 22 . Gideon's Ephod. .

Then the men of Israel said to Gideon, "Rule over us, both you, and your son, and your son's son also; for you have saved us out of the hand of Midian."

23 Gideon said to them, "I will not rule over you, neither shall my son rule over you. YHWH shall rule over you."

24 Gideon said to them, "I would make a request of you, that you would give me every man the earrings of his spoil." (For they had golden earrings, because they were Ishmaelites.)

25 They answered, "We will willingly give them." They spread a garment, and every man threw the earrings of his spoil into it.

26 The weight of the golden earrings that he requested was one thousand and seven hundred shekels of gold, besides the crescents, and the pendants, and the purple clothing that was on the kings of Midian, and besides the chains that were about their camels' necks.

27 Gideon made an ephod of it, and put it in his city, even in Ophrah: and all Israel played the prostitute after it there; and it became a snare to Gideon, and to his house.

28 So Midian was subdued before the children of Israel, and they lifted up their heads no more. The land had rest forty years in the days of Gideon.

### 29 . Death of Gideon. .

Jerubbaal the son of Joash went and lived in his own house.

30 Gideon had seventy sons conceived from his body; for he had many wives.

31 His concubine who was in Shechem, she also bore him a son, and he named him Abimelech.

32 Gideon the son of Joash died in a good old age, and was buried in the tomb of Joash his father, in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

33 It happened, as soon as Gideon was dead, that the children of Israel turned again, and played the prostitute after the Baals, and made Baal Berith their god.

34 The children of Israel didn't remember YHWH their ELOHIM, who had delivered

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them out of the hand of all their enemies on every side;

35 neither did they show kindness to the house of Jerubbaal, Gideon, according to all the goodness which he had shown to Israel.

### Job 37.

1 “Yes, at this my heart trembles, and is moved out of its place.

2 Hear, oh, hear the noise of his voice, the sound that goes out of his mouth.

3 He sends it forth under the whole sky, and his lightning to the ends of the earth.

4 After it a voice roars. He thunders with the voice of his majesty. He doesn't hold back anything when his voice is heard.

5 ELOHIM thunders marvelously with his voice. He does great things, which we can't comprehend.

6 For he says to the snow, 'Fall on the earth;' likewise to the shower of rain, and to the showers of his mighty rain.

7 He seals up the hand of every man, that all men whom he has made may know it.

8 Then the animals take cover, and remain in their dens.

9 Out of its room comes the storm, and cold out of the north.

10 By the breath of EL, ice is given, and the breadth of the waters is frozen.

11 Yes, he loads the thick cloud with moisture. He spreads abroad the cloud of his lightning.

12 It is turned around by his guidance, that they may do whatever he commands them on the surface of the habitable world,

13 Whether it is for correction, or for his land, or for loving kindness, that he causes it to come.

14 “Listen to this, Job. Stand still, and consider the wondrous works of EL!

15 Do you know how ELOHIM controls them, and causes the lightning of his cloud to shine?

16 Do you know the workings of the clouds, the wondrous works of him who is perfect in knowledge?

17 You whose clothing is warm, when the earth is still by reason of the south wind?

18 Can you, with him, spread out the sky, which is strong as a cast metal mirror?

19 Teach us what we shall tell him, for we can't make our case by reason of darkness.

20 Shall it be told him that I would speak? Or should a man wish that he were swallowed up?

21 Now men don't see the light which is bright in the skies, but the wind passes, and clears them.

22 Out of the north comes golden splendor. With ELO is awesome majesty.

23 We can't reach the Almighty. He is exalted in power. In justice and great righteousness, he will not oppress.

24 Therefore men revere him. He doesn't regard any who are wise of heart.”

### Psalms 128.

#### 1. A Song of Ascents..

A Song of Ascents. Blessed is everyone who fears YHWH, who walks in his ways.

2 For you will eat the labor of your hands. You will be happy, and it will be well with you.

3 Your wife will be as a fruitful vine, in the innermost parts of your house; your children like olive plants, around your table.

4 Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears YHWH!

5 May YHWH bless you out of Zion, and may you see the good of Jerusalem all the days

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of your life.

6 Yes, may you see your children's children. Peace be upon Israel.

### Proverbs 24.

- 1 Don't be envious of evil men; neither desire to be with them:
- 2 for their hearts plot violence, and their lips talk about mischief.
- 3 Through wisdom a house is built; by understanding it is established;
- 4 by knowledge the rooms are filled with all rare and beautiful treasure.
- 5 A wise man has great power; and a knowledgeable man increases strength;
- 6 for by wise guidance you wage your war; and victory is in many advisors.
- 7 Wisdom is too high for a fool: he doesn't open his mouth in the gate.
- 8 One who plots to do evil will be called a schemer.
- 9 The schemes of folly are sin. The mocker is detested by men.
- 10 If you falter in the time of trouble, your strength is small.
- 11 Rescue those who are being led away to death! Indeed, hold back those who are staggering to the slaughter!
- 12 If you say, "Behold, we didn't know this;" doesn't he who weighs the hearts consider it? He who keeps your soul, doesn't he know it? Shall he not render to every man according to his work?
- 13 My son, eat honey, for it is good; the droppings of the honeycomb, which are sweet to your taste:
- 14 so you shall know wisdom to be to your soul; if you have found it, then there will be a reward, your hope will not be cut off.
- 15 Don't lay in wait, wicked man, against the habitation of the righteous. Don't destroy his resting place:
- 16 for a righteous man falls seven times, and rises up again; but the wicked are overthrown by calamity.
- 17 Don't rejoice when your enemy falls. Don't let your heart be glad when he is overthrown;
- 18 lest YHWH see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him.
- 19 Don't fret yourself because of evildoers; neither be envious of the wicked:
- 20 for there will be no reward to the evil man; and the lamp of the wicked shall be snuffed out.
- 21 My son, fear YHWH and the king. Don't join those who are rebellious:
- 22 for their calamity will rise suddenly; the destruction from them both who knows?

### **23 . Further Sayings of the Wise. .**

These also are sayings of the wise. To show partiality in judgment is not good.

- 24 He who says to the wicked, "You are righteous;" peoples shall curse him, and nations shall abhor him
- 25 but it will go well with those who convict the guilty, and a rich blessing will come on them.
- 26 An honest answer is like a kiss on the lips.
- 27 Prepare your work outside, and get your fields ready. Afterwards, build your house.
- 28 Don't be a witness against your neighbor without cause. Don't deceive with your lips.
- 29 Don't say, "I will do to him as he has done to me; I will render to the man according to his work."
- 30 I went by the field of the sluggard, by the vineyard of the man void of understanding;
- 31 Behold, it was all grown over with thorns. Its surface was covered with nettles, and its stone wall was broken down.

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- 32 Then I saw, and considered well. I saw, and received instruction:  
33 a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep;  
34 so your poverty will come as a robber, and your want as an armed man.

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