

23 May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

1 Samuel 4, 5, Psalms 52, Proverbs 9.

144. 23-May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

1 Samuel 4.

1 The word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out against the Philistines to battle, and encamped beside Ebenezer: and the Philistines encamped in Aphek.

2 ____ . **The Ark of ELOHIM Captured.** . ____

The Philistines put themselves in array against Israel: and when they joined battle, Israel was struck before the Philistines; and they killed of the army in the field about four thousand men.

3 When the people had come into the camp, the elders of Israel said, "Why has YHWH struck us today before the Philistines? Let us get the ark of the covenant of YHWH out of Shiloh to us, that it may come among us, and save us out of the hand of our enemies."

4 So the people sent to Shiloh; and they brought from there the ark of the covenant of YHWH of Hosts, who sits above the cherubim: and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of ELOHIM!

5 When the ark of the covenant of YHWH came into the camp, all Israel shouted with a great shout, so that the earth rang again.

6 When the Philistines heard the noise of the shout, they said, "What does the noise of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews mean?" They understood that the ark of YHWH had come into the camp.

7 The Philistines were afraid, for they said, "ELOHIM has come into the camp." They said, "Woe to us! For there has not been such a thing before.

8 Woe to us! Who shall deliver us out of the hand of these mighty gods? These are the gods that struck the Egyptians with all kinds of plagues in the wilderness.

9 Be strong, and behave like men, O you Philistines, that you not be servants to the Hebrews, as they have been to you. Strengthen yourselves like men, and fight!"

10 The Philistines fought, and Israel was struck, and they fled every man to his tent: and there was a very great slaughter; for there fell of Israel thirty thousand footmen.

11 The ark of ELOHIM was taken; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were slain.

12 ____ . **Death of Eli.** . ____

There ran a man of Benjamin out of the army, and came to Shiloh the same day, with his clothes torn, and with earth on his head.

13 When he came, behold, Eli was sitting on his seat by the road watching; for his heart trembled for the ark of ELOHIM! When the man came into the city, and told it, all the city cried out.

14 When Eli heard the noise of the crying, he said, "What does the noise of this tumult mean?" The man hurried, and came and told Eli.

15 Now Eli was ninety-eight years old; and his eyes were set, so that he could not see.

16 The man said to Eli, "I am he who came out of the army, and I fled today out of the army." He said, "How did the matter go, my son?"

17 He who brought the news answered, "Israel has fled before the Philistines, and there has been also a great slaughter among the people. Your two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead, and the ark of ELOHIM has been captured."

18 It happened, when he made mention of the ark of ELOHIM, that Eli fell from off his seat backward by the side of the gate; and his neck broke, and he died; for he was an old man, and heavy. He had judged Israel forty years.

19 ____ . **Ichabod.** . ____

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His daughter-in-law, Phinehas' wife, was with child, near to be delivered. When she heard the news that the ark of ELOHIM was taken, and that her father-in-law and her husband were dead, she bowed herself and gave birth; for her pains came on her.

20 About the time of her death the women who stood by her said to her, "Don't be afraid; for you have given birth to a son." But she didn't answer, neither did she regard it.

21 She named the child Ichabod, saying, "The glory has departed from Israel;" because the ark of ELOHIM was taken, and because of her father-in-law and her husband.

22 She said, "The glory has departed from Israel; for the ark of ELOHIM is taken."

1 Samuel 5.

1 . The Philistines and the Ark. .

Now the Philistines had taken the ark of ELOHIM, and they brought it from Ebenezer to Ashdod.

2 The Philistines took the ark of ELOHIM, and brought it into the house of Dagon, and set it by Dagon.

3 When they of Ashdod arose early on the next day, behold, Dagon was fallen on his face to the ground before the ark of YHWH! They took Dagon, and set him in his place again.

4 When they arose early on the next day morning, behold, Dagon was fallen on his face to the ground before the ark of YHWH; and the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands were cut off on the threshold. Only Dagon's torso was intact.

5 Therefore neither the priests of Dagon, nor any who come into Dagon's house, tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod, to this day.

6 But the hand of YHWH was heavy on them of Ashdod, and he destroyed them, and struck them with tumors, even Ashdod and its borders.

7 When the men of Ashdod saw that it was so, they said, "The ark of the ELOHIM of Israel shall not stay with us; for his hand is severe on us, and on Dagon our god."

8 They sent therefore and gathered all the masters of the Philistines to them, and said, "What shall we do with the ark of the ELOHIM of Israel?" They answered, "Let the ark of the ELOHIM of Israel be carried over to Gath." They carried the ark of the ELOHIM of Israel there.

9 It was so, that after they had carried it about, the hand of YHWH was against the city with a very great confusion: and he struck the men of the city, both small and great; and tumors broke out on them.

10 So they sent the ark of ELOHIM to Ekron. It happened, as the ark of ELOHIM came to Ekron, that the Ekronites cried out, saying, "They have brought about the ark of the ELOHIM of Israel to us, to kill us and our people."

11 They sent therefore and gathered together all the masters of the Philistines, and they said, "Send away the ark of the ELOHIM of Israel, and let it go again to its own place, that it not kill us and our people." For there was a deadly confusion throughout all the city; the hand of ELOHIM was very heavy there.

12 The men who didn't die were struck with the tumors; and the cry of the city went up to heaven.

Psalms 52.

1 . To the Chief Musician. A Contemplation of David when Doeg the Edomite went and told Saul, and said to him, David has gone to the house of Ahimelech.. .

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For the Chief Musician. A contemplation by David, when Doeg the Edomite came and told Saul, "David has come to Abimelech's house." Why do you boast of mischief, mighty man? ELOHIM's loving kindness endures continually.

2 Your tongue plots destruction, like a sharp razor, working deceitfully.

3 You love evil more than good, lying rather than speaking the truth. Selah.

4 You love all devouring words, you deceitful tongue.

5 ELOHIM will likewise destroy you forever. He will take you up, and pluck you out of your tent, and root you out of the land of the living. Selah.

6 The righteous also will see it, and fear, and laugh at him, saying,

7 "Behold, this is the man who didn't make ELOHIM his strength, but trusted in the abundance of his riches, and strengthened himself in his wickedness."

8 But as for me, I am like a green olive tree in ELOHIM's house. I trust in ELOHIM's loving kindness forever and ever.

9 I will give you thanks forever, because you have done it. I will hope in your name, for it is good, in the presence of your holy ones.

Proverbs 9.

1 ____ . **The Way of Wisdom.** . ____

Wisdom has built her house. She has carved out her seven pillars.

2 She has prepared her meat. She has mixed her wine. She has also set her table.

3 She has sent out her maidens. She cries from the highest places of the city:

4 "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" As for him who is void of understanding, she says to him,

5 "Come, eat some of my bread, Drink some of the wine which I have mixed!

6 Leave your simple ways, and live. Walk in the way of understanding."

7 He who corrects a mocker invites insult. He who reproves a wicked man invites abuse.

8 Don't reprove a scoffer, lest he hate you. Reprove a wise man, and he will love you.

9 Instruct a wise man, and he will be still wiser. Teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.

10 The fear of YHWH is the beginning of wisdom. The knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

11 For by me your days will be multiplied. The years of your life will be increased.

12 If you are wise, you are wise for yourself. If you mock, you alone will bear it.

13 ____ . **The Way of Folly.** . ____

The foolish woman is loud, Undisciplined, and knows nothing.

14 She sits at the door of her house, on a seat in the high places of the city,

15 To call to those who pass by, who go straight on their ways,

16 "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here." as for him who is void of understanding, she says to him,

17 "Stolen water is sweet. Food eaten in secret is pleasant."

18 But he doesn't know that the dead are there, that her guests are in the depths of Sheol.

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