

31 May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

1 Samuel 15, Psalms 60, Proverbs 17.

152. 31-May Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

1 Samuel 15.

1 . Saul Spares King Agag. .

Samuel said to Saul, "YHWH sent me to anoint you to be king over his people, over Israel. Now therefore listen to the voice of the words of YHWH!

2 Thus says YHWH of Hosts, 'I have marked that which Amalek did to Israel, how he set himself against him in the way, when he came up out of Egypt.

3 Now go and strike Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and don't spare them; but kill both man and woman, infant and nursing baby, ox and sheep, camel and donkey."

4 Saul summoned the people, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah.

5 Saul came to the city of Amalek, and laid wait in the valley.

6 Saul said to the Kenites, "Go, depart, go down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them; for you showed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt." So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.

7 Saul struck the Amalekites, from Havilah as you go to Shur, that is before Egypt.

8 He took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.

9 But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the cattle, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good, and wouldn't utterly destroy them: but everything that was vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

10 . Saul Rejected as King. .

Then the word of YHWH came to Samuel, saying,

11 "It grieves me that I have set up Saul to be king; for he is turned back from following me, and has not performed my commandments." Samuel was angry; and he cried to YHWH all night.

12 Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning; and it was told Samuel, saying, "Saul came to Carmel, and behold, he set up a monument for himself, and turned, and passed on, and went down to Gilgal."

13 Samuel came to Saul; and Saul said to him, "You are blessed by YHWH! I have performed the commandment of YHWH!"

14 Samuel said, "Then what does this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the cattle which I hear mean?"

15 Saul said, "They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the cattle, to sacrifice to YHWH your ELOHIM! We have utterly destroyed the rest."

16 Then Samuel said to Saul, "Stay, and I will tell you what YHWH has said to me last night." He said to him, "Say on."

17 Samuel said, "Though you were little in your own sight, weren't you made the head of the tribes of Israel? YHWH anointed you king over Israel;

18 and YHWH sent you on a journey, and said, 'Go, and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.'

19 Why then didn't you obey the voice of YHWH, but took the spoils, and did that which was evil in the sight of YHWH?"

20 Saul said to Samuel, "But I have obeyed the voice of YHWH, and have gone the way which YHWH sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

21 But the people took of the spoil, sheep and cattle, the chief of the devoted things, to

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sacrifice to YHWH your ELOHIM in Gilgal.”

22 Samuel said, “Has YHWH as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of YHWH? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams.

23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as idolatry and teraphim. Because you have rejected the word of YHWH, he has also rejected you from being king.”

24 Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned; for I have transgressed the commandment of YHWH, and your words, because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.

25 Now therefore, please pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship YHWH!”

26 Samuel said to Saul, “I will not return with you; for you have rejected the word of YHWH, and YHWH has rejected you from being king over Israel.”

27 As Samuel turned about to go away, Saul grabbed the skirt of his robe, and it tore.

28 Samuel said to him, “YHWH has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day, and has given it to a neighbor of yours who is better than you.

29 Also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor repent; for he is not a man, that he should repent.”

30 Then he said, “I have sinned: yet please honor me now before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and come back with me, that I may worship YHWH your ELOHIM!”

31 So Samuel went back with Saul; and Saul worshiped YHWH!

32 Then Samuel said, “Bring here to me Agag the king of the Amalekites!” Agag came to him cheerfully. Agag said, “Surely the bitterness of death is past.”

33 Samuel said, “As your sword has made women childless, so your mother will be childless among women!” Samuel cut Agag in pieces before YHWH in Gilgal.

34 Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house to Gibeah of Saul.

35 Samuel came no more to see Saul until the day of his death; for Samuel mourned for Saul: and YHWH grieved that he had made Saul king over Israel.

Psalms 60.

1 To the Chief Musician. Set to Lily of the Testimony. A Michtam of David. For teaching. When he fought against Mesopotamia and Syria of Zobah, and Joab returned and killed twelve thousand Edomites in the Valley of Salt.

For the Chief Musician. To the tune of “The Lily of the Covenant.” A teaching poem by David, when he fought with Aram Naharaim and with Aram Zobah, and Joab returned, and killed twelve thousand of Edom in the Valley of Salt. ELOHIM, you have rejected us. You have broken us down. You have been angry. Restore us, again.

2 You have made the land tremble. You have torn it. Mend its fractures, for it quakes.

3 You have shown your people hard things. You have made us drink the wine that makes us stagger.

4 You have given a banner to those who fear you, that it may be displayed because of the truth. Selah.

5 So that your beloved may be delivered, save with your right hand, and answer us.

6 ELOHIM has spoken from his sanctuary: “I will triumph. I will divide Shechem, and measure out the valley of Succoth.

7 Gilead is mine, and Manasseh is mine. Ephraim also is the defense of my head. Judah is my scepter.

8 Moab is my wash basin. I will throw my shoe on Edom. I shout in triumph over Philistia.”

9 Who will bring me into the strong city? Who has led me to Edom?

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- 10 Haven't you, ELOHIM, rejected us? You don't go out with our armies, ELOHIM!
11 Give us help against the adversary, for the help of man is vain.
12 Through ELOHIM we shall do valiantly, for it is he who will tread down our adversaries.

Proverbs 17.

- 1 Better is a dry morsel with quietness, than a house full of feasting with strife.
2 A servant who deals wisely will rule over a son who causes shame, and shall have a part in the inheritance among the brothers.
3 The refining pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold, but YHWH tests the hearts.
4 An evildoer heeds wicked lips. A liar gives ear to a mischievous tongue.
5 Whoever mocks the poor reproaches his Maker. He who is glad at calamity shall not be unpunished.
6 Children's children are the crown of old men; the glory of children are their parents.
7 Arrogant speech isn't fitting for a fool, much less do lying lips fit a prince.
8 A bribe is a precious stone in the eyes of him who gives it; wherever he turns, he prospers.
9 He who covers an offense promotes love; but he who repeats a matter separates best friends.
10 A rebuke enters deeper into one who has understanding than a hundred lashes into a fool.
11 An evil man seeks only rebellion; therefore a cruel messenger shall be sent against him.
12 Let a bear robbed of her cubs meet a man, rather than a fool in his folly.
13 Whoever rewards evil for good, evil shall not depart from his house.
14 The beginning of strife is like breaching a dam, therefore stop contention before quarreling breaks out.
15 He who justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the righteous, both of them alike are an abomination to YHWH!
16 Why is there money in the hand of a fool to buy wisdom, since he has no understanding?
17 A friend loves at all times; and a brother is born for adversity.
18 A man void of understanding strikes hands, and becomes collateral in the presence of his neighbor.
19 He who loves disobedience loves strife. One who builds a high gate seeks destruction.
20 One who has a perverse heart doesn't find prosperity, and one who has a deceitful tongue falls into trouble.
21 He who becomes the father of a fool grieves. The father of a fool has no joy.
22 A cheerful heart makes good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.
23 A wicked man receives a bribe in secret, to pervert the ways of justice.
24 Wisdom is before the face of one who has understanding, but the eyes of a fool wander to the ends of the earth.
25 A foolish son brings grief to his father, and bitterness to her who bore him.
26 Also to punish the righteous is not good, nor to flog officials for their integrity.
27 He who spares his words has knowledge. He who is even tempered is a man of understanding.
28 Even a fool, when he keeps silent, is counted wise. When he shuts his lips, he is thought to be discerning.

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