2 Samuel 3:2-39, Daniel 2:1-23, Psalms 135, Proverbs 31.

166. 14-June Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Samuel 3:2-39.

2 <u>. Sons of David.</u>

To David were sons born in Hebron: and his firstborn was Amnon, of Ahinoam the Jezreelitess;

3 and his second, Chileab, of Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite; and the third, Absalom the son of Maacah the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur;

4 and the fourth, Adonijah the son of Haggith; and the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital;

5 and the sixth, Ithream, of Eglah, David's wife. These were born to David in Hebron.

6 <u>. Abner Joins Forces with David.</u>

It happened, while there was war between the house of Saul and the house of David, that Abner made himself strong in the house of Saul.

7 Now Saul had a concubine, whose name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah: and Ishbosheth said to Abner, "Why have you gone in to my father's concubine?"

8 Then was Abner very angry for the words of Ishbosheth, and said, "Am I a dog's head that belongs to Judah? Today I show kindness to the house of Saul your father, to his brothers, and to his friends, and have not delivered you into the hand of David; and yet you charge me this day with a fault concerning this woman!

9 ELOHIM do so to Abner, and more also, if, as YHWH has sworn to David, I don't do even so to him;

10 to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul, and to set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan even to Beersheba."

11 He could not answer Abner another word, because he feared him.

12 Abner sent messengers to David on his behalf, saying, "Whose is the land?" and saying, "Make your alliance with me, and behold, my hand shall be with you, to bring all Israel around to you."

13 He said, "Good; I will make a treaty with you; but one thing I require of you. That is, you shall not see my face, unless you first bring Michal, Saul's daughter, when you come to see my face."

14 David sent messengers to Ishbosheth, Saul's son, saying, "Deliver me my wife Michal, whom I pledged to be married to me for one hundred foreskins of the Philistines."

15 Ishbosheth sent, and took her from her husband, even from Paltiel the son of Laish. 16 Her husband went with her, weeping as he went, and followed her to Bahurim. Then Abner said to him, "Go! Return!" and he returned.

17 Abner had communication with the elders of Israel, saying, "In times past, you sought for David to be king over you.

18 Now then do it; for YHWH has spoken of David, saying, 'By the hand of my servant David, I will save my people Israel out of the hand of the Philistines, and out of the hand of all their enemies.'"

19 Abner also spoke in the ears of Benjamin: and Abner went also to speak in the ears of David in Hebron all that seemed good to Israel, and to the whole house of Benjamin.20 So Abner came to David to Hebron, and twenty men with him. David made Abner and the men who were with him a feast.

21 Abner said to David, "I will arise and go, and will gather all Israel to my master the king, that they may make a covenant with you, and that you may reign over all that your soul desires." David sent Abner away; and he went in peace.

2 Samuel 3:2-39, Daniel 2:1-23, Psalms 135, Proverbs 31.

22 . Joab Murders Abner. .

Behold, the servants of David and Joab came from a foray, and brought in a great spoil with them: but Abner was not with David in Hebron; for he had sent him away, and he was gone in peace.

23 When Joab and all the army who was with him had come, they told Joab, saying, Abner the son of Ner came to the king, and he has sent him away, and he is gone in peace.

²4 Then Joab came to the king, and said, "What have you done? Behold, Abner came to you. Why is it that you have sent him away, and he is quite gone?

25 You know Abner the son of Ner, that he came to deceive you, and to know your going out and your coming in, and to know all that you do."

26 When Joab had come out from David, he sent messengers after Abner, and they brought him back from the well of Sirah; but David didn't know it.

27 When Abner was returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside into the midst of the gate to speak with him quietly, and struck him there in the body, so that he died, for the blood of Asahel his brother.

28 Afterward, when David heard it, he said, "I and my kingdom are guiltless before YHWH forever of the blood of Abner the son of Ner.

29 Let it fall on the head of Joab, and on all his father's house. Let there not fail from the house of Joab one who has an issue, or who is a leper, or who leans on a staff, or who falls by the sword, or who lacks bread."

30 So Joab and Abishai his brother killed Abner, because he had killed their brother Asahel at Gibeon in the battle.

31 . David's Mourning for Abner. .

David said to Joab, and to all the people who were with him, Tear your clothes, and clothe yourselves with sackcloth, and mourn before Abner. King David followed the bier. **32** They buried Abner in Hebron: and the king lifted up his voice, and wept at the grave of Abner; and all the people wept.

33 The king lamented for Abner, and said, "Should Abner die as a fool dies?

34 Your hands were not bound, nor your feet put into fetters. As a man falls before the children of iniquity, so you fell." All the people wept again over him.

35 All the people came to cause David to eat bread while it was yet day; but David swore, saying, "ELOHIM do so to me, and more also, if I taste bread, or anything else, until the sun goes down."

36 All the people took notice of it, and it pleased them; as whatever the king did pleased all the people.

37 So all the people and all Israel understood that day that it was not of the king to kill Abner the son of Ner.

38 The king said to his servants, "Don't you know that there a prince and a great man has fallen this day in Israel?

39 I am this day weak, though anointed king; and these men the sons of Zeruiah are too hard for me. May YHWH reward the evildoer according to his wickedness."

Daniel 2:1-23.

1 <u>. Nebuchadnezzar's Dream. .</u>

In the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams; and his spirit was troubled, and his sleep went from him.

2 Samuel 3:2-39, Daniel 2:1-23, Psalms 135, Proverbs 31.

2 Then the king commanded to call the magicians, and the enchanters, and the sorcerers, and the Kasdim, to tell the king his dreams. So they came in and stood before the king. 3 The king said to them, I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit is troubled to know the dream.

4 Then spoke the Kasdim to the king in the Syrian language, O king, live forever: tell your servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation.

5 The king answered the Kasdim, The thing is gone from me: if you don't make known to me the dream and its interpretation, you shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made a dunghill.

6 But if you show the dream and its interpretation, you shall receive of me gifts and rewards and great honor: therefore show me the dream and its interpretation.

7 They answered the second time and said, Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation.

8 The king answered, Î know of a certainty that you would gain time, because you see the thing is gone from me.

9 But if you don't make known to me the dream, there is but one decree for you; for you have prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me, until the time be changed: therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that you can show me its interpretation.

10 The Kasdians answered before the king, and said, There is not a man on the earth who can show the king's matter, because no king, master, or ruler, has asked such a thing of any magician, or enchanter, or Chaldean.

11 It is a rare thing that the king requires, and there is no other who can show it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.

12 For this cause the king was angry and very furious, and commanded to destroy all the wise men of Babylon.

13 So the decree went forth, and the wise men were to be slain; and they sought Daniel and his companions to be slain.

14 . ELOHIM Reveals Nebuchadnezzar's Dream. .

Then Daniel returned answer with counsel and prudence to Arioch the captain of the king's guard, who was gone forth to kill the wise men of Babylon;

15 he answered Arioch the king's captain, Why is the decree so urgent from the king? Then Arioch made the thing known to Daniel.

16 Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would appoint him a time, and he would show the king the interpretation.

17 Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions:

18 that they would desire mercies of the ELOHIM of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his companions should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.
19 Then was the secret revealed to Daniel in a vision of the night. Then Daniel blessed the ELOHIM of heaven.

20 Daniel answered, Blessed be the name of ELOHIM forever and ever; for wisdom and might are his.

21 He changes the times and the seasons; he removes kings, and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise, and knowledge to those who have understanding;

22 he reveals the deep and secret things; he knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with him.

23 I thank you, and praise you, you ELOHIM of my fathers, who have given me wisdom and might, and have now made known to me what we desired of you; for you have made known to us the king's matter.

2 Samuel 3:2-39, Daniel 2:1-23, Psalms 135, Proverbs 31.

Psalms 135.

1 . Praise to ELOHIM in Creation and Redemption. .

Praise YAH! Praise the name of YHWH! Praise him, you servants of YHWH, 2 you who stand in the house of YHWH, in the courts of our ELOHIM's house.

3 Praise YAH, for YHWH is good. Sing praises to his name, for that is pleasant.

4 For YAH has chosen Jacob for himself; Israel for his own possession.

5 For I know that YHWH is great, that our ADONAI is above all gods.

6 Whatever YHWH pleased, that he has done, in heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all deeps;

7 who causes the clouds to rise from the ends of the earth; who makes lightnings with the rain; who brings forth the wind out of his treasuries;

8 Who struck the firstborn of Egypt, both of man and animal;

9 Who sent signs and wonders into the midst of you, Egypt, on Pharaoh, and on all his servants;

10 who struck many nations, and killed mighty kings,

11 Sihon king of the Amorites, Og king of Bashan, and all the kingdoms of Canaan,

12 and gave their land for a heritage, a heritage to Israel, his people.

13 Your name, YHWH, endures forever; your renown, YHWH, throughout all generations.

14 For YHWH will judge his people, and have compassion on his servants.

15 The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of men's hands.

16 They have mouths, but they can't speak. They have eyes, but they can't see.

17 They have ears, but they can't hear; neither is there any breath in their mouths.

18 Those who make them will be like them; yes, everyone who trusts in them.

19 House of Israel, praise YHWH! House of Aaron, praise YHWH!

20 House of Levi, praise YHWH! You who fear YHWH, praise YHWH!

21 Blessed be YHWH from Zion, Who dwells at Jerusalem. Praise YAH!

Proverbs 31.

1 . The Words of King Lemuel's Mother. .

The words of king Lemuel; the oracle which his mother taught him.

2 "Oh, my son! Oh, son of my womb! Oh, son of my vows!

3 Don't give your strength to women, nor your ways to that which destroys kings.

4 It is not for kings, Lemuel; it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes to say, 'Where is strong drink?'

5 lest they drink, and forget the decree, and pervert the justice due to anyone who is afflicted.

6 Give strong drink to him who is ready to perish; and wine to the bitter in soul:

7 Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more.

8 Open your mouth for the mute, in the cause of all who are left desolate.

9 Open your mouth, judge righteously, and serve justice to the poor and needy."

10 <u>. The Virtuous Wife. .</u>

Who can find a worthy woman? For her price is far above rubies.

11 The heart of her husband trusts in her. He shall have no lack of gain. 12 She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life.

2 Samuel 3:2-39, Daniel 2:1-23, Psalms 135, Proverbs 31.

13 She seeks wool and flax, and works eagerly with her hands.

14 She is like the merchant ships. She brings her bread from afar.

15 She rises also while it is yet night, gives food to her household, and portions for her servant girls.

16 She considers a field, and buys it. With the fruit of her hands, she plants a vineyard.17 She arms her waist with strength, and makes her arms strong.

18 She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp doesn't go out by night. 19 She lays her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle.

20 She opens her arms to the poor; yes, she extends her hands to the needy.

21 She is not afraid of the snow for her household; for all her household are clothed with scarlet.

22 She makes for herself carpets of tapestry. Her clothing is fine linen and purple.

23 Her husband is respected in the gates, when he sits among the elders of the land.

24 She makes linen garments and sells them, and delivers sashes to the merchant.

25 Strength and dignity are her clothing. She laughs at the time to come.

26 She opens her mouth with wisdom. Faithful instruction is on her tongue.

27 She looks well to the ways of her household, and doesn't eat the bread of idleness.

28 Her children rise up and call her blessed. Her husband also praises her:

29 "Many women do noble things, but you excel them all."

30 Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain; but a woman who fears YHWH, she shall be praised.

31 Give her of the fruit of her hands! Let her works praise her in the gates!

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