2 Kings 19, Nahum 1, Psalms 38, Proverbs 22.

Day 219. 6-August Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Kings 19.

1 . Isaiah Assures Deliverance. .

It happened, when king Hezekiah heard it, that he tore his clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of YHWH!

- 2 He sent Eliakim, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz.
- 3 They said to him, "Thus says Hezekiah, 'This day is a day of trouble, of rebuke, and of rejection; for the children have come to the point of birth, and there is no strength to deliver them.
- 4 It may be YHWH your ELOHIM will hear all the words of Rabshakeh, whom the king of Assyria his master has sent to defy the living ELOHIM, and will rebuke the words which YHWH your ELOHIM has heard. Therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left."
- 5 So the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah.
- 6 Isaiah said to them, "Thus you shall tell your master, 'Thus says YHWH, "Don't be afraid of the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me.
- 7 Behold, I will put a spirit in him, and he will hear news, and will return to his own land. I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.""

8 . Sennacherib's Threat and Hezekiah's Prayer..

So Rabshakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria warring against Libnah; for he had heard that he had departed from Lachish.

- 9 When he heard it said of Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, "Behold, he has come out to fight against you, he sent messengers again to Hezekiah, saying,
- 10 'Thus you shall speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying, "Don't let your ELOHIM in whom you trust deceive you, saying, Jerusalem will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.
- 11 Behold, you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by destroying them utterly. Will you be delivered?
- 12 Have the gods of the nations delivered them, which my fathers have destroyed, Gozan, and Haran, and Rezeph, and the children of Eden that were in Telassar?
- 13 Where is the king of Hamath, and the king of Arpad, and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivvah?""
- 14 Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it. Then Hezekiah went up to the house of YHWH, and spread it before YHWH!
- 15 Hezekiah prayed before YHWH, and said, "YHWH, the ELOHIM of Israel, who sit above the cherubim, you are the ELOHIM, even you alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.
- 16 Incline your ear, YHWH, and hear. Open your eyes, YHWH, and see. Hear the words of Sennacherib, with which he has sent to defy the living ELOHIM!
- 17 Truly, YHWH, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands,
- 18 and have cast their gods into the fire; for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone. Therefore they have destroyed them.
- 19 Now therefore, YHWH our ELOHIM, save us, I beg you, out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you, YHWH, are ELOHIM alone."

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20 . The Word of YHWH Concerning Sennacherib. .

Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, "Thus says YHWH, the ELOHIM of Israel, 'Whereas you have prayed to me against Sennacherib king of Assyria, I have heard you.

- 21 This is the word that YHWH has spoken concerning him: "The virgin daughter of Zion has despised you and ridiculed you. The daughter of Jerusalem has shaken her head at you.
- 22 Whom have you defied and blasphemed? Against whom have you exalted your voice and lifted up your eyes on high? Against the Holy One of Israel.
- 23 By your messengers you have defied ADONAI, and have said, 'With the multitude of my chariots, I have come up to the height of the mountains, to the innermost parts of Lebanon; and I will cut down its tall cedars, and its choice fir trees; and I will enter into his farthest lodging place, the forest of his fruitful field.
- 24 I have dug and drunk strange waters, and with the sole of my feet will I dry up all the rivers of Egypt.'
- 25 Haven't you heard how I have done it long ago, and formed it of ancient times? Now have I brought it to pass, that it should be yours to lay waste fortified cities into ruinous heaps.
- 26 Therefore their inhabitants were of small power. They were dismayed and confounded. They were like the grass of the field, and like the green herb, like the grass on the housetops, and like grain blasted before it has grown up.
- 27 But I know your sitting down, and your going out, and your coming in, and your raging against me.
- 28 Because of your raging against me, and because your arrogance has come up into my ears, therefore will I put my hook in your nose, and my bridle in your lips, and I will turn you back by the way by which you came."
- 29 "This shall be the sign to you: You shall eat this year that which grows of itself, and in the second year that which springs of the same; and in the third year sow, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat its fruit.
- 30 The remnant that has escaped of the house of Judah shall again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.
- 31 For out of Jerusalem a remnant will go out, and out of Mount Zion those who shall escape. The zeal of YHWH will perform this.'
- 32 "Therefore thus says YHWH concerning the king of Assyria, 'He shall not come to this city, nor shoot an arrow there, neither shall he come before it with shield, nor cast up a mound against it.
- 33 By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and he shall not come to this city,' says YHWH!
- 34 'For I will defend this city to save it, for my own sake, and for my servant David's sake."

35 . Sennacherib's Defeat and Death. .

It happened that night, that the angel of YHWH went out, and struck one hundred eighty-five thousand in the camp of the Assyrians. When men arose early in the morning, behold, these were all dead bodies.

- 36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and lived at Nineveh.
- 37 It happened, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that

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Adrammelech and Sharezer struck him with the sword; and they escaped into the land of Ararat. Esar Haddon his son reigned in his place.

Nahum 1.

1 Nahum!

An oracle about Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

. ELOHIM's Wrath on His Enemies. .

- 2 YHWH is a jealous ELOHIM and avenges. YHWH avenges and is full of wrath. YHWH takes vengeance on his adversaries, and he maintains wrath against his enemies.
- 3 YHWH is slow to anger, and great in power, and will by no means leave the guilty unpunished. YHWH has his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet.
- 4 He rebukes the sea, and makes it dry, and dries up all the rivers. Bashan languishes, and Carmel; and the flower of Lebanon languishes.
- 5 The mountains quake before him, and the hills melt away. The earth trembles at his presence, yes, the world, and all who dwell in it.
- 6 Who can stand before his indignation? Who can endure the fierceness of his anger? His wrath is poured out like fire, and the rocks are broken apart by him.
- 7 YHWH is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and he knows those who take refuge in him.
- 8 But with an overflowing flood, he will make a full end of her place, and will pursue his enemies into darkness.
- 9 What do you plot against YHWH? He will make a full end. Affliction won't rise up the second time.
- 10 For entangled like thorns, and drunken as with their drink, they are consumed utterly like dry stubble.
- 11 There is one gone forth out of you, who devises evil against YHWH, who counsels wickedness.
- 12 Thus says YHWH: "Though they be in full strength, and likewise many, even so they will be cut down, and he shall pass away. Though I have afflicted you, I will afflict you no more.
- 13 Now will I break his yoke from off you, and will burst your bonds apart."
- 14 YHWH has commanded concerning you: "No more descendants will bear your name. Out of the house of your gods, will I cut off the engraved image and the molten image. I will make your grave, for you are vile."
- 15 Behold, on the mountains the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace! Keep your feasts, Judah! Perform your vows, for the wicked one will no more pass through you. He is utterly cut off.

Psalms 38.

. A Psalm of David. To bring to remembrance...

A Psalm by David, for a memorial. YHWH, don't rebuke me in your wrath, neither chasten me in your hot displeasure.

- 2 For your arrows have pierced me, your hand presses hard on me.
- 3 There is no soundness in my flesh because of your indignation, neither is there any health in my bones because of my sin.
- 4 For my iniquities have gone over my head. As a heavy burden, they are too heavy for

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me.

- 5 My wounds are loathsome and corrupt, because of my foolishness.
- 6 I am pained and bowed down greatly. I go mourning all day long.
- 7 For my waist is filled with burning. There is no soundness in my flesh.
- 8 I am faint and severely bruised. I have groaned by reason of the anguish of my heart.
- 9 ADONAI, all my desire is before you. My groaning is not hidden from you.
- 10 My heart throbs. My strength fails me. As for the light of my eyes, it has also left me.
- 11 My lovers and my friends stand aloof from my plague. My kinsmen stand far away.
- 12 They also who seek after my life lay snares. Those who seek my hurt speak mischievous things, and meditate deceits all day long.
- 13 But I, as a deaf man, don't hear. I am as a mute man who doesn't open his mouth.
- 14 Yes, I am as a man who doesn't hear, in whose mouth are no reproofs.
- 15 For in you, YHWH, do I hope. You will answer, ADONAI my ELOHIM!
- 16 For I said, "Don't let them gloat over me, or exalt themselves over me when my foot slips."
- 17 For I am ready to fall. My pain is continually before me.
- 18 For I will declare my iniquity. I will be sorry for my sin.
- 19 But my enemies are vigorous and many. Those who hate me without reason are numerous.
- 20 They who also render evil for good are adversaries to me, because I follow what is good.
- 21 Don't forsake me, YHWH! My ELOHIM, don't be far from me.
- 22 Hurry to help me, ADONAI, my salvation.

Proverbs 22.

- 1 A good name is more desirable than great riches, and loving favor is better than silver and gold.
- 2 The rich and the poor have this in common: YHWH is the maker of them all.
- 3 A prudent man sees danger, and hides himself; but the simple pass on, and suffer for it.
- 4 The result of humility and the fear of YHWH is wealth, honor, and life.
- 5 Thorns and snares are in the path of the wicked: whoever guards his soul stays from them.
- 6 Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.
- 7 The rich rule over the poor. The borrower is servant to the lender.
- 8 He who sows wickedness reaps trouble, and the rod of his fury will be destroyed.
- 9 He who has a generous eye will be blessed; for he shares his food with the poor.
- 10 Drive out the mocker, and strife will go out; yes, quarrels and insults will stop.
- 11 He who loves purity of heart and speaks gracefully is the king's friend.
- 12 The eyes of YHWH watch over knowledge; but he frustrates the words of the unfaithful.
- 13 The sluggard says, "There is a lion outside! I will be killed in the streets!"
- 14 The mouth of an adulteress is a deep pit: he who is under YHWH's wrath will fall into it.
- 15 Folly is bound up in the heart of a child: the rod of discipline drives it far from him.
- 16 Whoever oppresses the poor for his own increase and whoever gives to the rich, both come to poverty.

17 . Sayings of the Wise. .

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Turn your ear, and listen to the words of the wise. Apply your heart to my teaching. 18 For it is a pleasant thing if you keep them within you, if all of them are ready on your lips.

- 19 That your trust may be in YHWH, I teach you today, even you.
- 20 Haven't I written to you thirty excellent things of counsel and knowledge,
- 21 To teach you truth, reliable words, to give sound answers to the ones who sent you?
- 22 Don't exploit the poor, because he is poor; and don't crush the needy in court;
- 23 for YHWH will plead their case, and plunder the life of those who plunder them.
- 24 Don't befriend a hot-tempered man, and don't associate with one who harbors anger:
- 25 lest you learn his ways, and ensnare your soul.
- 26 Don't you be one of those who strike hands, of those who are collateral for debts.
- 27 If you don't have means to pay, why should he take away your bed from under you?
- 28 Don't move the ancient boundary stone, which your fathers have set up.
- 29 Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will serve kings. He won't serve obscure men.

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

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