

7 Aug Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Kings 20, 21, Nahum 2, Psalms 39, Proverbs 23.

Day 220. 7-August Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Kings 20.

1 . Hezekiah's Life Extended. .

In those days was Hezekiah sick to death. Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came to him, and said to him, “Thus says YHWH, ‘Set your house in order; for you shall die, and not live.’”

2 Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed to YHWH, saying,

3 “Remember now, YHWH, I beg you, how I have walked before you in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in your sight.” Hezekiah wept bitterly.

4 It happened, before Isaiah had gone out into the middle part of the city, that the word of YHWH came to him, saying,

5 “Turn back, and tell Hezekiah the prince of my people, ‘Thus says YHWH, the ELOHIM of David your father, ‘I have heard your prayer. I have seen your tears. Behold, I will heal you. On the third day, you shall go up to the house of YHWH!’

6 I will add to your days fifteen years. I will deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria. I will defend this city for my own sake, and for my servant David’s sake.’”

7 Isaiah said, “Take a cake of figs.” They took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered.

8 Hezekiah said to Isaiah, “What shall be the sign that YHWH will heal me, and that I shall go up to the house of YHWH the third day?”

9 Isaiah said, “This shall be the sign to you from YHWH, that YHWH will do the thing that he has spoken: shall the shadow go forward ten steps, or go back ten steps?”

10 Hezekiah answered, “It is a light thing for the shadow to go forward ten steps. Nay, but let the shadow return backward ten steps.”

11 Isaiah the prophet cried to YHWH; and he brought the shadow ten steps backward, by which it had gone down on the dial of Ahaz.

12 . The Babylonian Envoys. .

At that time Berodach Baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah; for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick.

13 Hezekiah listened to them, and showed them all the house of his precious things, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the precious oil, and the house of his armor, and all that was found in his treasures: there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah didn’t show them.

14 Then Isaiah the prophet came to king Hezekiah, and said to him, “What did these men say? From where did they come to you?” Hezekiah said, “They have come from a far country, even from Babylon.”

15 He said, “What have they seen in your house?” Hezekiah answered, “They have seen all that is in my house. There is nothing among my treasures that I have not shown them.”

16 Isaiah said to Hezekiah, “Hear the word of YHWH!”

17 ‘Behold, the days come, that all that is in your house, and that which your fathers have laid up in store to this day, shall be carried to Babylon. Nothing shall be left,’ says YHWH!

18 ‘Of your sons who shall issue from you, whom you shall father, shall they take away; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.’”

19 Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, “The word of YHWH which you have spoken is good.” He said moreover, “Isn’t it so, if peace and truth shall be in my days?”

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20 . Death of Hezekiah. .

Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and all his might, and how he made the pool, and the conduit, and brought water into the city, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

21 Hezekiah slept with his fathers; and Manasseh his son reigned in his place.

2 Kings 21.

1 . Manasseh Reigns in Judah. .

Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign; and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Hephzibah.

2 He did that which was evil in the sight of YHWH, after the abominations of the nations whom YHWH cast out before the children of Israel.

3 For he built again the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he reared up altars for Baal, and made an Asherah, as did Ahab king of Israel, and worshiped all the army of the sky, and served them.

4 He built altars in the house of YHWH, of which YHWH said, "I will put my name in Jerusalem."

5 He built altars for all the army of the sky in the two courts of the house of YHWH!

6 He made his son to pass through the fire, and practiced sorcery, and used enchantments, and dealt with those who had familiar spirits, and with wizards: he worked much evil in the sight of YHWH, to provoke him to anger.

7 He set the engraved image of Asherah, that he had made, in the house of which YHWH said to David and to Solomon his son, "In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, will I put my name forever;

8 neither will I cause the feet of Israel to wander any more out of the land which I gave their fathers, if only they will observe to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the Torah (teaching and instruction) that my servant Moses commanded them."

9 But they didn't listen: and Manasseh seduced them to do that which is evil more than the nations did whom YHWH destroyed before the children of Israel.

10 YHWH spoke by his servants the prophets, saying,

11 "Because Manasseh king of Judah has done these abominations, and has done wickedly above all that the Amorites did, who were before him, and has made Judah also to sin with his idols;

12 therefore thus says YHWH, the ELOHIM of Israel, 'Behold, I bring such evil on Jerusalem and Judah, that whoever hears of it, both his ears shall tingle.

13 I will stretch over Jerusalem the line of Samaria, and the plummet of the house of Ahab; and I will wipe Jerusalem as a man wipes a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down.

14 I will cast off the remnant of my inheritance, and deliver them into the hand of their enemies. They will become a prey and a spoil to all their enemies;

15 because they have done that which is evil in my sight, and have provoked me to anger, since the day their fathers came forth out of Egypt, even to this day."

16 Moreover Manasseh shed innocent blood very much, until he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another; besides his sin with which he made Judah to sin, in doing that which was evil in the sight of YHWH!

17 Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh, and all that he did, and his sin that he sinned, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

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18 Manasseh slept with his fathers, and was buried in the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzza: and Amon his son reigned in his place.

19 . Amon's Reign and Death. .

Amon was twenty-two years old when he began to reign; and he reigned two years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Meshullemeth the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah.

20 He did that which was evil in the sight of YHWH, as Manasseh his father did.

21 He walked in all the way that his father walked in, and served the idols that his father served, and worshiped them:

22 and he forsook YHWH, the ELOHIM of his fathers, and didn't walk in the way of YHWH!

23 The servants of Amon conspired against him, and put the king to death in his own house.

24 But the people of the land killed all those who had conspired against king Amon; and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his place.

25 Now the rest of the acts of Amon which he did, aren't they written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

26 He was buried in his tomb in the garden of Uzza: and Josiah his son reigned in his place.

Nahum 2.

1 . The Destruction of Nineveh. .

He who dashes in pieces has come up against you. Keep the fortress! Watch the way! Strengthen your waist! Fortify your power mightily!

2 For YHWH restores the excellency of Jacob, as the excellency of Israel; for the destroyers have destroyed them, and ruined their vine branches.

3 The shield of his mighty men is made red. The valiant men are in scarlet. The chariots flash with steel in the day of his preparation, and the pine spears are brandished.

4 The chariots rage in the streets. They rush back and forth in the broad ways. Their appearance is like torches. They run like the lightnings.

5 He summons his picked troops. They stumble on their way. They dash to its wall, and the protective shield is put in place.

6 The gates of the rivers are opened, and the palace is dissolved.

7 It is decreed: she is uncovered, she is carried away; and her handmaids moan as with the voice of doves, beating on their breasts.

8 But Nineveh has been from of old like a pool of water, yet they flee away. "Stop! Stop!" they cry, but no one looks back.

9 Take the spoil of silver. Take the spoil of gold, for there is no end of the store, the glory of all goodly furniture.

10 She is empty, void, and waste. The heart melts, the knees knock together, their bodies and faces have grown pale.

11 Where is the den of the lions, and the feeding place of the young lions, where the lion and the lioness walked, the lion's cubs, and no one made them afraid?

12 The lion tore in pieces enough for his cubs, and strangled for his lionesses, and filled his caves with the kill, and his dens with prey.

13 "Behold, I am against you," says YHWH of Hosts, "and I will burn her chariots in the smoke, and the sword will devour your young lions; and I will cut off your prey from the earth, and the voice of your messengers will no longer be heard."

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Psalms 39.

1 . To the Chief Musician. To Jeduthun. A Psalm of David..

For the Chief Musician. For Jeduthun. A Psalm by David. I said, "I will watch my ways, so that I don't sin with my tongue. I will keep my mouth with a bridle while the wicked is before me."

2 I was mute with silence. I held my peace, even from good. My sorrow was stirred.

3 My heart was hot within me. While I meditated, the fire burned: I spoke with my tongue:

4 "YHWH, show me my end, what is the measure of my days. Let me know how frail I am.

5 Behold, you have made my days handbreadths. My lifetime is as nothing before you. Surely every man stands as a breath." Selah.

6 "Surely every man walks like a shadow. Surely they busy themselves in vain. He heaps up, and doesn't know who shall gather.

7 Now, ADONAI, what do I wait for? My hope is in you.

8 Deliver me from all my transgressions. Don't make me the reproach of the foolish.

9 I was mute. I didn't open my mouth, because you did it.

10 Remove your scourge away from me. I am overcome by the blow of your hand.

11 When you rebuke and correct man for iniquity, You consume his wealth like a moth. Surely every man is but a breath." Selah.

12 "Hear my prayer, YHWH, and give ear to my cry. Don't be silent at my tears. For I am a stranger with you, a foreigner, as all my fathers were.

13 Oh spare me, that I may recover strength, before I go away, and exist no more."

Proverbs 23.

1 When you sit to eat with a ruler, consider diligently what is before you;

2 put a knife to your throat, if you are a man given to appetite.

3 Don't be desirous of his dainties, since they are deceitful food.

4 Don't weary yourself to be rich. In your wisdom, show restraint.

5 Why do you set your eyes on that which is not? For it certainly sprouts wings like an eagle and flies in the sky.

6 Don't eat the food of him who has a stingy eye, and don't crave his delicacies:

7 for as he thinks about the cost, so he is. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, but his heart is not with you.

8 The morsel which you have eaten you shall vomit up, and lose your good words.

9 Don't speak in the ears of a fool, for he will despise the wisdom of your words.

10 Don't move the ancient boundary stone. Don't encroach on the fields of the fatherless:

11 for their Defender is strong. He will plead their case against you.

12 Apply your heart to instruction, and your ears to the words of knowledge.

13 Don't withhold correction from a child. If you punish him with the rod, he will not die.

14 Punish him with the rod, and save his soul from Sheol.

15 My son, if your heart is wise, then my heart will be glad, even mine:

16 yes, my heart will rejoice, when your lips speak what is right.

17 Don't let your heart envy sinners; but rather fear YHWH all the day long.

18 Indeed surely there is a future hope, and your hope will not be cut off.

19 Listen, my son, and be wise, and keep your heart on the right path!

20 Don't be among ones drinking too much wine, or those who gorge themselves on meat:

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21 for the drunkard and the glutton shall become poor; and drowsiness clothes them in rags.

22 Listen to your father who gave you life, and don't despise your mother when she is old.

23 Buy the truth, and don't sell it. Get wisdom, discipline, and understanding.

24 The father of the righteous has great joy. Whoever fathers a wise child delights in him.

25 Let your father and your mother be glad! Let her who bore you rejoice!

26 My son, give me your heart; and let your eyes keep in my ways.

27 For a prostitute is a deep pit; and a wayward wife is a narrow well.

28 Yes, she lies in wait like a robber, and increases the unfaithful among men.

29 Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has strife? Who has complaints? Who has needless bruises? Who has bloodshot eyes?

30 Those who stay long at the wine; those who go to seek out mixed wine.

31 Don't look at the wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup, when it goes down smoothly.

32 In the end, it bites like a snake, and poisons like a viper.

33 Your eyes will see strange things, and your mind will imagine confusing things.

34 Yes, you will be as he who lies down in the midst of the sea, or as he who lies on top of the rigging:

35 "They hit me, and I was not hurt! They beat me, and I don't feel it! When will I wake up? I can do it again. I can find another."

!! End of The Daily Reading from the PROPHETS AND WRITINGS! Praise Yah!

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