2 Chronicles 9, Psalms 74, Proverbs 20.

Day 248. 4-September Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Chronicles 9.

1 . The Queen of Sheba's Praise of Solomon. .

When the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, she came to prove Solomon with hard questions at Jerusalem, with a very great train, and camels that bore spices, and gold in abundance, and precious stones: and when she had come to Solomon, she talked with him of all that was in her heart.

- 2 Solomon told her all her questions; and there was not anything hidden from Solomon which he didn't tell her.
- 3 When the queen of Sheba had seen the wisdom of Solomon, and the house that he had built,
- 4 and the food of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their clothing, his cup bearers also, and their clothing, and his ascent by which he went up to the house of YHWH; there was no more spirit in her.
- 5 She said to the king, "It was a true report that I heard in my own land of your acts, and of your wisdom.
- 6 However I didn't believe their words, until I came, and my eyes had seen it; and behold, the half of the greatness of your wisdom was not told me: you exceed the fame that I heard.
- 7 Happy are your men, and happy are these your servants, who stand continually before you, and hear your wisdom.
- 8 Blessed be YHWH your ELOHIM, who delighted in you, to set you on his throne, to be king for YHWH your ELOHIM: because your ELOHIM loved Israel, to establish them forever, therefore made he you king over them, to do justice and righteousness."
- 9 She gave the king one hundred and twenty talents of gold, and spices in great abundance, and precious stones: neither was there any such spice as the queen of Sheba gave to king Solomon.
- 10 The servants also of Huram, and the servants of Solomon, who brought gold from Ophir, brought algum trees and precious stones.
- 11 The king made of the algum trees terraces for the house of YHWH, and for the king's house, and harps and stringed instruments for the singers: and there were none like these seen before in the land of Judah.
- 12 King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatever she asked, besides that which she had brought to the king. So she turned, and went to her own land, she and her servants.

. Solomon's Great Wealth. .

Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred and sixty-six talents of gold,

- 14 besides that which the traders and merchants brought: and all the kings of Arabia and the governors of the country brought gold and silver to Solomon.
- 15 King Solomon made two hundred bucklers of beaten gold; six hundred shekels of beaten gold went to one buckler.
- 16 He made three hundred shields of beaten gold; three hundred shekels of gold went to one shield: and the king put them in the house of the forest of Lebanon.
- 17 Moreover the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with pure gold.
- 18 And there were six steps to the throne, with a footstool of gold, which were fastened to the throne, and stays on either side by the place of the seat, and two lions standing beside the stays.

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- 19 Twelve lions stood there on the one side and on the other on the six steps: there was nothing like it made in any kingdom.
- 20 All king Solomon's drinking vessels were of gold, and all the vessels of the house of the forest of Lebanon were of pure gold: silver was nothing accounted of in the days of Solomon.
- 21 For the king had ships that went to Tarshish with the servants of Huram; once every three years came the ships of Tarshish, bringing gold, and silver, ivory, and apes, and peacocks.
- 22 So king Solomon exceeded all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom.
- 23 All the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom, which ELOHIM had put in his heart.
- 24 They brought every man his tribute, vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and clothing, armor, and spices, horses, and mules, a rate year by year.
- 25 Solomon had four thousand stalls for horses and chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen, that he stationed in the chariot cities, and with the king at Jerusalem.
- 26 He ruled over all the kings from the River even to the land of the Philistines, and to the border of Egypt.
- 27 The king made silver to be in Jerusalem as stones, and he made cedars to be as the sycamore trees that are in the lowland, for abundance.
- 28 They brought horses for Solomon out of Egypt, and out of all lands.

29 . Death of Solomon. .

Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, first and last, aren't they written in the history of Nathan the prophet, and in the prophecy of Ahijah the Shilonite, and in the visions of Iddo the seer concerning Jeroboam the son of Nebat?

- 30 Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel forty years.
- 31 Solomon slept with his fathers, and he was buried in the city of David his father: and Rehoboam his son reigned in his place.

Psalms 74.

1 . A Contemplation of Asaph...

A contemplation by Asaph. ELOHIM, why have you rejected us forever? Why does your anger smolder against the sheep of your pasture?

- 2 Remember your congregation, which you purchased of old, which you have redeemed to be the tribe of your inheritance; Mount Zion, in which you have lived.
- 3 Lift up your feet to the perpetual ruins, all the evil that the enemy has done in the sanctuary.
- 4 Your adversaries have roared in the midst of your assembly. They have set up their standards as signs.
- 5 They behaved like men wielding axes, cutting through a thicket of trees.
- 6 Now they break all its carved work down with hatchet and hammers.
- 7 They have burned your sanctuary to the ground. They have profaned the dwelling place of your Name.
- 8 They said in their heart, "We will crush them completely." They have burned up all the places in the land where EL was worshiped.
- 9 We see no miraculous signs. There is no longer any prophet, neither is there among us anyone who knows how long.
- 10 How long, ELOHIM, shall the adversary reproach? Shall the enemy blaspheme your name forever?

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- 11 Why do you draw back your hand, even your right hand? Take it out of your pocket and consume them!
- 12 Yet ELOHIM is my King of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth.
- 13 You divided the sea by your strength. You broke the heads of the sea monsters in the waters.
- 14 You broke the heads of Leviathan in pieces. You gave him as food to people and desert creatures.
- 15 You opened up spring and stream. You dried up mighty rivers.
- 16 The day is yours, the night is also yours. You have prepared the light and the sun.
- 17 You have set all the boundaries of the earth. You have made summer and winter.
- 18 Remember this, that the enemy has mocked you, YHWH! Foolish people have blasphemed your name.
- 19 Don't deliver the soul of your dove to wild beasts. Don't forget the life of your poor forever.
- 20 Honor your covenant, for haunts of violence fill the dark places of the earth.
- 21 Don't let the oppressed return ashamed. Let the poor and needy praise your name.
- 22 Arise, ELOHIM! Plead your own cause. Remember how the foolish man mocks you all day.
- 23 Don't forget the voice of your adversaries. The tumult of those who rise up against you ascends continually.

Proverbs 20.

- 1 Wine is a mocker, and beer is a brawler. Whoever is led astray by them is not wise.
- 2 The terror of a king is like the roaring of a lion. He who provokes him to anger forfeits his own life.
- 3 It is an honor for a man to keep aloof from strife; but every fool will be quarreling.
- 4 The sluggard will not plow by reason of the winter; therefore he shall beg in harvest, and have nothing.
- 5 Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out.
- 6 Many men claim to be men of unfailing love, but who can find a faithful man?
- 7 A righteous man walks in integrity. Blessed are his children after him.
- 8 A king who sits on the throne of judgment scatters away all evil with his eyes.
- 9 Who can say, "I have made my heart pure. I am clean and without sin?"
- 10 Differing weights and differing measures, both of them alike are an abomination to YHWH!
- 11 Even a child makes himself known by his doings, whether his work is pure, and whether it is right.
- 12 The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, YHWH has made even both of them.
- 13 Don't love sleep, lest you come to poverty. Open your eyes, and you shall be satisfied with bread.
- 14 "It's no good, it's no good," says the buyer; but when he is gone his way, then he boasts.
- 15 There is gold and abundance of rubies; but the lips of knowledge are a rare jewel.
- 16 Take the garment of one who puts up collateral for a stranger; and hold him in pledge for a wayward woman.
- 17 Fraudulent food is sweet to a man, but afterwards his mouth is filled with gravel.
- 18 Plans are established by advice; by wise guidance you wage war!
- 19 He who goes about as a tale-bearer reveals secrets; therefore don't keep company with him who opens wide his lips.

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- 20 Whoever curses his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in blackness of darkness.
- 21 An inheritance quickly gained at the beginning, won't be blessed in the end.
- 22 Don't say, "I will pay back evil." Wait for YHWH, and he will save you.
- 23 YHWH detests differing weights, and dishonest scales are not pleasing.
- 24 A man's steps are from YHWH; how then can man understand his way?
- 25 It is a snare to a man to make a rash dedication, then later to consider his vows.
- 26 A wise king winnows out the wicked, and drives the threshing wheel over them.
- 27 The spirit of man is YHWH's lamp, searching all his innermost parts.
- 28 Love and faithfulness keep the king safe. His throne is sustained by love.
- 29 The glory of young men is their strength. The splendor of old men is their gray hair.
- 30 Wounding blows cleanse away evil, and beatings purge the innermost parts.

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

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