2 Chronicles 32, Psalms 88, Proverbs 6.

Day 265. 21-September Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

2 Chronicles 32.

. Sennacherib Boasts Against YHWH...

After these things, and this faithfulness, Sennacherib king of Assyria came, and entered into Judah, and encamped against the fortified cities, and thought to win them for himself.

- 2 When Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib had come, and that he was purposed to fight against Jerusalem,
- 3 he took counsel with his princes and his mighty men to stop the waters of the springs which were outside of the city; and they helped him.
- 4 So many people gathered together, and they stopped all the springs, and the brook that flowed through the midst of the land, saying, "Why should the kings of Assyria come, and find much water?"
- 5 He took courage, and built up all the wall that was broken down, and raised it up to the towers, and the other wall outside, and strengthened Millo in the city of David, and made weapons and shields in abundance.
- 6 He set captains of war over the people, and gathered them together to him in the broad place at the gate of the city, and spoke comfortably to them, saying,
- 7 "Be strong and courageous, don't be afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude who is with him; for there is a greater with us than with him.
- 8 With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is YHWH our ELOHIM to help us, and to fight our battles." The people rested themselves on the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.
- 9 After this, Sennacherib king of Assyria sent his servants to Jerusalem, (now he was before Lachish, and all his power with him), to Hezekiah king of Judah, and to all Judah who were at Jerusalem, saying,
- 10 Thus says Sennacherib king of Assyria, "In whom do you trust, that you remain under siege in Jerusalem?
- 11 Doesn't Hezekiah persuade you, to give you over to die by famine and by thirst, saying, 'YHWH our ELOHIM will deliver us out of the hand of the king of Assyria?'
- 12 Hasn't the same Hezekiah taken away his high places and his altars, and commanded Judah and Jerusalem, saying, 'You shall worship before one altar, and on it you shall burn incense?'
- 13 Don't you know what I and my fathers have done to all the peoples of the lands? Were the gods of the nations of the lands in any way able to deliver their land out of my hand?
- 14 Who was there among all the gods of those nations which my fathers utterly destroyed, that could deliver his people out of my hand, that your ELOHIM should be able to deliver you out of my hand?
- 15 Now therefore don't let Hezekiah deceive you, nor persuade you in this way, neither believe him; for no god of any nation or kingdom was able to deliver his people out of my hand, and out of the hand of my fathers. How much less will your ELOHIM deliver you out of my hand?"
- 16 His servants spoke yet more against YHWH ELOHIM, and against his servant Hezekiah.
- 17 He also wrote letters insulting YHWH, the ELOHIM of Israel, and to speak against him, saying, "As the gods of the nations of the lands, which have not delivered their people out of my hand, so shall the ELOHIM of Hezekiah not deliver his people out of my hand."
- 18 They cried with a loud voice in the Jews' language to the people of Jerusalem who were on the wall, to frighten them, and to trouble them; that they might take the city.

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19 They spoke of the ELOHIM of Jerusalem, as of the gods of the peoples of the earth, which are the work of men's hands.

. Sennacherib's Defeat and Death. .

Hezekiah the king, and Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz, prayed because of this, and cried to heaven.

- 21 YHWH sent an angel, who cut off all the mighty men of valor, and the leaders and captains, in the camp of the king of Assyria. So he returned with shame of face to his own land. When he had come into the house of his god, those who came forth from his own bowels killed him there with the sword.
- 22 Thus YHWH saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib the king of Assyria, and from the hand of all others, and guided them on every side.
- 23 Many brought gifts to YHWH to Jerusalem, and precious things to Hezekiah king of Judah; so that he was exalted in the sight of all nations from thenceforth.

. Hezekiah Humbles Himself. .

In those days Hezekiah was sick even to death: and he prayed to YHWH; and he spoke to him, and gave him a sign.

- 25 But Hezekiah didn't render again according to the benefit done to him; for his heart was lifted up: therefore there was wrath on him, and on Judah and Jerusalem.
- 26 Notwithstanding Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart, both he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of YHWH didn't come on them in the days of Hezekiah.

. Hezekiah's Wealth and Honor. .

Hezekiah had exceeding much riches and honor: and he provided him treasuries for silver, and for gold, and for precious stones, and for spices, and for shields, and for all kinds of goodly vessels;

- 28 storehouses also for the increase of grain and new wine and oil; and stalls for all kinds of animals, and flocks in folds.
- 29 Moreover he provided him cities, and possessions of flocks and herds in abundance; for ELOHIM had given him very much substance.
- 30 This same Hezekiah also stopped the upper spring of the waters of Gihon, and brought them straight down on the west side of the city of David. Hezekiah prospered in all his works.
- 31 However concerning the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon, who sent to him to inquire of the wonder that was done in the land, ELOHIM left him, to try him, that he might know all that was in his heart.

32 . Death of Hezekiah. .

Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and his good deeds, behold, they are written in the vision of Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz, in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel.

33 Hezekiah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the ascent of the tombs of the sons of David: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem did him honor at his death. Manasseh his son reigned in his place.

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Psalms 88.

1 . A Song. A Psalm of the sons of Korah. To the Chief Musician. Set to Mahalath Leannoth. A Contemplation of Heman the Ezrahite...

A Song. A Psalm by the sons of Korah. For the Chief Musician. To the tune of "The Suffering of Affliction." A contemplation by Heman, the Ezrahite. YHWH, the ELOHIM of my salvation, I have cried day and night before you.

- 2 Let my prayer enter into your presence. Turn your ear to my cry.
- 3 For my soul is full of troubles. My life draws near to Sheol.
- 4 I am counted among those who go down into the pit. I am like a man who has no help,
- 5 set apart among the dead, like the slain who lie in the grave, whom you remember no more. They are cut off from your hand.
- 6 You have laid me in the lowest pit, in the darkest depths.
- 7 Your wrath lies heavily on me. You have afflicted me with all your waves. Selah.
- 8 You have taken my friends from me. You have made me an abomination to them. I am confined, and I can't escape.
- 9 My eyes are dim from grief. I have called on you daily, YHWH! I have spread out my hands to you.
- 10 Do you show wonders to the dead? Do the dead rise up and praise you? Selah.
- 11 Is your loving kindness declared in the grave? Or your faithfulness in Destruction?
- 12 Are your wonders made known in the dark? Or your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?
- 13 But to you, YHWH, I have cried. In the morning, my prayer comes before you.
- 14 YHWH, why do you reject my soul? Why do you hide your face from me?
- 15 I am afflicted and ready to die from my youth up. While I suffer your terrors, I am distracted.
- 16 Your fierce wrath has gone over me. Your terrors have cut me off.
- 17 They came around me like water all day long. They completely engulfed me.
- 18 You have put lover and friend far from me, and my friends into darkness.

Proverbs 6.

1 . Dangerous Promises. .

My son, if you have become collateral for your neighbor, if you have struck your hands in pledge for a stranger;

- 2 You are trapped by the words of your mouth. You are ensnared with the words of your mouth.
- 3 Do this now, my son, and deliver yourself, since you have come into the hand of your neighbor. Go, humble yourself. Press your plea with your neighbor.
- 4 Give no sleep to your eyes, nor slumber to your eyelids.
- 5 Free yourself, like a gazelle from the hand of the hunter, like a bird from the snare of the fowler.

6 . The Folly of Indolence. .

Go to the ant, you sluggard. Consider her ways, and be wise;

- 7 which having no chief, overseer, or ruler,
- 8 provides her bread in the summer, and gathers her food in the harvest.
- 9 How long will you sleep, sluggard? When will you arise out of your sleep?
- 10 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:
- 11 so your poverty will come as a robber, and your scarcity as an armed man.

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12 . The Wicked Man. .

A worthless person, a man of iniquity, is he who walks with a perverse mouth;

- 13 who winks with his eyes, who signals with his feet, who motions with his fingers;
- 14 in whose heart is perverseness, who devises evil continually, who always sows discord.
- 15 Therefore his calamity will come suddenly. He will be broken suddenly, and that without remedy.
- 16 There are six things which YHWH hates; yes, seven which are an abomination to him:
- 17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood;
- 18 a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are swift in running to mischief,
- 19 a false witness who utters lies, and he who sows discord among brothers.

. Beware of Adultery. .

My son, keep your father's commandment, and don't forsake your mother's teaching.

- 21 Bind them continually on your heart. Tie them around your neck.
- 22 When you walk, it will lead you. When you sleep, it will watch over you. When you awake, it will talk with you.
- 23 For the commandment is a lamp, and the Torah is light. Reproofs of instruction are the way of life,
- 24 to keep you from the immoral woman, from the flattery of the wayward wife's tongue.
- 25 Don't lust after her beauty in your heart, neither let her captivate you with her eyelids.
- 26 For a prostitute reduces you to a piece of bread. The adulteress hunts for your precious life.
- 27 Can a man scoop fire into his lap, and his clothes not be burned?
- 28 Or can one walk on hot coals, and his feet not be scorched?
- 29 So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife. Whoever touches her will not be unpunished.
- 30 Men don't despise a thief, if he steals to satisfy himself when he is hungry:
- 31 but if he is found, he shall restore seven times. He shall give all the wealth of his house.
- 32 He who commits adultery with a woman is void of understanding. He who does it destroys his own soul.
- 33 He will get wounds and dishonor. His reproach will not be wiped away.
- 34 For jealousy arouses the fury of the husband. He won't spare in the day of vengeance.
- 35 He won't regard any ransom, neither will he rest content, though you give many gifts.

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

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