Nehemiah 1, 2, Psalms 96, Proverbs 16.

Day 275. 1-October Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Nehemiah 1.

. Nehemiah Prays for His People. . Nehemiah!

The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now it happened in the month Chisley, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the palace,

- 2 that Hanani, one of my brothers, came, he and certain men out of Judah; and I asked them concerning the Jews who had escaped, who were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem.
- 3 They said to me, "The remnant who are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach. The wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and its gates are burned with fire."
- 4 It happened, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days; and I fasted and prayed before the ELOHIM of heaven,
- 5 and said, "I beg you, YHWH, the ELOHIM of heaven, the great and awesome ELOHIM, who keeps covenant and loving kindness with those who love him and keep his commandments:
- 6 Let your ear now be attentive, and your eyes open, that you may listen to the prayer of your servant, which I pray before you at this time, day and night, for the children of Israel your servants while I confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against you. Yes, I and my father's house have sinned.
- 7 We have dealt very corruptly against you, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the ordinances, which you commanded your servant Moses.
- 8 "Remember, I beg you, the word that you commanded your servant Moses, saying, 'If you trespass, I will scatter you abroad among the peoples;
- 9 but if you return to me, and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts were in the uttermost part of the heavens, yet will I gather them from there, and will bring them to the place that I have chosen, to cause my name to dwell there.'
- 10 "Now these are your servants and your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power, and by your strong hand.
- 11 ADONAI, I beg you, let your ear be attentive now to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants, who delight to fear your name; and please prosper your servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man." Now I was cup bearer to the king.

Nehemiah 2.

1 . Nehemiah Sent to Judah. .

It happened in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, when wine was before him, that I took up the wine, and gave it to the king. Now I had not been sad before in his presence.

- 2 The king said to me, "Why is your face sad, since you are not sick? This is nothing else but sorrow of heart." Then I was very much afraid.
- 3 I said to the king, "Let the king live forever! Why shouldn't my face be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' tombs, lies waste, and its gates have been consumed with fire?"
- 4 Then the king said to me, "For what do you make request?" So I prayed to the ELOHIM of heaven.
- 5 I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, that you would send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' tombs, that I may build

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it."

- 6 The king said to me (the queen was also sitting by him), "For how long shall your journey be? And when will you return?" So it pleased the king to send me; and I set him a time.
- 7 Moreover I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, let letters be given me to the governors beyond the River, that they may let me pass through until I come to Judah; 8 and a letter to Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple, for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall enter into." The king granted my requests, because of the good hand of my ELOHIM on me.
- 9 Then I came to the governors beyond the River, and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent with me captains of the army and horsemen.
- 10 When Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, heard of it, it grieved them exceedingly, because a man had come to seek the welfare of the children of Israel.

11 . Nehemiah Views the Wall of Jerusalem. .

So I came to Jerusalem, and was there three days.

- 12 I arose in the night, I and some few men with me; neither told I any man what my ELOHIM put into my heart to do for Jerusalem; neither was there any animal with me, except the animal that I rode on.
- 13 I went out by night by the valley gate, even toward the jackal's well, and to the dung gate, and viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down, and its gates were consumed with fire.
- 14 Then I went on to the spring gate and to the king's pool: but there was no place for the animal that was under me to pass.
- 15 Then went I up in the night by the brook, and viewed the wall; and I turned back, and entered by the valley gate, and so returned.
- 16 The rulers didn't know where I went, or what I did; neither had I as yet told it to the Jews, nor to the priests, nor to the nobles, nor to the rulers, nor to the rest who did the work.
- 17 Then I said to them, "You see the evil case that we are in, how Jerusalem lies waste, and its gates are burned with fire. Come, let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, that we won't be disgraced."
- 18 I told them of the hand of my ELOHIM which was good on me, as also of the king's words that he had spoken to me. They said, "Let's rise up and build." So they strengthened their hands for the good work.
- 19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, they ridiculed us, and despised us, and said, "What is this thing that you are doing? Will you rebel against the king?"
- 20 Then answered I them, and said to them, "The ELOHIM of heaven will prosper us. Therefore we, his servants, will arise and build; but you have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in Jerusalem."

Psalms 96.

1 . A Song of Praise to ELOHIM Coming in Judgment. .

Sing to YHWH a new song! Sing to YHWH, all the earth.

- 2 Sing to YHWH! Bless his name! Proclaim his salvation from day to day!
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.

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- 4 For great is YHWH, and greatly to be praised! He is to be feared above all gods.
- 5 For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but YHWH made the heavens.
- 6 Honor and majesty are before him. Strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
- 7 Ascribe to YHWH, you families of nations, ascribe to YHWH glory and strength.
- 8 Ascribe to YHWH the glory due to his name. Bring an offering, and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship YHWH in holy array. Tremble before him, all the earth.
- 10 Say among the nations, "YHWH reigns." The world is also established. It can't be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity.
- 11 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice. Let the sea roar, and its fullness!
- 12 Let the field and all that is in it exult! Then all the trees of the woods shall sing for joy
- 13 before YHWH; for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, the peoples with his truth.

Proverbs 16.

- 1 The plans of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from YHWH!
- 2 All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but YHWH weighs the motives.
- 3 Commit your deeds to YHWH, and your plans shall succeed.
- 4 YHWH has made everything for its own end yes, even the wicked for the day of evil.
- 5 Everyone who is proud in heart is an abomination to YHWH: they shall certainly not be unpunished.
- 6 By mercy and truth iniquity is atoned for. By the fear of YHWH men depart from evil.
- 7 When a man's ways please YHWH, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.
- 8 Better is a little with righteousness, than great revenues with injustice.
- 9 A man's heart plans his course, but YHWH directs his steps.
- 10 Inspired judgments are on the lips of the king. He shall not betray his mouth.
- 11 Honest balances and scales are YHWH's; all the weights in the bag are his work.
- 12 It is an abomination for kings to do wrong, for the throne is established by righteousness.
- 13 Righteous lips are the delight of kings. They value one who speaks the truth.
- 14 The king's wrath is a messenger of death, but a wise man will pacify it.
- 15 In the light of the king's face is life. His favor is like a cloud of the spring rain.
- 16 How much better it is to get wisdom than gold! Yes, to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.
- 17 The highway of the upright is to depart from evil. He who keeps his way preserves his soul.
- 18 Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.
- 19 It is better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor, than to divide the plunder with the proud.
- 20 He who heeds the Word finds prosperity. Whoever trusts in YHWH is blessed.
- 21 The wise in heart shall be called prudent. Pleasantness of the lips promotes instruction.
- 22 Understanding is a fountain of life to one who has it, but the punishment of fools is their folly.
- 23 The heart of the wise instructs his mouth, and adds learning to his lips.
- 24 Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.
- 25 There is a way which seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.
- 26 The appetite of the laboring man labors for him; for his mouth urges him on.
- 27 A worthless man devises mischief. His speech is like a scorching fire.
- 28 A perverse man stirs up strife. A whisperer separates close friends.

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- 29 A man of violence entices his neighbor, and leads him in a way that is not good.
- 30 One who winks his eyes to plot perversities, one who compresses his lips, is bent on evil.
- 31 Gray hair is a crown of glory. It is attained by a life of righteousness.
- 32 One who is slow to anger is better than the mighty; one who rules his spirit, than he who takes a city.
- 33 The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from YHWH!

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

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