312. 7-November Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Jeremiah 9.

- 1 Oh that my head were waters, and my eyes a spring of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!
- 2 Oh that I had in the wilderness a lodging place of wayfaring men; that I might leave my people, and go from them! for they are all adulterers, an assembly of treacherous men.
- 3 They bend their tongue, as their bow, for falsehood; and they are grown strong in the land, but not for truth: for they proceed from evil to evil, and they don't know me, says YAHWEH!
- 4 Take heed everyone of his neighbor, and don't trust in any brother; for every brother will utterly supplant, and every neighbor will go about with slanders.
- 5 They will deceive everyone his neighbor, and will not speak the truth: they have taught their tongue to speak lies; they weary themselves to commit iniquity.
- 6 Your habitation is in the midst of deceit; through deceit they refuse to know me, says YAHWEH!
- 7 Therefore thus says YAHWEH of Hosts, Behold, I will melt them, and try them; for how should I deal with the daughter of my people?
- 8 Their tongue is a deadly arrow; it speaks deceit: one speaks peaceably to his neighbor with his mouth, but in his heart he lays wait for him.
- 9 Shall I not visit them for these things? says YAHWEH; shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?
- 10 For the mountains will I take up a weeping and wailing, and for the pastures of the wilderness a lamentation, because they are burned up, so that none passes through; neither can men hear the voice of the livestock; both the birds of the sky and the animals are fled, they are gone.
- 11 I will make Jerusalem heaps, a dwelling place of jackals; and I will make the cities of Judah a desolation, without inhabitant.
- 12 Who is the wise man, that may understand this? Who is he to whom the mouth of YAHWEH has spoken, that he may declare it? Why is the land perished and burned up like a wilderness, so that none passes through?
- 13 YAHWEH says, Because they have forsaken my Torah (teaching and instruction) which I set before them, and have not obeyed my voice, neither walked therein,
- 14 but have walked after the stubbornness of their own heart, and after the Baals, which their fathers taught them;
- 15 therefore thus says YAHWEH of Hosts, the ELOHIM of Israel, Behold, I will feed them, even this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink.
- 16 I will scatter them also among the nations, whom neither they nor their fathers have known; and I will send the sword after them, until I have consumed them.

. The People Mourn in Judgment. .

Thus says YAHWEH of Hosts, Consider, and call for the mourning women, that they may come; and send for the skillful women, that they may come:

- 18 and let them make haste, and take up a wailing for us, that our eyes may run down with tears, and our eyelids gush out with waters.
- 19 For a voice of wailing is heard out of Zion, How are we ruined! we are greatly confounded, because we have forsaken the land, because they have cast down our dwellings.
- 20 Yet hear the word of YAHWEH, you women, and let your ear receive the word of his mouth; and teach your daughters wailing, and everyone her neighbor lamentation.

- 21 For death has come up into our windows, it is entered into our palaces; to cut off the children from outside, and the young men from the streets.
- 22 Speak, Thus says YAHWEH, The dead bodies of men shall fall as dung on the open field, and as the handful after the harvester; and none shall gather them.
- 23 Thus says YAHWEH, Don't let the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, don't let the rich man glory in his riches;
- 24 but let him who glories glory in this, that he has understanding, and knows me, that I am YAHWEH who exercises loving kindness, justice, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, says YAHWEH!
- 25 Behold, the days come, says YAHWEH, that I will punish all those who are circumcised in uncircumcision:
- 26 Egypt, and Judah, and Edom, and the children of Ammon, and Moab, and all that have the corners of their hair cut off, who dwell in the wilderness; for all the nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in heart.

Jeremiah 10.

. Idols and the True ELOHIM..

Hear the word which YAHWEH speaks to you, house of Israel!

- 2 Thus says YAHWEH, "Don't learn the way of the nations, and don't be dismayed at the signs of the sky; for the nations are dismayed at them.
- 3 For the customs of the peoples are vanity; for one cuts a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman with the axe.
- 4 They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it not move.
- 5 They are like a palm tree, of turned work, and don't speak: they must be carried, because they can't go. Don't be afraid of them; for they can't do evil, neither is it in them to do good."
- 6 There is none like you, YAHWEH; you are great, and your name is great in might.
- 7 Who should not fear you, King of the nations? For it appertains to you; because among all the wise men of the nations, and in all their royal estate, there is none like you.
- 8 But they are together brutish and foolish: the instruction of idols! it is but a stock.
- 9 There is silver beaten into plates, which is brought from Tarshish, and gold from Uphaz, the work of the artificer and of the hands of the goldsmith; blue and purple for their clothing; they are all the work of skillful men.
- 10 But YAHWEH is the true ELOHIM; he is the living ELOHIM, and an everlasting King: at his wrath the earth trembles, and the nations are not able to withstand his indignation.
- 11 You shall say this to them: The idol_gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, these shall perish from the earth, and from under the heavens.
- 12 He has made the earth by his power, he has established the world by his wisdom, and by his understanding has he stretched out the heavens:
- 13 when he utters his voice, there is a tumult of waters in the heavens, and he causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; he makes lightnings for the rain, and brings forth the wind out of his treasuries.
- 14 Every man has become brutish and without knowledge; every goldsmith is disappointed by his engraved image; for his molten image is falsehood, and there is no breath in them.
- 15 They are vanity, a work of delusion: in the time of their visitation they shall perish.
- 16 The portion of Jacob is not like these; for he is the former of all things; and Israel is the tribe of his inheritance: YAHWEH of Hosts is his name.

. The Coming Captivity of Judah..

Gather up your wares out of the land, you who live under siege.

- 18 For thus says YAHWEH, Behold, I will sling out the inhabitants of the land at this time, and will distress them, that they may feel it.
- 19 Woe is me because of my hurt! my wound is grievous: but I said, Truly this is my grief, and I must bear it.
- 20 My tent is destroyed, and all my cords are broken: my children are gone forth from me, and they are no more: there is none to spread my tent any more, and to set up my curtains.
- 21 For the shepherds are become brutish, and have not inquired of YAHWEH: therefore they have not prospered, and all their flocks are scattered.
- 22 The voice of news, behold, it comes, and a great commotion out of the north country, to make the cities of Judah a desolation, a dwelling place of jackals.
- 23 YAHWEH, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man who walks to direct his steps.
- 24 YAHWEH, correct me, but in measure: not in your anger, lest you bring me to nothing.
- 25 Pour out your wrath on the nations that don't know you, and on the families that don't call on your name: for they have devoured Jacob, yes, they have devoured him and consumed him, and have laid waste his habitation.

Psalms 123.

1 .A Song of Ascents...

A Song of Ascents. To you I do lift up my eyes, you who sit in the heavens.

- 2 Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress; so our eyes look to YAHWEH, our ELOHIM, until he has mercy on us.
- 3 Have mercy on us, YAHWEH, have mercy on us, for we have endured much contempt.
- 4 Our soul is exceedingly filled with the scoffing of those who are at ease, with the contempt of the proud.

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: YAHWEH 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 YAHWEH 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 YAHWEH 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 YAHWEH'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.

. Sayings of the Wise. .

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 YAHWEH, 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 YAHWEH 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.)

313. 8-November Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Jeremiah 11.

1 . The Broken Covenant. .

The word that came to Jeremiah from YAHWEH, saying,

- 2 Hear the words of this covenant, and speak to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem;
- 3 and say to them, Thus says YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Israel: Cursed is the man who doesn't hear the words of this covenant,
- 4 which I commanded your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, out of the iron furnace, saying, Obey my voice, and do them, according to all which I command you: so you shall be my people, and I will be your ELOHIM;
- 5 that I may establish the oath which I swore to your fathers, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey, as at this day. Then answered I, and said, Amen, YAHWEH!
- 6 YAHWEH said to me, Proclaim all these words in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, saying, Hear the words of this covenant, and do them.
- 7 For I earnestly protested to your fathers in the day that I brought them up out of the land of Egypt, even to this day, rising early and protesting, saying, Obey my voice.
- 8 Yet they didn't obey, nor turn their ear, but walked everyone in the stubbornness of their evil heart: therefore I brought on them all the words of this covenant, which I commanded them to do, but they didn't do them.
- 9 YAHWEH said to me, A conspiracy is found among the men of Judah, and among the inhabitants of Jerusalem.
- 10 They are turned back to the iniquities of their forefathers, who refused to hear my words; and they are gone after other idol_gods to serve them: the house of Israel and the house of Judah have broken my covenant which I made with their fathers.
- 11 Therefore thus says YAHWEH, Behold, I will bring evil on them, which they shall not be able to escape; and they shall cry to me, but I will not listen to them.
- 12 Then shall the cities of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem go and cry to the idol_gods to which they offer incense: but they will not save them at all in the time of their trouble.
- 13 For according to the number of your cities are your idol_gods, Judah; and according to the number of the streets of Jerusalem have you set up altars to the shameful thing, even altars to burn incense to Baal.
- 14 Therefore don't pray for this people, neither lift up cry nor prayer for them; for I will not hear them in the time that they cry to me because of their trouble.
- 15 What has my beloved to do in my house, since she has worked lewdness with many, and the holy flesh is passed from you? when you do evil, then you rejoice.
- 16 YAHWEH called your name, A green olive tree, beautiful with goodly fruit: with the noise of a great tumult he has kindled fire on it, and its branches are broken.
- 17 For YAHWEH of Hosts, who planted you, has pronounced evil against you, because of the evil of the house of Israel and of the house of Judah, which they have worked for themselves in provoking me to anger by offering incense to Baal.

. Jeremiah's Life Threatened. .

YAHWEH gave me knowledge of it, and I knew it: then you showed me their doings.

19 But I was like a gentle lamb that is led to the slaughter; and I didn't know that they had devised devices against me, saying, Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, and let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name may be no more remembered.

20 But, YAHWEH of Hosts, who judges righteously, who tests the heart and the mind, I

shall see your vengeance on them; for to you have I revealed my cause.

- 21 Therefore thus says YAHWEH concerning the men of Anathoth, who seek your life, saying, You shall not prophesy in the name of YAHWEH, that you not die by our hand;
- 22 therefore thus says YAHWEH of Hosts, Behold, I will punish them: the young men shall die by the sword; their sons and their daughters shall die by famine;
- 23 and there shall be no remnant to them: for I will bring evil on the men of Anathoth, even the year of their visitation.

Jeremiah 12.

Jeremiah's Question. .

You are righteous, YAHWEH, when I contend with you; yet I would reason the cause with you: why does the way of the wicked prosper? why are all they at ease who deal very treacherously?

- 2 You have planted them, yes, they have taken root; they grow, yes, they bring forth fruit: you are near in their mouth, and far from their heart.
- 3 But you, YAHWEH, know me; you see me, and try my heart toward you: pull them out like sheep for the slaughter, and prepare them for the day of slaughter.
- 4 How long shall the land mourn, and the herbs of the whole country wither? for the wickedness of those who dwell therein, the animals are consumed, and the birds; because they said, He shall not see our latter end.

5 . YAHWEH Answers Jeremiah. .

If you have run with the footmen, and they have wearied you, then how can you contend with horses? and though in a land of peace you are secure, yet how will you do in the pride of the Jordan?

- 6 For even your brothers, and the house of your father, even they have dealt treacherously with you; even they have cried aloud after you: don't believe them, though they speak beautiful words to you.
- 7 I have forsaken my house, I have cast off my heritage; I have given the dearly beloved of my soul into the hand of her enemies.
- 8 My heritage has become to me as a lion in the forest: she has uttered her voice against me; therefore I have hated her.
- 9 Is my heritage to me as a speckled bird of prey? are the birds of prey against her all around? Go, assemble all the animals of the field, bring them to devour.
- 10 Many shepherds have destroyed my vineyard, they have trodden my portion under foot, they have made my pleasant portion a desolate wilderness.
- 11 They have made it a desolation; it mourns to me, being desolate; the whole land is made desolate, because no man lays it to heart.
- 12 Destroyers have come on all the bare heights in the wilderness; for the sword of YAHWEH devours from the one end of the land even to the other end of the land: no flesh has peace.
- 13 They have sown wheat, and have reaped thorns; they have put themselves to pain, and profit nothing: and you shall be ashamed of your fruits, because of the fierce anger of YAHWEH!
- 14 Thus says YAHWEH against all my evil neighbors, who touch the inheritance which I have caused my people Israel to inherit: behold, I will pluck them up from off their land, and will pluck up the house of Judah from among them.
- 15 It shall happen, after that I have plucked them up, I will return and have compassion on them; and I will bring them again, every man to his heritage, and every man to his

land.

- 16 It shall happen, if they will diligently learn the ways of my people, to swear by my name, As YAHWEH lives; even as they taught my people to swear by Baal; then shall they be built up in the midst of my people.
- 17 But if they will not hear, then will I pluck up that nation, plucking up and destroying it, says YAHWEH!

Psalms 124.

1 . A Song of Ascents. Of David...

A Song of Ascents. By David. If it had not been YAHWEH who was on our side, let Israel now say,

- 2 if it had not been YAHWEH who was on our side, when men rose up against us;
- 3 then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their wrath was kindled against us;
- 4 then the waters would have overwhelmed us, the stream would have gone over our soul;
- 5 then the proud waters would have gone over our soul.
- 6 Blessed be YAHWEH, who has not given us as a prey to their teeth.
- 7 Our soul has escaped like a bird out of the fowler's snare. The snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- 8 Our help is in the name of YAHWEH, who made heaven and earth.

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 YAHWEH 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:
- 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! (HNV-yet version, in the public domain.)

314. 9-November Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Jeremiah 13.

Symbol of the Linen Sash. .

Thus says YAHWEH to me, Go, and buy yourself a linen belt, and put it on your waist, and don't put it in water.

- 2 So I bought a belt according to the word of YAHWEH, and put it on my waist.
- 3 The word of YAHWEH came to me the second time, saying,
- 4 Take the belt that you have bought, which is on your waist, and arise, go to the Euphrates, and hide it there in a cleft of the rock.
- 5 So I went, and hid it by the Euphrates, as YAHWEH commanded me.
- 6 It happened after many days, that YAHWEH said to me, Arise, go to the Euphrates, and take the belt from there, which I commanded you to hide there.
- 7 Then I went to the Euphrates, and dug, and took the belt from the place where I had hidden it; and behold, the belt was marred, it was profitable for nothing.
- 8 Then the word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,
- 9 Thus says YAHWEH, In this way I will mar the pride of Judah, and the great pride of Jerusalem.
- 10 This evil people, who refuse to hear my words, who walk in the stubbornness of their heart, and are gone after other idol_gods to serve them, and to worship them, shall even be as this belt, which is profitable for nothing.
- 11 For as the belt clings to the waist of a man, so have I caused to cling to me the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah, says YAHWEH; that they may be to me for a people, and for a name, and for a praise, and for a glory: but they would not hear.

. Symbol of the Wine Bottles. .

Therefore you shall speak to them this word: Thus says YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Israel, Every bottle shall be filled with wine: and they shall tell you, Do we not certainly know that every bottle shall be filled with wine?

- 13 Then you shall tell them, Thus says YAHWEH, Behold, I will fill all the inhabitants of this land, even the kings who sit on David's throne, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, with drunkenness.
- 14 I will dash them one against another, even the fathers and the sons together, says YAHWEH: I will not pity, nor spare, nor have compassion, that I should not destroy them.

15 . Pride Precedes Captivity. .

Hear, and give ear; don't be proud; for YAHWEH has spoken.

- 16 Give glory to YAHWEH your ELOHIM, before he causes darkness, and before your feet stumble on the dark mountains, and, while you look for light, he turns it into the shadow of death, and makes it gross darkness.
- 17 But if you will not hear it, my soul shall weep in secret for your pride; and my eye shall weep bitterly, and run down with tears, because YAHWEH's flock is taken captive.
- 18 Say to the king and to the queen mother, Humble yourselves, sit down; for your headdresses have come down, even the crown of your glory.
- 19 The cities of the South are shut up, and there is none to open them: Judah is carried away captive, all of it; it is wholly carried away captive.
- 20 Lift up your eyes, and see those who come from the north: where is the flock that was given you, your beautiful flock?

- 21 What will you say, when he shall set over you as head those whom you have yourself taught to be friends to you? shall not sorrows take hold of you, as of a woman in travail?
- 22 If you say in your heart, Why are these things come on me? for the greatness of your iniquity are your skirts uncovered, and your heels suffer violence.
- 23 Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may you also do good, who are accustomed to do evil.
- 24 Therefore will I scatter them, as the stubble that passes away, by the wind of the wilderness.
- 25 This is your lot, the portion measured to you from me, says YAHWEH; because you have forgotten me, and trusted in falsehood.
- 26 Therefore will I also uncover your skirts on your face, and your shame shall appear.
- 27 I have seen your abominations, even your adulteries, and your neighing, the lewdness of your prostitution, on the hills in the field. Woe to you, Jerusalem! You will not be made clean; how long shall it yet be?

Jeremiah 14.

. Sword, Famine, and Pestilence...

The word of YAHWEH that came to Jeremiah concerning the drought.

- 2 Judah mourns, and its gates languish, they sit in black on the ground; and the cry of Jerusalem is gone up.
- 3 Their nobles send their little ones to the waters: they come to the cisterns, and find no water; they return with their vessels empty; they are disappointed and confounded, and cover their heads.
- 4 Because of the ground which is cracked, because no rain has been in the land, the plowmen are disappointed, they cover their heads.
- 5 Yes, the hind also in the field calves, and forsakes her young, because there is no grass.
- 6 The wild donkeys stand on the bare heights, they pant for air like jackals; their eyes fail, because there is no herbage.
- 7 Though our iniquities testify against us, work for your name's sake, YAHWEH; for our backslidings are many; we have sinned against you.
- 8 You hope of Israel, its Savior in the time of trouble, why should you be as a foreigner in the land, and as a wayfaring man who turns aside to stay for a night?
- 9 Why should you be like a scared man, as a mighty man who can't save? Yet you, YAHWEH, are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name; don't leave us.
- 10 Thus says YAHWEH to this people, Even so have they loved to wander; they have not refrained their feet: therefore YAHWEH does not accept them; now he will remember their iniquity, and visit their sins.
- 11 YAHWEH said to me, Don't pray for this people for their good.
- 12 When they fast, I will not hear their cry; and when they offer burnt offering and meal offering, I will not accept them; but I will consume them by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence.
- 13 Then I said, Ah, ADONAI YAHWEH! behold, the prophets tell them, You shall not see the sword, neither shall you have famine; but I will give you assured peace in this place.
- 14 Then YAHWEH said to me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name; I didn't send them, neither have I commanded them, neither spoke I to them: they prophesy to you a lying vision, and divination, and a thing of nothing, and the deceit of their own heart.
- 15 Therefore thus says YAHWEH concerning the prophets who prophesy in my name, and I didn't send them, yet they say, Sword and famine shall not be in this land: By sword and famine shall those prophets be consumed.
- 16 The people to whom they prophesy shall be cast out in the streets of Jerusalem

because of the famine and the sword; and they shall have none to bury them; them, their wives, nor their sons, nor their daughters: for I will pour their wickedness on them.

- 17 You shall say this word to them, Let my eyes run down with tears night and day, and let them not cease; for the virgin daughter of my people is broken with a great breach, with a very grievous wound.
- 18 If I go forth into the field, then, behold, the slain with the sword! and if I enter into the city, then, behold, those who are sick with famine! for both the prophet and the priest go about in the land, and have no knowledge.

. The People Plead for Mercy. .

Have you utterly rejected Judah? has your soul loathed Zion? why have you struck us, and there is no healing for us? We looked for peace, but no good came; and for a time of healing, and behold, dismay!

- 20 We acknowledge, YAHWEH, our wickedness, and the iniquity of our fathers; for we have sinned against you.
- 21 Do not abhor us, for your name's sake; do not disgrace the throne of your glory: remember, don't break your covenant with us.
- 22 Are there any among the vanities of the nations that can cause rain? or can the sky give showers? Aren't you he, YAHWEH our ELOHIM? therefore we will wait for you; for you have made all these things.

Psalms 125.

1 . A Song of Ascents...

A Song of Ascents. Those who trust in YAHWEH are as Mount Zion, which can't be moved, but remains forever.

- **2** As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so YAHWEH surrounds his people from this time forth and forevermore.
- 3 For the scepter of wickedness won't remain over the allotment of the righteous; so that the righteous won't use their hands to do evil.
- 4 Do good, YAHWEH, to those who are good, to those who are upright in their hearts.
- 5 But as for those who turn aside to their crooked ways, YAHWEH will lead them away with the workers of iniquity. Peace be on Israel.

Proverbs 24.

- 1 Don't be envious of evil men; neither desire to be with them:
- 2 for their hearts plot violence, and their lips talk about mischief.
- 3 Through wisdom a house is built; by understanding it is established;
- 4 by knowledge the rooms are filled with all rare and beautiful treasure.
- 5 A wise man has great power; and a knowledgeable man increases strength;
- 6 for by wise guidance you wage your war; and victory is in many advisors.
- 7 Wisdom is too high for a fool: he doesn't open his mouth in the gate.
- 8 One who plots to do evil will be called a schemer.
- 9 The schemes of folly are sin. The mocker is detested by men.
- 10 If you falter in the time of trouble, your strength is small.
- 11 Rescue those who are being led away to death! Indeed, hold back those who are staggering to the slaughter!
- 12 If you say, "Behold, we didn't know this;" doesn't he who weighs the hearts consider it? He who keeps your soul, doesn't he know it? Shall he not render to every man

according to his work?

- 13 My son, eat honey, for it is good; the droppings of the honeycomb, which are sweet to your taste:
- 14 so you shall know wisdom to be to your soul; if you have found it, then there will be a reward, your hope will not be cut off.
- 15 Don't lay in wait, wicked man, against the habitation of the righteous. Don't destroy his resting place:
- 16 for a righteous man falls seven times, and rises up again; but the wicked are overthrown by calamity.
- 17 Don't rejoice when your enemy falls. Don't let your heart be glad when he is overthrown:
- 18 lest YAHWEH see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him.
- 19 Don't fret yourself because of evildoers; neither be envious of the wicked:
- 20 for there will be no reward to the evil man; and the lamp of the wicked shall be snuffed out.
- 21 My son, fear YAHWEH and the king. Don't join those who are rebellious:
- 22 for their calamity will rise suddenly; the destruction from them both who knows?

. Further Sayings of the Wise. .

These also are sayings of the wise. To show partiality in judgment is not good.

- 24 He who says to the wicked, "You are righteous;" peoples shall curse him, and nations shall abhor him
- 25 but it will go well with those who convict the guilty, and a rich blessing will come on them.
- 26 An honest answer is like a kiss on the lips.
- 27 Prepare your work outside, and get your fields ready. Afterwards, build your house.
- 28 Don't be a witness against your neighbor without cause. Don't deceive with your lips.
- 29 Don't say, "I will do to him as he has done to me; I will render to the man according to his work."
- 30 I went by the field of the sluggard, by the vineyard of the man void of understanding;
- 31 Behold, it was all grown over with thorns. Its surface was covered with nettles, and its stone wall was broken down.
- 32 Then I saw, and considered well. I saw, and received instruction:
- 33 a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep;
- 34 so your poverty will come as a robber, and your want as an armed man.

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

315. 10-November Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Jeremiah 15.

1 . YAHWEH Will Not Relent. .

Then YAHWEH said to me, Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my mind would not be toward this people: cast them out of my sight, and let them go forth.

2 It shall happen, when they tell you, Where shall we go forth? Then you shall tell them, Thus says YAHWEH: Such as are for death, to death; and such as are for the sword, to the sword; and such as are for the famine, to the famine; and such as are for captivity, to captivity.

- 3 I will appoint over them four kinds, says YAHWEH: the sword to kill, and the dogs to tear, and the birds of the sky, and the animals of the earth, to devour and to destroy.
- 4 I will cause them to be tossed back and forth among all the kingdoms of the earth, because of Manasseh, the son of Hezekiah, king of Judah, for that which he did in Jerusalem.
- 5 For who will have pity on you, Jerusalem? or who will bemoan you? or who will turn aside to ask of your welfare?
- 6 You have rejected me, says YAHWEH, you have gone backward: therefore have I stretched out my hand against you, and destroyed you; I am weary with repenting.
- 7 I have winnowed them with a fan in the gates of the land; I have bereaved them of children, I have destroyed my people; they didn't return from their ways.
- 8 Their widows are increased to me above the sand of the seas; I have brought on them against the mother of the young men a destroyer at noonday: I have caused anguish and terrors to fall on her suddenly.
- 9 She who has borne seven languishes; she has given up the spirit; her sun is gone down while it was yet day; she has been disappointed and confounded: and their residue will I deliver to the sword before their enemies, says YAHWEH!

. Jeremiah's Dejection. .

Woe is me, my mother, that you have borne me a man of strife and a man of contention to the whole earth! I have not lent, neither have men lent to me; yet everyone of them curses me.

- 11 YAHWEH said, Most certainly I will strengthen you for good; most certainly I will cause the enemy to make supplication to you in the time of evil and in the time of affliction.
- 12 Can one break iron, even iron from the north, and brass?
- 13 Your substance and your treasures will I give for a spoil without price, and that for all your sins, even in all your borders.
- 14 I will make them to pass with your enemies into a land which you don't know; for a fire is kindled in my anger, which shall burn on you.
- 15 YAHWEH, you know; remember me, and visit me, and avenge me of my persecutors; don't take me away in your longsuffering: know that for your sake I have suffered reproach.
- 16 Your words were found, and I ate them; and your words were to me a joy and the rejoicing of my heart: for I am called by your name, YAHWEH, ELOHIM of Hosts.
- 17 I didn't sit in the assembly of those who make merry, nor rejoiced; I sat alone because of your hand; for you have filled me with indignation.
- 18 Why is my pain perpetual, and my wound incurable, which refuses to be healed? Will you indeed be to me as a deceitful brook, as waters that fail?

19 . YAHWEH Reassures Jeremiah. .

Therefore thus says YAHWEH, If you return, then will I bring you again, that you may stand before me; and if you take forth the precious from the vile, you shall be as my mouth: they shall return to you, but you shall not return to them.

- 20 I will make you to this people a fortified bronze wall; and they shall fight against you, but they shall not prevail against you; for I am with you to save you and to deliver you, says YAHWEH!
- 21 I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and I will redeem you out of the hand of the terrible.

Jeremiah 16.

. Jeremiah's Life-Style and Message. .

The word of YAHWEH came also to me, saying,

- 2 You shall not take a wife, neither shall you have sons or daughters, in this place.
- 3 For thus says YAHWEH concerning the sons and concerning the daughters who are born in this place, and concerning their mothers who bore them, and concerning their fathers who became their father in this land:
- 4 They shall die grievous deaths: they shall not be lamented, neither shall they be buried; they shall be as dung on the surface of the ground; and they shall be consumed by the sword, and by famine; and their dead bodies shall be food for the birds of the sky, and for the animals of the earth.
- 5 For thus says YAHWEH, Don't enter into the house of mourning, neither go to lament, neither bemoan them; for I have taken away my peace from this people, says YAHWEH, even loving kindness and tender mercies.
- 6 Both great and small shall die in this land; they shall not be buried, neither shall men lament for them, nor cut themselves, nor make themselves bald for them:
- 7 neither shall men break bread for them in mourning, to comfort them for the dead; neither shall men give them the cup of consolation to drink for their father or for their mother.
- 8 You shall not go into the house of feasting to sit with them, to eat and to drink.
- 9 For thus says YAHWEH of Hosts, the ELOHIM of Israel: Behold, I will cause to cease out of this place, before your eyes and in your days, the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride.
- 10 It shall happen, when you shall show this people all these words, and they shall tell you, Why has YAHWEH pronounced all this great evil against us? or what is our iniquity? or what is our sin that we have committed against YAHWEH our ELOHIM?
- 11 Then you shall tell them, Because your fathers have forsaken me, says YAHWEH, and have walked after other idol_gods, and have served them, and have worshiped them, and have forsaken me, and have not kept my Torah (teaching and instruction);
- 12 and you have done evil more than your fathers; for, behold, you walk every one after the stubbornness of his evil heart, so that you don't listen to me:
- 13 therefore will I cast you forth out of this land into the land that you have not known, neither you nor your fathers; and there you shall serve other idol_gods day and night; for I will show you no favor.

14 . ELOHIM Will Restore Israel. .

Therefore, behold, the days come, says YAHWEH, that it shall no more be said, As YAHWEH lives, who brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;

- 15 but, As YAHWEH lives, who brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the countries where he had driven them. I will bring them again into their land that I gave to their fathers.
- 16 Behold, I will send for many fishermen, says YAHWEH, and they shall fish them up; and afterward I will send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the clefts of the rocks.
- 17 For my eyes are on all their ways; they are not hidden from my face, neither is their iniquity concealed from my eyes.
- 18 First I will recompense their iniquity and their sin double, because they have polluted my land with the carcasses of their detestable things, and have filled my inheritance with their abominations.
- 19 YAHWEH, my strength, and my stronghold, and my refuge in the day of affliction, to you shall the nations come from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Our fathers have inherited nothing but lies, vanity and things in which there is no profit.
- 20 Shall a man make to himself idol_gods, which yet are no idol_gods?
- 21 Therefore, behold, I will cause them to know, this once will I cause them to know my hand and my might; and they shall know that my name is YAHWEH!

Psalms 126.

1 .A Song of Ascents...

A Song of Ascents. When YAHWEH brought back those who returned to Zion, we were like those who dream.

- 2 Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing. Then they said among the nations, "YAHWEH has done great things for them."
- 3 YAHWEH has done great things for us, and we are glad.
- 4 Restore our fortunes again, YAHWEH, like the streams in the Negev.
- 5 Those who sow in tears will reap in joy.
- 6 He who goes out weeping, carrying seed for sowing, will certainly come again with joy, carrying his sheaves.

Proverbs 25.

- 1 These also are proverbs of Solomon, which the men of Hezekiah king of Judah copied out.
- 2 It is the glory of ELOHIM to conceal a thing, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter.
- 3 As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth, so the hearts of kings are unsearchable.
- 4 Take away the dross from the silver, and material comes out for the refiner;
- 5 Take away the wicked from the king's presence, and his throne will be established in righteousness.
- 6 Don't exalt yourself in the presence of the king, or claim a place among great men;
- 7 for it is better that it be said to you, "Come up here," than that you should be put lower in the presence of the prince, whom your eyes have seen.
- 8 Don't be hasty in bringing charges to court. What will you do in the end when your neighbor shames you?
- 9 Debate your case with your neighbor, and don't betray the confidence of another;
- 10 lest one who hears it put you to shame, and your bad reputation never depart.
- 11 A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.
- 12 As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprover to an

obedient ear.

- 13 As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to those who send him; for he refreshes the soul of his masters.
- 14 As clouds and wind without rain, so is he who boasts of gifts deceptively.
- 15 By patience a ruler is persuaded. A soft tongue breaks the bone.
- 16 Have you found honey? Eat as much as is sufficient for you, lest you eat too much, and vomit it.
- 17 Let your foot be seldom in your neighbor's house, lest he be weary of you, and hate you.
- 18 A man who gives false testimony against his neighbor is like a club, a sword, or a sharp arrow.
- 19 Confidence in someone unfaithful in time of trouble is like a bad tooth, or a lame foot.
- 20 As one who takes away a garment in cold weather, or vinegar on soda, so is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.
- 21 If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat. If he is thirsty, give him water to drink:
- 22 for you will heap coals of fire on his head, and YAHWEH will reward you.
- 23 The north wind brings forth rain: so a backbiting tongue brings an angry face.
- 24 It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop, than to share a house with a contentious woman.
- 25 Like cold water to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.
- 26 Like a muddied spring, and a polluted well, so is a righteous man who gives way before the wicked.
- 27 It is not good to eat much honey; nor is it honorable to seek one's own honor.
- 28 Like a city that is broken down and without walls is a man whose spirit is without restraint.

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

316. 11-November Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Jeremiah 17.

. Judah's Sin and Punishment. .

The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron, and with the point of a diamond: it is engraved on the tablet of their heart, and on the horns of your altars;

- 2 while their children remember their altars and their Asherim by the green trees on the high hills.
- 3 My mountain in the field, I will give your substance and all your treasures for a spoil, and your high places, because of sin, throughout all your borders.
- 4 You, even of yourself, shall discontinue from your heritage that I gave you; and I will cause you to serve your enemies in the land which you don't know: for you have kindled a fire in my anger which shall burn forever.
- 5 Thus says YAHWEH: Cursed is the man who trusts in man, and makes flesh his arm, and whose heart departs from YAHWEH!
- 6 For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good comes, but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, a salt land and not inhabited.
- 7 Blessed is the man who trusts in YAHWEH, and whose trust YAHWEH is.
- 8 For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, who spreads out its roots by the river, and shall not fear when heat comes, but its leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.
- 9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and it is exceedingly corrupt: who can know it? 10 I, YAHWEH, search the mind, I try the heart, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.
- 11 As the partridge that sits on eggs which she has not laid, so is he who gets riches, and not by right; in the midst of his days they shall leave him, and at his end he shall be a fool
- 12 A glorious throne, set on high from the beginning, is the place of our sanctuary.
- 13 YAHWEH, the hope of Israel, all who forsake you shall be disappointed. Those who depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken YAHWEH, the spring of living waters.

. Jeremiah Prays for Deliverance. .

Heal me, O YAHWEH, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for you are my praise.

- 15 Behold, they tell me, Where is the word of YAHWEH? let it come now.
- 16 As for me, I have not hurried from being a shepherd after you; neither have I desired the woeful day; you know: that which came out of my lips was before your face.
- 17 Don't be a terror to me: you are my refuge in the day of evil.
- 18 Let them be disappointed who persecute me, but let not me be disappointed; let them be dismayed, but don't let me be dismayed; bring on them the day of evil, and destroy them with double destruction.

19 . Hallow the Sabbath Day. .

Thus said YAHWEH to me: Go, and stand in the gate of the children of the people, through which the kings of Judah come in, and by which they go out, and in all the gates of Jerusalem:

20 and tell them, Hear the word of YAHWEH, you kings of Judah, and all Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, that enter in by these gates:

- 21 Thus says YAHWEH, Take heed to yourselves, and bear no burden on the Sabbath day, nor bring it in by the gates of Jerusalem;
- 22 neither carry forth a burden out of your houses on the Sabbath day holy, neither do any work: but make the Sabbath day, as I commanded your fathers.
- 23 But they didn't listen, neither turn their ear, but made their neck stiff, that they might not hear, and might not receive instruction.
- 24 It shall happen, if you diligently listen to me, says YAHWEH, to bring in no burden through the gates of this city on the Sabbath day, but to make the Sabbath day holy, to do no work therein;
- 25 then shall there enter in by the gates of this city kings and princes sitting on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they, and their princes, the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and this city shall remain forever.
- 26 They shall come from the cities of Judah, and from the places around Jerusalem, and from the land of Benjamin, and from the lowland, and from the hill country, and from the South, bringing burnt offerings, and sacrifices, and meal offerings, and frankincense, and bringing sacrifices of thanksgiving, to the house of YAHWEH!
- 27 But if you will not listen to me to make the Sabbath day holy, and not to bear a burden and enter in at the gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath day; then will I kindle a fire in its gates, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem, and it shall not be quenched.

Jeremiah 18.

1 . The Potter and the Clay. .

The word which came to Jeremiah from YAHWEH, saying,

- 2 Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause you to hear my words.
- 3 Then I went down to the potter's house, and behold, he was making a work on the wheels.
- 4 When the vessel that he made of the clay was marred in the hand of the potter, he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.
- 5 Then the word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,
- 6 House of Israel, can't I do with you as this potter? says YAHWEH! Behold, as the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, house of Israel.
- 7 At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up and to break down and to destroy it;
- 8 if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do to them.
- 9 At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it;
- 10 if they do that which is evil in my sight, that they not obey my voice, then I will repent of the good, with which I said I would benefit them.
- 11 Now therefore, speak to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, Thus says YAHWEH: Behold, I frame evil against you, and devise a device against you: return you now everyone from his evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

12 . ELOHIM's Warning Rejected. .

But they say, It is in vain; for we will walk after our own devices, and we will do everyone after the stubbornness of his evil heart.

13 Therefore thus says YAHWEH: Ask now among the nations, who has heard such things; the virgin of Israel has done a very horrible thing.

- 14 Shall the snow of Lebanon fail from the rock of the field? Shall the cold waters that flow down from afar be dried up?
- 15 For my people have forgotten me, they have burned incense to false idol_gods; and they have been made to stumble in their ways, in the ancient paths, to walk in byways, in a way not built up;
- 16 to make their land an astonishment, and a perpetual hissing; everyone who passes thereby shall be astonished, and shake his head.
- 17 I will scatter them as with an east wind before the enemy; I will show them the back, and not the face, in the day of their calamity.

. Jeremiah Persecuted...

Then they said, Come, and let us devise devices against Jeremiah; for the Torah (teaching and instruction) shall not perish from the priest, nor counsel from the wise, nor the word from the prophet. Come, and let us strike him with the tongue, and let us not give heed to any of his words.

- 19 Give heed to me, YAHWEH, and listen to the voice of those who contend with me.
- 20 Shall evil be recompensed for good? for they have dug a pit for my soul. Remember how I stood before you to speak good for them, to turn away your wrath from them.
- 21 Therefore deliver up their children to the famine, and give them over to the power of the sword; and let their wives become childless, and widows; and let their men be slain of death, and their young men struck of the sword in battle.
- 22 Let a cry be heard from their houses, when you shall bring a troop suddenly on them; for they have dug a pit to take me, and hid snares for my feet.
- 23 Yet, YAHWEH, you know all their counsel against me to kill me; don't forgive their iniquity, neither blot out their sin from your sight; but let them be overthrown before you; deal you with them in the time of your anger.

Psalms 127.

1 . A Song of Ascents. Of Solomon...

A Song of Ascents. By Solomon. Unless YAHWEH builds the house, they labor in vain who build it. Unless YAHWEH watches over the city, the watchman guards it in vain.

- 2 It is vain for you to rise up early, to stay up late, eating the bread of toil; for he gives sleep to his loved ones.
- 3 Behold, children are a heritage of YAHWEH! The fruit of the womb is his reward.
- 4 As arrows in the hand of a mighty man, so are the children of youth.
- 5 Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them. They won't be disappointed when they speak with their enemies in the gate.

Proverbs 26.

- 1 Like snow in summer, and as rain in harvest, so honor is not fitting for a fool.
- 2 Like a fluttering sparrow, like a darting swallow, so the undeserved curse doesn't come to rest.
- 3 A whip is for the horse, a bridle for the donkey, and a rod for the back of fools!
- 4 Don't answer a fool according to his folly, lest you also be like him.
- 5 Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own eyes.
- 6 One who sends a message by the hand of a fool is cutting off feet and drinking violence.
- 7 Like the legs of the lame that hang loose: so is a parable in the mouth of fools.

- 8 As one who binds a stone in a sling, so is he who gives honor to a fool.
- 9 Like a thornbush that goes into the hand of a drunkard, so is a parable in the mouth of fools.
- 10 As an archer who wounds all, so is he who hires a fool or he who hires those who pass by.
- 11 As a dog that returns to his vomit, so is a fool who repeats his folly.
- 12 Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.
- 13 The sluggard says, "There is a lion in the road! A fierce lion roams the streets!"
- 14 As the door turns on its hinges, so does the sluggard on his bed.
- 15 The sluggard buries his hand in the dish. He is too lazy to bring it back to his mouth.
- 16 The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who answer with discretion.
- 17 Like one who grabs a dog's ears is one who passes by and meddles in a quarrel not his own.
- 18 Like a madman who shoots torches, arrows, and death,
- 19 is the man who deceives his neighbor and says, "Am I not joking?"
- 20 For lack of wood a fire goes out. Without gossip, a quarrel dies down.
- 21 As coals are to hot embers, and wood to fire, so is a contentious man to kindling strife.
- 22 The words of a whisperer are as dainty morsels, they go down into the innermost parts.
- 23 Like silver dross on an earthen vessel are the lips of a fervent one with an evil heart.
- 24 A malicious man disguises himself with his lips, but he harbors evil in his heart.
- 25 When his speech is charming, don't believe him; for there are seven abominations in his heart.
- 26 His malice may be concealed by deception, but his wickedness will be exposed in the assembly.
- 27 Whoever digs a pit shall fall into it. Whoever rolls a stone, it will come back on him.
- 28 A lying tongue hates those it hurts; and a flattering mouth works ruin.

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

317. 12-November Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Jeremiah 19.

. The Sign of the Broken Flask..

Thus said YAHWEH, Go, and buy a potter's earthen bottle, and take some of the elders of the people, and of the elders of the priests;

- 2 and go forth to the valley of the son of Hinnom, which is by the entry of the gate Harsith, and proclaim there the words that I shall tell you;
- 3 and say, Hear the word of YAHWEH, kings of Judah, and inhabitants of Jerusalem: thus says YAHWEH of Hosts, the ELOHIM of Israel, Behold, I will bring evil on this place, which whoever hears, his ears shall tingle.
- 4 Because they have forsaken me, and have estranged this place, and have burned incense in it to other idol_gods, that they didn't know, they and their fathers and the kings of Judah; and have filled this place with the blood of innocents,
- 5 and have built the high places of Baal, to burn their sons in the fire for burnt offerings to Baal; which I didn't command, nor spoke it, neither came it into my mind:
- 6 therefore, behold, the days come, says YAHWEH, that this place shall no more be called Topheth, nor The valley of the son of Hinnom, but The valley of Slaughter.
- 7 I will make void the counsel of Judah and Jerusalem in this place; and I will cause them to fall by the sword before their enemies, and by the hand of those who seek their life: and their dead bodies will I give to be food for the birds of the sky, and for the animals of the earth.
- 8 I will make this city an astonishment, and a hissing; everyone who passes thereby shall be astonished and hiss because of all its plagues.
- 9 I will cause them to eat the flesh of their sons and the flesh of their daughters; and they shall eat everyone the flesh of his friend, in the siege and in the distress, with which their enemies, and those who seek their life, shall distress them.
- 10 Then you shall break the bottle in the sight of the men who go with you,
- 11 and shall tell them, Thus says YAHWEH of Hosts: Even so will I break this people and this city, as one breaks a potter's vessel, that can't be made whole again; and they shall bury in Topheth, until there be no place to bury.
- 12 Thus will I do to this place, says YAHWEH, and to its inhabitants, even making this city as Topheth:
- 13 and the houses of Jerusalem, and the houses of the kings of Judah, which are defiled, shall be as the place of Topheth, even all the houses on whose roofs they have burned incense to all the army of the sky, and have poured out drink offerings to other idol gods.
- 14 Then came Jeremiah from Topheth, where YAHWEH had sent him to prophesy; and he stood in the court of YAHWEH's house, and said to all the people:
- 15 Thus says YAHWEH of Hosts, the ELOHIM of Israel, Behold, I will bring on this city and on all its towns all the evil that I have pronounced against it; because they have made their neck stiff, that they may not hear my words.

Jeremiah 20.

. The Word of ELOHIM to Pashhur. .

Now Pashhur, the son of Immer the priest, who was chief officer in the house of YAHWEH, heard Jeremiah prophesying these things.

2 Then Pashhur struck Jeremiah the prophet, and put him in the stocks that were in the upper gate of Benjamin, which was in the house of YAHWEH!

- 3 It happened on the next day, that Pashhur brought forth Jeremiah out of the stocks. Then Jeremiah said to him, YAHWEH has not called your name Pashhur, but Magormissabib.
- 4 For thus says YAHWEH, Behold, I will make you a terror to yourself, and to all your friends; and they shall fall by the sword of their enemies, and your eyes shall see it; and I will give all Judah into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall carry them captive to Babylon, and shall kill them with the sword.
- 5 Moreover I will give all the riches of this city, and all its gains, and all the precious things of it, yes, all the treasures of the kings of Judah will I give into the hand of their enemies; and they shall make them a prey, and take them, and carry them to Babylon.
- 6 You, Pashhur, and all who dwell in your house shall go into captivity; and you shall come to Babylon, and there you shall die, and there you shall be buried, you, and all your friends, to whom you have prophesied falsely.

7 . Jeremiah's Unpopular Ministry. .

YAHWEH, you have persuaded me, and I was persuaded; you are stronger than I, and have prevailed: I am become a laughing-stock all the day, every one mocks me.

- 8 For as often as I speak, I cry out; I cry, Violence and destruction! because the word of YAHWEH is made a reproach to me, and a derision, all the day.
- 9 If I say, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name, then there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with forbearing, and I can't.
- 10 For I have heard the defaming of many, terror on every side. Denounce, and we will denounce him, say all my familiar friends, those who watch for my fall; perhaps he will be persuaded, and we shall prevail against him, and we shall take our revenge on him.
- 11 But YAHWEH is with me as an awesome mighty one: therefore my persecutors shall stumble, and they shall not prevail; they shall be utterly disappointed, because they have not dealt wisely, even with an everlasting dishonor which shall never be forgotten.
- 12 But, YAHWEH of Hosts, who tests the righteous, who sees the heart and the mind, let me see your vengeance on them; for to you have I revealed my cause.
- 13 Sing to YAHWEH, praise YAHWEH; for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hand of evildoers.
- 14 Cursed is the day in which I was born: don't let the day in which my mother bore me be blessed.
- 15 Cursed is the man who brought news to my father, saying, A boy is born to you; making him very glad.
- 16 Let that man be as the cities which YAHWEH overthrew, and didn't repent: and let him hear a cry in the morning, and shouting at noontime;
- 17 because he didn't kill me from the womb; and so my mother would have been my grave, and her womb always great.
- 18 Why came I forth out of the womb to see labor and sorrow, that my days should be consumed with shame?

Psalms 128.

1 . A Song of Ascents...

A Song of Ascents. Blessed is everyone who fears YAHWEH, who walks in his ways. 2 For you will eat the labor of your hands. You will be happy, and it will be well with you. 3 Your wife will be as a fruitful vine, in the innermost parts of your house; your children like olive plants, around your table.

- 4 Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears YAHWEH!
- 5 May YAHWEH bless you out of Zion, and may you see the good of Jerusalem all the days of your life.
- 6 Yes, may you see your children's children. Peace be upon Israel.

Proverbs 27.

- 1 Don't boast about tomorrow; for you don't know what a day may bring forth.
- 2 Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips.
- 3 A stone is heavy, and sand is a burden; but a fool's provocation is heavier than both.
- 4 Wrath is cruel, and anger is overwhelming; but who is able to stand before jealousy?
- 5 Better is open rebuke than hidden love.
- 6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend; although the kisses of an enemy are profuse.
- 7 A full soul loathes a honeycomb; but to a hungry soul, every bitter thing is sweet.
- 8 As a bird that wanders from her nest, so is a man who wanders from his home.
- 9 Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart; so does earnest counsel from a man's friend.
- 10 Don't forsake your friend and your father's friend. Don't go to your brother's house in the day of your disaster: better is a neighbor who is near than a distant brother.
- 11 Be wise, my son, and bring joy to my heart, then I can answer my tormentor.
- 12 A prudent man sees danger and takes refuge; but the simple pass on, and suffer for it.
- 13 Take his garment when he puts up collateral for a stranger. Hold it for a wayward woman!
- 14 He who blesses his neighbor with a loud voice early in the morning, it will be taken as a curse by him.
- 15 A continual dropping on a rainy day and a contentious wife are alike:
- 16 restraining her is like restraining the wind, or like grasping oil in his right hand.
- 17 Iron sharpens iron; so a man sharpens his friend's countenance.
- 18 Whoever tends the fig-tree shall eat its fruit. He who looks after his master shall be honored.
- 19 As water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man.
- 20 Sheol and Abaddon are never satisfied; and a man's eyes are never satisfied.
- 21 The crucible is for silver, and the furnace for gold; but man is refined by his praise.
- 22 Though you grind a fool in a mortar with a pestle along with grain, yet his foolishness will not be removed from him.
- 23 Know well the state of your flocks, and pay attention to your herds:
- 24 for riches are not forever, nor does even the crown endure to all generations.
- 25 The hay is removed, and the new growth appears, the grasses of the hills are gathered in.
- 26 The lambs are for your clothing, and the goats are the price of a field.
- 27 There will be plenty of goats' milk for your food, for your family's food, and for the nourishment of your servant girls.

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318. 13-November Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Jeremiah 21.

Jerusalem's Doom Is Sealed. .

The word which came to Jeremiah from YAHWEH, when king Zedekiah sent to him Pashhur the son of Malchijah, and Zephaniah the son of Maaseiah, the priest, saying,

- 2 Please inquire of YAHWEH for us; for Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon makes war against us: perhaps YAHWEH will deal with us according to all his wondrous works, that he may go up from us.
- 3 Then Jeremiah said to them, You shall tell Zedekiah:
- 4 Thus says YAHWEH, the ELOHIM of Israel, Behold, I will turn back the weapons of war that are in your hands, with which you fight against the king of Babylon, and against the Kasdim who besiege you, without the walls; and I will gather them into the midst of this city.
- 5 I myself will fight against you with an outstretched hand and with a strong arm, even in anger, and in wrath, and in great indignation.
- 6 I will strike the inhabitants of this city, both man and animal: they shall die of a great pestilence.
- 7 Afterward, says YAHWEH, I will deliver Zedekiah king of Judah, and his servants, and the people, even such as are left in this city from the pestilence, from the sword, and from the famine, into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those who seek their life: and he shall strike them with the edge of the sword; he shall not spare them, neither have pity, nor have mercy.
- 8 To this people you shall say, Thus says YAHWEH: Behold, I set before you the way of life and the way of death.
- 9 He who remains in this city shall die by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence; but he who goes out, and passes over to the Kasdim who besiege you, he shall live, and his life shall be to him for a prey.
- 10 For I have set my face on this city for evil, and not for good, says YAHWEH: it shall be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire.

. Message to the House of David. .

Touching the house of the king of Judah, hear the word of YAHWEH:

- 12 House of David, thus says YAHWEH, Execute justice in the morning, and deliver him who is robbed out of the hand of the oppressor, lest my wrath go forth like fire, and burn so that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings.
- 13 Behold, I am against you, O inhabitant of the valley, and of the rock of the plain, says YAHWEH; you that say, Who shall come down against us? or who shall enter into our habitations?
- 14 I will punish you according to the fruit of your doings, says YAHWEH; and I will kindle a fire in her forest, and it shall devour all that is around her.

Jeremiah 22.

- 1 Thus said YAHWEH: Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word.
- 2 Say, Hear the word of YAHWEH, king of Judah, who sits on the throne of David, you, and your servants, and your people who enter in by these gates.
- 3 Thus says YAHWEH: Execute justice and righteousness, and deliver him who is robbed

out of the hand of the oppressor: and do no wrong, do no violence, to the foreigner, the fatherless, nor the widow; neither shed innocent blood in this place.

- 4 For if you do this thing indeed, then shall there enter in by the gates of this house kings sitting on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, he, and his servants, and his people.
- 5 But if you will not hear these words, I swear by myself, says YAHWEH, that this house shall become a desolation.
- 6 For thus says YAHWEH concerning the house of the king of Judah: You are Gilead to me, and the head of Lebanon; yet surely I will make you a wilderness, and cities which are not inhabited.
- 7 I will prepare destroyers against you, everyone with his weapons; and they shall cut down your choice cedars, and cast them into the fire.
- 8 Many nations shall pass by this city, and they shall say every man to his neighbor, Why has YAHWEH done thus to this great city?
- 9 Then they shall answer, Because they forsook the covenant of YAHWEH their ELOHIM, and worshiped other idol gods, and served them.
- 10 Don't weep for the dead, neither bemoan him; but weep bitterly for him who goes away; for he shall return no more, nor see his native country.

. Message to the Sons of Josiah. .

For thus says YAHWEH touching Shallum the son of Josiah, king of Judah, who reigned instead of Josiah his father, and who went forth out of this place: He shall not return there any more.

- 12 But in the place where they have led him captive, there shall he die, and he shall see this land no more.
- 13 Woe to him who builds his house by unrighteousness, and his rooms by injustice; who uses his neighbor's service without wages, and doesn't give him his hire;
- 14 who says, I will build me a wide house and spacious rooms, and cuts him out windows; and it is ceiling with cedar, and painted with vermilion.
- 15 Shall you reign, because you strive to excel in cedar? Didn't your father eat and drink, and do justice and righteousness? then it was well with him.
- 16 He judged the cause of the poor and needy; then it was well. Wasn't this to know me? says YAHWEH!
- 17 But your eyes and your heart are not but for your covetousness, and for shedding innocent blood, and for oppression, and for violence, to do it.
- 18 Therefore thus says YAHWEH concerning Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah: they shall not lament for him, saying, Ah my brother! or, Ah sister! They shall not lament for him, saying Ah master! or, Ah his glory!
- 19 He shall be buried with the burial of a donkey, drawn and cast forth beyond the gates of Jerusalem.
- 20 Go up to Lebanon, and cry; and lift up your voice in Bashan, and cry from Abarim; for all your lovers are destroyed.
- 21 I spoke to you in your prosperity; but you said, I will not hear. This has been your way from your youth, that you didn't obey my voice.
- 22 The wind shall feed all your shepherds, and your lovers shall go into captivity: surely then you will be ashamed and confounded for all your wickedness.
- 23 Inhabitant of Lebanon, who makes your nest in the cedars, how greatly to be pitied you will be when pangs come on you, the pain as of a woman in travail!

. Message to Coniah. .

As I live, says YAHWEH, though Coniah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah were the signet on my right hand, yet would I pluck you there;

- 25 and I will give you into the hand of those who seek your life, and into the hand of them of whom you are afraid, even into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of the Kasdim.
- 26 I will cast you out, and your mother who bore you, into another country, where you were not born; and there you will die.
- 27 But to the land whereunto their soul longs to return, there shall they not return.
- 28 Is this man Coniah a despised broken vessel? is he a vessel in which none delights? why are they cast out, he and his seed, and are cast into the land which they don't know?
- 29 O earth, earth, earth, hear the word of YAHWEH!
- 30 Thus says YAHWEH, Write you this man childless, a man who shall not prosper in his days; for no more shall a man of his seed prosper, sitting on the throne of David, and ruling in Judah.

Psalms 129.

1 . A Song of Ascents...

A Song of Ascents. Many times they have afflicted me from my youth up. Let Israel now say,

- 2 many times they have afflicted me from my youth up, yet they have not prevailed against me.
- 3 The plowers plowed on my back. They made their furrows long.
- 4 YAHWEH is righteous. He has cut apart the cords of the wicked.
- 5 Let them be disappointed and turned backward, all those who hate Zion.
- 6 Let them be as the grass on the housetops, which withers before it grows up;
- 7 with which the reaper doesn't fill his hand, nor he who binds sheaves, his bosom.
- 8 Neither do those who go by say, "The blessing of YAHWEH be on you. We bless you in the name of YAHWEH!"

Proverbs 28.

- 1 The wicked flee when no one pursues; but the righteous are as bold as a lion.
- 2 In rebellion, a land has many rulers, but order is maintained by a man of understanding and knowledge.
- 3 A needy man who oppresses the poor is like a driving rain which leaves no crops.
- 4 Those who forsake the Torah praise the wicked; but those who keep the Torah contend with them.
- 5 Evil men don't understand justice; but those who seek YAHWEH understand it fully.
- 6 Better is the poor who walks in his integrity, than he who is perverse in his ways, and he is rich.
- 7 Whoever keeps the Torah is a wise son; but he who is a companion of gluttons shames his father.
- 8 He who increases his wealth by excessive interest gathers it for one who has pity on the poor.
- 9 He who turns away his ear from hearing the Torah, even his prayer is an abomination.
- 10 Whoever causes the upright to go astray in an evil way, he will fall into his own trap; but the blameless will inherit good.
- 11 The rich man is wise in his own eyes; but the poor who has understanding sees through him.
- 12 When the righteous triumph, there is great glory; but when the wicked rise, men hide

themselves.

- 13 He who conceals his sins doesn't prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.
- 14 Blessed is the man who always fears; but one who hardens his heart falls into trouble.
- 15 As a roaring lion or a charging bear, so is a wicked ruler over helpless people.
- 16 A tyrannical ruler lacks judgment. One who hates ill-gotten gain will have long days.
- 17 A man who is tormented by life blood will be a fugitive until death; no one will support him.
- 18 Whoever walks blamelessly is kept safe; but one with perverse ways will fall suddenly.
- 19 One who works his land will have an abundance of food; but one who chases fantasies will have his fill of poverty.
- 20 A faithful man is rich with blessings; but one who is eager to be rich will not go unpunished.
- 21 To show partiality is not good; yet a man will do wrong for a piece of bread.
- 22 A stingy man hurries after riches, and doesn't know that poverty waits for him.
- 23 One who rebukes a man will afterward find more favor than one who flatters with the tongue.
- 24 Whoever robs his father or his mother, and says, "It's not wrong." He is a partner with a destroyer.
- 25 One who is greedy stirs up strife; but one who trusts in YAHWEH will prosper.
- 26 One who trusts in himself is a fool; but one who walks in wisdom is kept safe.
- 27 One who gives to the poor has no lack; but one who closes his eyes will have many curses.
- 28 When the wicked rise, men hide themselves; but when they perish, the righteous thrive.

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P.O. Box 4810, Parker, Colorado 80134.

Phone: 1-866-TORAH-TV. . or (1-866-867-2488). Website: <u>WWW.TORAH.TV</u> .