Ezekiel 16, Isaiah 45, Psalms 6, Proverbs 24.

Day 345. 10-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Ezekiel 16.

1 . ELOHIM's Love for Jerusalem. .

Again the word of YHWH came to me, saying,

- 2 Son of man, cause Jerusalem to know her abominations;
- 3 and say, Thus says ADONAI YHWH to Jerusalem: Your birth and your birth is of the land of the Canaanite; the Amorite was your father, and your mother was a Hittite.
- 4 As for your birth, in the day you were born your navel was not cut, neither were you washed in water to cleanse you; you weren't salted at all, nor swaddled at all.
- 5 No eye pitied you, to do any of these things to you, to have compassion on you; but you were cast out in the open field, for that your person was abhorred, in the day that you were born.
- 6 When I passed by you, and saw you wallowing in your blood, I said to you, Though you are in your blood, live; yes, I said to you, Though you are in your blood, live.
- 7 I caused you to multiply as that which grows in the field, and you increased and grew great, and you attained to excellent ornament; your breasts were fashioned, and your hair was grown; yet you were naked and bare.
- 8 Now when I passed by you, and looked at you, behold, your time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over you, and covered your nakedness: yes, I swore to you, and entered into a covenant with you, says ADONAI YHWH, and you became mine.
- 9 Then washed I you with water; yes, I thoroughly washed away your blood from you, and I anointed you with oil.
- 10 I clothed you also with embroidered work, and shod you with sealskin, and I dressed you about with fine linen, and covered you with silk.
- 11 I decked you with ornaments, and I put bracelets on your hands, and a chain on your neck
- 12 I put a ring on your nose, and earrings in your ears, and a beautiful crown on your
- 13 Thus you were decked with gold and silver; and your clothing was of fine linen, and silk, and embroidered work; you ate fine flour, and honey, and oil; and you were exceeding beautiful, and you prospered to royal estate.
- 14 Your renown went forth among the nations for your beauty; for it was perfect, through my majesty which I had put on you, says ADONAI YHWH!

15 . Jerusalem's Harlotry. .

But you trusted in your beauty, and played the prostitute because of your renown, and poured out your prostitution on everyone who passed by; his it was.

- 16 You took of your garments, and made for yourselves high places decked with various colors, and played the prostitute on them: the like things shall not come, neither shall it be so.
- 17 You also took your beautiful jewels of my gold and of my silver, which I had given you, and made for yourself images of men, and played the prostitute with them;
- 18 and you took your embroidered garments, and covered them, and set my oil and my incense before them.
- 19 My bread also which I gave you, fine flour, and oil, and honey, with which I fed you, you even set it before them for a pleasant aroma; and thus it was, says ADONAI YHWH!
- 20 Moreover you have taken your sons and your daughters, whom you have borne to me, and you have sacrificed these to them to be devoured. Was your prostitution a small matter,

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- 21 that you have slain my children, and delivered them up, in causing them to pass through the fire to them?
- 22 In all your abominations and your prostitution you have not remembered the days of your youth, when you were naked and bare, and were wallowing in your blood.
- 23 It has happened after all your wickedness, (woe, woe to you! says ADONAI YHWH),
- 24 that you have built for yourselves a vaulted place, and have made yourselves a lofty place in every street.
- 25 You have built your lofty place at the head of every way, and have made your beauty an abomination, and have opened your feet to everyone who passed by, and multiplied your prostitution.
- 26 You have also committed sexual immorality with the Egyptians, your neighbors, great of flesh; and have multiplied your prostitution, to provoke me to anger.
- 27 See therefore, I have stretched out my hand over you, and have diminished your ordinary food, and delivered you to the will of those who hate you, the daughters of the Philistines, who are ashamed of your lewd way.
- 28 You have played the prostitute also with the Assyrians, because you were insatiable; yes, you have played the prostitute with them, and yet you weren't satisfied.
- 29 You have moreover multiplied your prostitution to the land of merchants, to Kasdimah; and yet you weren't satisfied with this.
- 30 How weak is your heart, says ADONAI YHWH, since you do all these things, the work of an impudent prostitute;

31 . Jerusalem's Adultery. .

in that you build your vaulted place at the head of every way, and make your lofty place in every street, and have not been as a prostitute, in that you scorn pay.

- 32 A wife who commits adultery! who takes strangers instead of her husband!
- 33 They give gifts to all prostitutes; but you give your gifts to all your lovers, and bribe them, that they may come to you on every side for your prostitution.
- 34 You are different from other women in your prostitution, in that no one follows you to play the prostitute; and whereas you give hire, and no hire is given to you, therefore you are different.

35 . Jerusalem's Lovers Will Abuse Her. .

Therefore, prostitute, hear the word of YHWH:

- 36 Thus says ADONAI YHWH, Because your filthiness was poured out, and your nakedness uncovered through your prostitution with your lovers; and because of all the idols of your abominations, and for the blood of your children, that you gave to them; 37 therefore see, I will gather all your lovers, with whom you have taken pleasure, and all those who you have loved, with all those who you have hated; I will even gather them against you on every side, and will uncover your nakedness to them, that they may see all your nakedness.
- 38 I will judge you, as women who break wedlock and shed blood are judged; and I will bring on you the blood of wrath and jealousy.
- 39 I will also give you into their hand, and they shall throw down your vaulted place, and break down your lofty places; and they shall strip you of your clothes, and take your beautiful jewels; and they shall leave you naked and bare.
- 40 They shall also bring up a company against you, and they shall stone you with stones, and thrust you through with their swords.
- 41 They shall burn your houses with fire, and execute judgments on you in the sight of many women; and I will cause you to cease from playing the prostitute, and you shall

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also give no hire any more.

- 42 So will I cause my wrath toward you to rest, and my jealousy shall depart from you, and I will be quiet, and will be no more angry.
- 43 Because you have not remembered the days of your youth, but have raged against me in all these things; therefore, behold, I also will bring your way on your head, says ADONAI YHWH: and you shall not commit this lewdness with all your abominations.

. More Wicked than Samaria and Sodom. .

Behold, everyone who uses proverbs shall use this proverb against you, saying, As is the mother, so is her daughter.

- 45 You are the daughter of your mother, who loathes her husband and her children; and you are the sister of your sisters, who loathed their husbands and their children: your mother was a Hittite, and your father an Amorite.
- 46 Your elder sister is Samaria, who dwells at your left hand, she and her daughters; and your younger sister, who dwells at your right hand, is Sodom and her daughters.
- 47 Yet have you not walked in their ways, nor done after their abominations; but, as if that were a very little thing, you were more corrupt than they in all your ways.
- 48 As I live, says ADONAI YHWH, Sodom your sister has not done, she nor her daughters, as you have done, you and your daughters.
- 49 Behold, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: pride, fullness of bread, and prosperous ease was in her and in her daughters; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.
- 50 They were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good.
- 51 Neither has Samaria committed half of your sins; but you have multiplied your abominations more than they, and have justified your sisters by all your abominations which you have done.
- 52 You also, bear you your own shame, in that you have given judgment for your sisters; through your sins that you have committed more abominable than they, they are more righteous that you: yes, be also confounded, and bear your shame, in that you have justified your sisters.
- 53 I will turn again their captivity, the captivity of Sodom and her daughters, and the captivity of Samaria and her daughters, and the captivity of your captives in their midst;
- 54 that you may bear your own shame, and may be ashamed because of all that you have done, in that you are a comfort to them.
- 55 Your sisters, Sodom and her daughters, shall return to their former estate; and Samaria and her daughters shall return to their former estate; and you and your daughters shall return to your former estate.
- 56 For your sister Sodom was not mentioned by your mouth in the day of your pride,
- 57 before your wickedness was uncovered, as at the time of the reproach of the daughters of Syria, and of all who are around her, the daughters of the Philistines, who do despite to you all around.
- 58 You have borne your lewdness and your abominations, says YHWH!
- 59 For thus says ADONAI YHWH: I will also deal with you as you have done, who have despised the oath in breaking the covenant.

60 . An Everlasting Covenant. .

Nevertheless I will remember my covenant with you in the days of your youth, and I will establish to you an everlasting covenant.

61 Then you shall remember your ways, and be ashamed, when you shall receive your

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sisters, your elder sisters and your younger; and I will give them to you for daughters, but not by your covenant.

- 62 I will establish my covenant with you; and you shall know that I am YHWH;
- 63 that you may remember, and be confounded, and never open your mouth any more, because of your shame, when I have forgiven you all that you have done, says ADONAI YHWH!

Isaiah 45.

1 . Cyrus, ELOHIM's Instrument. .

Thus says YHWH to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have held, to subdue nations before him, and strip kings of their armor; to open the doors before him, and the gates shall not be shut:

- 2 "I will go before you, and make the rough places smooth. I will break the doors of brass in pieces, and cut apart the bars of iron.
- 3 I will give you the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that you may know that it is I, YHWH, who call you by your name, even the ELOHIM of Israel.
- 4 For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel my chosen, I have called you by your name. I have surnamed you, though you have not known me.
- 5 I am YHWH, and there is none else. Besides me, there is no ELOHIM! I will strengthen you, though you have not known me;
- 6 that they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none besides me. I am YHWH, and there is no one else.
- 7 I form the light, and create darkness. I make peace, and create calamity. I am YHWH, who does all these things.
- 8 Distil, you heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness. Let the earth open, that it may bring forth salvation, and let it cause righteousness to spring up with it. I, YHWH, have created it.
- 9 Woe to him who strives with his Maker a clay pot among the clay pots of the earth! Shall the clay ask him who fashions it, 'What are you making?' or your work, 'He has no hands?'
- 10 Woe to him who says to a father, 'What have you become the father of?' or to a mother, 'To what have you given birth?'"
- 11 Thus says YHWH, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker: "You ask me about the things that are to come, concerning my sons, and you command me concerning the work of my hands!
- 12 I have made the earth, and created man on it. I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens; and I have commanded all their army.
- 13 I have raised him up in righteousness, and I will make straight all his ways. He shall build my city, and he shall let my exiles go free, not for price nor reward," says YHWH of Hosts.

. YHWH, the Only Savior. .

Thus says YHWH: "The labor of Egypt, and the merchandise of Ethiopia, and the Sabeans, men of stature, shall come over to you, and they shall be yours. They will go after you. They shall come over in chains; and they will bow down to you. They will make supplication to you: 'Surely El is in you; and there is none else. There is no other Elohim.

- 15 Most certainly you are an El who hidden yourself, ELOHIM of Israel, the Savior."
- 16 They will be disappointed, yes, confounded, all of them. Those who are makers of

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idols will go into confusion together.

- 17 Israel will be saved by YHWH with an everlasting salvation. You will not be disappointed nor confounded to ages everlasting.
- 18 For thus says YHWH who created the heavens, the ELOHIM who formed the earth and made it, who established it and didn't create it a waste, who formed it to be inhabited: "I am YHWH; and there is no other.
- 19 I have not spoken in secret, in a place of the land of darkness. I didn't say to the seed of Jacob, 'Seek me in vain.' I, YHWH, speak righteousness. I declare things that are right.
- 20 "Assemble yourselves and come. Draw near together, you who have escaped from the nations. Those have no knowledge who carry the wood of their engraved image, and pray to a false-god that can't save.
- 21 Declare and present it. Yes, let them take counsel together. Who has shown this from ancient time? Who has declared it of old? Haven't I, YHWH? There is no other ELOHIM besides me, a just ELOHIM and a Savior; There is no one besides me.
- 22 "Look to me, and be saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am El, and there is no other.
- 23 I have sworn by myself, the word has gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and will not return, that to me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall take an oath.
- 24 They will say of me, 'There is righteousness and strength only in YHWH!" Even to him shall men come; and all those who were incensed against him shall be disappointed. 25 In YHWH shall all the seed of Israel be justified, and shall glory.

Psalms 6.

1 . To the Chief Musician. With stringed instruments. On an eightstringed harp. A Psalm of David...

For the Chief Musician; on stringed instruments, upon the eight-stringed lyre. A Psalm by David. YHWH, don't rebuke me in your anger, neither discipline me in your wrath.

- 2 Have mercy on me, YHWH, for I am faint. YHWH, heal me, for my bones are troubled.
- 3 My soul is also in great anguish. But you, YHWH how long?
- 4 Return, YHWH! Deliver my soul, and save me for your loving kindness' sake.
- 5 For in death there is no memory of you. In Sheol, who shall give you thanks?
- 6 I am weary with my groaning. Every night I flood my bed. I drench my couch with my tears.
- 7 My eye wastes away because of grief. It grows old because of all my adversaries.
- 8 Depart from me, all you workers of iniquity, for YHWH has heard the voice of my weeping.
- 9 YHWH has heard my supplication. YHWH accepts my prayer.
- 10 May all my enemies be ashamed and dismayed. They shall turn back, they shall be disgraced suddenly.

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.

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- 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 YHWH 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 YHWH and the king. Don't join those who are rebellious:
- 22 for their calamity will rise suddenly; the destruction from them both who knows?

23 . 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.

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