

**19-25-Dec Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).**

**354. 19-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).**

**Ezekiel 27.**

**1 . Lamentation for Tyre. .**

The word of YAHWEH came again to me, saying,

2 You, son of man, take up a lamentation over Tyre;

3 and tell Tyre, you who dwell at the entry of the sea, who are the merchant of the peoples to many islands, thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: You, Tyre, have said, I am perfect in beauty.

4 Your borders are in the heart of the seas; your builders have perfected your beauty.

5 They have made all your planks of fir trees from Senir; they have taken a cedar from Lebanon to make a mast for you.

6 Of the oaks of Bashan have they made your oars; they have made your benches of ivory inlaid in boxwood, from the islands of Kittim.

7 Of fine linen with embroidered work from Egypt was your sail, that it might be to you for a banner; blue and purple from the islands of Elishah was your awning.

8 The inhabitants of Sidon and Arvad were your rowers: your wise men, Tyre, were in you, they were your pilots.

9 The old men of Gebal and the wise men of it were in you your repairers of ship seams: all the ships of the sea with their mariners were in you to deal in your merchandise.

10 Persia and Lud and Put were in your army, your men of war: they hanged the shield and helmet in you; they set forth your comeliness.

11 The men of Arvad with your army were on your walls all around, and valorous men were in your towers; they hanged their shields on your walls all around; they have perfected your beauty.

12 Tarshish was your merchant by reason of the multitude of all kinds of riches; with silver, iron, tin, and lead, they traded for your wares.

13 Javan, Tubal, and Meshech, they were your traffickers; they traded the persons of men and vessels of brass for your merchandise.

14 They of the house of Togarmah traded for your wares with horses and war horses and mules.

15 The men of Dedan were your traffickers; many islands were the market of your hand: they brought you in exchange horns of ivory and ebony.

16 Syria was your merchant by reason of the multitude of your handiworks: they traded for your wares with emeralds, purple, and embroidered work, and fine linen, and coral, and rubies.

17 Judah, and Eretz-Israel, they were your traffickers: they traded for your merchandise wheat of Minnith, and confections, and honey, and oil, and balm.

18 Damascus was your merchant for the multitude of your handiworks, by reason of the multitude of all kinds of riches, with the wine of Helbon, and white wool.

19 Vedan and Javan traded with yarn for your wares: bright iron, cassia, and calamus, were among your merchandise.

20 Dedan was your trafficker in precious cloths for riding.

21 Arabia, and all the princes of Kedar, they were the merchants of your hand; in lambs, and rams, and goats, in these were they your merchants.

22 The traffickers of Sheba and Raamah, they were your traffickers; they traded for your wares with the chief of all spices, and with all precious stones, and gold.

23 Haran and Canneh and Eden, the traffickers of Sheba, Asshur and Chilmad, were your traffickers.

24 These were your traffickers in choice wares, in wrappings of blue and embroidered

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work, and in chests of rich clothing, bound with cords and made of cedar, among your merchandise.

25 The ships of Tarshish were your caravans for your merchandise: and you were replenished, and made very glorious in the heart of the seas.

26 Your rowers have brought you into great waters: the east wind has broken you in the heart of the seas.

27 Your riches, and your wares, your merchandise, your mariners, and your pilots, your repairers of ship seams, and the dealers in your merchandise, and all your men of war, who are in you, with all your company which is in the midst of you, shall fall into the heart of the seas in the day of your ruin.

28 At the sound of the cry of your pilots the suburbs shall shake.

29 All who handled the oar, the mariners, and all the pilots of the sea, shall come down from their ships; they shall stand on the land,

30 and shall cause their voice to be heard over you, and shall cry bitterly, and shall cast up dust on their heads, they shall wallow themselves in the ashes:

31 and they shall make themselves bald for you, and clothe them with sackcloth, and they shall weep for you in bitterness of soul with bitter mourning.

32 In their wailing they shall take up a lamentation for you, and lament over you, saying, Who is there like Tyre, like her who is brought to silence in the midst of the sea?

33 When your wares went forth out of the seas, you filled many peoples; you enriched the kings of the earth with the multitude of your riches and of your merchandise.

34 In the time that you were broken by the seas in the depths of the waters, your merchandise and all your company fell in your midst.

35 All the inhabitants of the islands are astonished at you, and their kings are horribly afraid; they are troubled in their face.

36 The merchants among the peoples hiss at you; you are become a terror, and you shall nevermore have any being.

### Ezekiel 28.

#### 1 . Proclamation Against the King of Tyre. .

The word of YAHWEH came again to me, saying,

2 Son of man, tell the prince of Tyre, Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Because your heart is lifted up, and you have said, I am an idol\_god, I sit in the seat of ELOHIM, in the midst of the seas; yet you are man, and not El, though you set your heart as the heart of ELOHIM

3 behold, you are wiser than Daniel; there is no secret that is hidden from you;

4 by your wisdom and by your understanding you have gotten yourself riches, and have gotten gold and silver into your treasures;

5 by your great wisdom and by your traffic you have increased your riches, and your heart is lifted up because of your riches

6 therefore thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Because you have set your heart as the heart of ELOHIM,

7 therefore, behold, I will bring strangers on you, the terrible of the nations; and they shall draw their swords against the beauty of your wisdom, and they shall defile your brightness.

8 They shall bring you down to the pit; and you shall die the death of those who are slain, in the heart of the seas.

9 Will you yet say before him who kills you, I am ELOHIM? but you are man, and not ELOHIM, in the hand of him who wounds you.

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10 You shall die the death of the uncircumcised by the hand of strangers: for I have spoken it, says ADONAI YAHWEH!

### 11 . Lamentation for the King of Tyre. .

Moreover the word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,

12 Son of man, take up a lamentation over the king of Tyre, and tell him, Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: You seal up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.

13 You were in Eden, the garden of ELOHIM; every precious stone adorned you: ruby, topaz, emerald, chrysolite, onyx, jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and beryl. Gold work of tambourines and of pipes was in you. In the day that you were created they were prepared.

14 You were the anointed cherub who covers: and I set you, so that you were on the holy mountain of ELOHIM; you have walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

15 You were perfect in your ways from the day that you were created, until unrighteousness was found in you.

16 By the abundance of your traffic they filled the midst of you with violence, and you have sinned: therefore I have cast you as profane out of the mountain of ELOHIM; and I have destroyed you, covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.

17 Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you have corrupted your wisdom by reason of your brightness: I have cast you to the ground; I have laid you before kings, that they may see you.

18 By the multitude of your iniquities, in the unrighteousness of your traffic, you have profaned your sanctuaries; therefore have I brought forth a fire from the midst of you; it has devoured you, and I have turned you to ashes on the earth in the sight of all those who see you.

19 All those who know you among the peoples shall be astonished at you: you have become a terror, and you shall nevermore have any being.

### 20 . Proclamation Against Sidon. .

The word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,

21 Son of man, set your face toward Sidon, and prophesy against it,

22 and say, Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Behold, I am against you, Sidon; and I will be glorified in the midst of you; and they shall know that I am YAHWEH, when I shall have executed judgments in her, and shall be sanctified in her.

23 For I will send pestilence into her, and blood into her streets; and the wounded shall fall in the midst of her, with the sword on her on every side; and they shall know that I am YAHWEH!

24 There shall be no more a pricking brier to the house of Israel, nor a hurting thorn of any that are around them, that scorned them; and they shall know that I am ADONAI YAHWEH!

### 25 . Israel's Future Blessing. .

Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: When I shall have gathered the house of Israel from the peoples among whom they are scattered, and shall be sanctified in them in the sight of the nations, then shall they dwell in their own land which I gave to my servant Jacob.

26 They shall dwell securely therein; yes, they shall build houses, and plant vineyards, and shall dwell securely, when I have executed judgments on all those who do them despite all around them; and they shall know that I am YAHWEH their ELOHIM!

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### Isaiah 54.

#### 1 . A Perpetual Covenant of Peace. .

“Sing, barren, you who didn’t bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, you who did not travail with child: for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife,” says YAHWEH!

2 “Enlarge the place of your tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of your habitations; don’t spare: lengthen your cords, and strengthen your stakes.

3 For you shall spread out on the right hand and on the left; and your seed shall possess the nations, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.

4 “Don’t be afraid; for you shall not be ashamed: neither be confounded; for you shall not be disappointed: for you shall forget the shame of your youth; and the reproach of your widowhood you shall remember no more.

5 For your Maker is your husband; YAHWEH of Hosts is his name: and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer; the ELOHIM of the whole earth shall he be called.

6 For YAHWEH has called you as a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit, even a wife of youth, when she is cast off,” says your ELOHIM!

7 “For a small moment have I forsaken you; but with great mercies will I gather you.

8 In overflowing wrath I hid my face from you for a moment; but with everlasting loving kindness will I have mercy on you,” says YAHWEH your Redeemer.

9 “For this is like the waters of Noah to me; for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah shall no more go over the earth, so have I sworn that I will not be angry with you, nor rebuke you.

10 For the mountains may depart, and the hills be removed; but my loving kindness shall not depart from you, neither shall my covenant of peace be removed,” says YAHWEH who has mercy on you.

11 “You afflicted, tossed with storms, and not comforted, behold, I will set your stones in beautiful colors, and lay your foundations with sapphires.

12 I will make your pinnacles of rubies, and your gates of sparkling jewels, and all your walls of precious stones.

13 All your children shall be taught of YAHWEH; and great shall be the peace of your children.

14 In righteousness you shall be established: you shall be far from oppression, for you shall not be afraid; and from terror, for it shall not come near you.

15 Behold, they may gather together, but not by me: whoever shall gather together against you shall fall because of you.

16 “Behold, I have created the smith who blows the fire of coals, and brings forth a weapon for his work; and I have created the waster to destroy.

17 No weapon that is formed against you will prevail; and you will condemn every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of the servants of YAHWEH, and their righteousness which is of me,” says YAHWEH!

### Psalms 15.

#### 1 . A Psalm of David. .

A Psalm by David. YAHWEH, who shall dwell in your sanctuary? Who shall live on your holy hill?

2 He who walks blamelessly does what is right, and speaks truth in his heart;

3 He who doesn’t slander with his tongue, nor does evil to his friend, nor casts slurs against his fellow man;

4 In whose eyes a vile man is despised, but who honors those who fear YAHWEH; he

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who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and doesn't change;  
5 he who doesn't lend out his money for usury, nor take a bribe against the innocent.  
He who does these things shall never be shaken.

### Proverbs 2.

#### 1 . The Value of Wisdom. .

My son, if you will receive my words, and store up my commandments within you;  
2 So as to turn your ear to wisdom, and apply your heart to understanding;  
3 Yes, if you call out for discernment, and lift up your voice for understanding;  
4 If you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures:  
5 then you will understand the fear of YAHWEH, and find the knowledge of ELOHIM!  
6 For YAHWEH gives wisdom. Out of his mouth comes knowledge and understanding.  
7 He lays up sound wisdom for the upright. He is a shield to those who walk in integrity;  
8 that he may guard the paths of justice, and preserve the way of his holy ones.  
9 Then you will understand righteousness and justice, equity and every good path.  
10 For wisdom will enter into your heart. Knowledge will be pleasant to your soul.  
11 Discretion will watch over you. Understanding will keep you,  
12 to deliver you from the way of evil, from the men who speak perverse things;  
13 who forsake the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness;  
14 who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the perverseness of evil;  
15 who are crooked in their ways, and wayward in their paths:  
16 To deliver you from the strange woman, even from the foreigner who flatters with her words;  
17 who forsakes the friend of her youth, and forgets the covenant of her ELOHIM:  
18 for her house leads down to death, her paths to the dead.  
19 None who go to her return again, neither do they attain to the paths of life:  
20 that you may walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous.  
21 For the upright will dwell in the land. The perfect will remain in it.  
22 But the wicked will be cut off from the land. The treacherous will be rooted out of it.

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

355. 20-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Ezekiel 29.

**1 . Proclamation Against Egypt. .**

In the tenth year, in the tenth month, on the twelfth day of the month, the word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,

2 “Son of man, set your face against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and prophesy against him and against all Egypt.

3 Speak and say, “Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: “Behold, I am against you, Pharaoh king of Egypt, the great monster that lies in the midst of his rivers, that has said, ‘My river is my own, and I have made it for myself.’

4 I will put hooks in your jaws, and I will make the fish of your rivers stick to your scales; and I will bring you up out of the midst of your rivers, with all the fish of your rivers which stick to your scales.

5 I’ll cast you forth into the wilderness, you and all the fish of your rivers. You’ll fall on the open field. You won’t be brought together, nor gathered. I have given you for food to the animals of the earth and to the birds of the sky.

6 All the inhabitants of Egypt will know that I am YAHWEH, because they have been a staff of reed to the house of Israel.

7 When they took hold of you by your hand, you broke, and tore all their shoulders; and when they leaned on you, you broke, and paralyzed all of their thighs.”

8 Therefore thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: “Behold, I will bring a sword on you, and will cut off man and animal from you.

9 The land of Egypt shall be a desolation and a waste; and they shall know that I am YAHWEH! Because he has said, ‘The river is mine, and I have made it;’

10 therefore, behold, I am against you, and against your rivers, and I will make the land of Egypt an utter waste and desolation, from the tower of Seveneh even to the border of Ethiopia.

11 No foot of man shall pass through it, nor foot of animal shall pass through it, neither shall it be inhabited forty years.

12 I will make the land of Egypt a desolation in the midst of the countries that are desolate; and her cities among the cities that are laid waste shall be a desolation forty years; and I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and will disperse them through the countries.”

13 For thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: “At the end of forty years will I gather the Egyptians from the peoples where they were scattered;

14 and I will bring back the captivity of Egypt, and will cause them to return into the land of Pathros, into the land of their birth; and they shall be there a base kingdom.

15 It shall be the base of the kingdoms; neither shall it any more lift itself up above the nations: and I will diminish them, that they shall no more rule over the nations.

16 It shall be no more the confidence of the house of Israel, bringing iniquity to memory, when they turn to look after them: and they shall know that I am ADONAI YAHWEH!””

**17 . Babylon Will Plunder Egypt. .**

It came to pass in the seven and twentieth year, in the first month, in the first day of the month, the word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,

18 Son of man, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon caused his army to serve a great service against Tyre: every head was made bald, and every shoulder was worn; yet had he no wages, nor his army, from Tyre, for the service that he had served against it.

19 Therefore thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Behold, I will give the land of Egypt to

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Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; and he shall carry off her multitude, and take her spoil, and take her prey; and it shall be the wages for his army.

20 I have given him the land of Egypt as his recompense for which he served, because they worked for me, says ADONAI YAHWEH!

21 In that day will I cause a horn to bud forth to the house of Israel, and I will give you the opening of the mouth in their midst; and they shall know that I am YAHWEH!

### Ezekiel 30.

#### 1 . Egypt and Her Allies Will Fall. .

The word of YAHWEH came again to me, saying,

2 Son of man, prophesy, and say, Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Wail, Alas for the day!

3 For the day is near, even the day of YAHWEH is near; it shall be a day of clouds, a time of the nations.

4 A sword shall come on Egypt, and anguish shall be in Ethiopia, when the slain shall fall in Egypt; and they shall take away her multitude, and her foundations shall be broken down.

5 Ethiopia, and Put, and Lud, and all the mixed people, and Cub, and the children of the land that is allied with them, shall fall with them by the sword.

6 Thus says YAHWEH: They also who uphold Egypt shall fall; and the pride of her power shall come down: from the tower of Seveneh shall they fall in it by the sword, says ADONAI YAHWEH!

7 They shall be desolate in the midst of the countries that are desolate; and her cities shall be in the midst of the cities that are wasted.

8 They shall know that I am YAHWEH, when I have set a fire in Egypt, and all her helpers are destroyed.

9 In that day shall messengers go forth from before me in ships to make the careless Ethiopians afraid; and there shall be anguish on them, as in the day of Egypt; for, behold, it comes.

10 Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: I will also make the multitude of Egypt to cease, by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon.

11 He and his people with him, the terrible of the nations, shall be brought in to destroy the land; and they shall draw their swords against Egypt, and fill the land with the slain.

12 I will make the rivers dry, and will sell the land into the hand of evil men; and I will make the land desolate, and all that is therein, by the hand of strangers: I, YAHWEH, have spoken it.

13 Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: I will also destroy the idols, and I will cause the images to cease from Memphis; and there shall be no more a prince from the land of Egypt: and I will put a fear in the land of Egypt.

14 I will make Pathros desolate, and will set a fire in Zoan, and will execute judgments on No.

15 I will pour my wrath on Sin, the stronghold of Egypt; and I will cut off the multitude of No.

16 I will set a fire in Egypt: Sin shall be in great anguish, and No shall be broken up; and Memphis shall have adversaries in the daytime.

17 The young men of Aven and of Pibeseth shall fall by the sword; and these cities shall go into captivity.

18 At Tehaphnehes also the day shall withdraw itself, when I shall break there the yokes of Egypt, and the pride of her power shall cease in her: as for her, a cloud shall cover her, and her daughters shall go into captivity.

19 Thus will I execute judgments on Egypt; and they shall know that I am YAHWEH!

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### 20 . Proclamation Against Pharaoh. .

It happened in the eleventh year, in the first month, in the seventh day of the month, that the word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,

21 Son of man, I have broken the arm of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and behold, it has not been bound up, to apply healing medicines, to put a bandage to bind it, that it be strong to hold the sword.

22 Therefore thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Behold, I am against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and will break his arms, the strong arm, and that which was broken; and I will cause the sword to fall out of his hand.

23 I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and will disperse them through the countries.

24 I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon, and put my sword in his hand: but I will break the arms of Pharaoh, and he shall groan before him with the groanings of a deadly wounded man.

25 I will hold up the arms of the king of Babylon; and the arms of Pharaoh shall fall down; and they shall know that I am YAHWEH, when I shall put my sword into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall stretch it out on the land of Egypt.

26 I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and disperse them through the countries; and they shall know that I am YAHWEH!

### Isaiah 55.

#### 1 . An Invitation to Abundant Life. .

“Come, everyone who thirsts, to the waters! Come, he who has no money, buy, and eat! Yes, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

2 Why do you spend money for that which is not bread? and your labor for that which doesn't satisfy? listen diligently to me, and eat you that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.

3 Turn your ear, and come to me; hear, and your soul shall live: and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

4 Behold, I have given him for a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander to the peoples.

5 Behold, you shall call a nation that you don't know; and a nation that didn't know you shall run to you, because of YAHWEH your ELOHIM, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he has glorified you.”

6 Seek YAHWEH while he may be found; call you on him while he is near:

7 let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to YAHWEH, and he will have mercy on him; and to our ELOHIM, for he will abundantly pardon.

8 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” says YAHWEH!

9 “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

10 For as the rain comes down and the snow from the sky, and doesn't return there, but waters the earth, and makes it bring forth and bud, and gives seed to the sower and bread to the eater;

11 so shall my word be that goes forth out of my mouth: it shall not return to me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing I sent it to do.

12 For you shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills



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shall break forth before you into singing; and all the trees of the fields shall clap their hands.

13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree; and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to YAHWEH for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

### Psalms 16.

#### 1 . A Michtam of David..

A Poem by David. Preserve me, ELOHIM, for in you do I take refuge.

2 My soul, you have said to YAHWEH, “You are my ADONAI. Apart from you I have no good thing.”

3 As for the holy ones who are in the earth, they are the excellent ones in whom is all my delight.

4 Their sorrows shall be multiplied who give gifts to another idol\_god. Their drink offerings of blood I will not offer, nor take their names on my lips.

5 YAHWEH assigned my portion and my cup. You made my lot secure.

6 The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places. Yes, I have a good inheritance.

7 I will bless YAHWEH, who has given me counsel. Yes, my heart instructs me in the night seasons.

8 I have set YAHWEH always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my tongue rejoices. My body shall also dwell in safety.

10 For you will not leave my soul in Sheol, neither will you allow your holy one to see corruption.

11 You will show me the path of life. In your presence is fullness of joy. In your right hand there are pleasures forevermore.

### Proverbs 3.

#### 1 . Guidance for the Young. .

My son, don't forget my teaching; but let your heart keep my commandments:

2 for length of days, and years of life, and peace, will they add to you.

3 Don't let kindness and truth forsake you. Bind them around your neck. Write them on the tablet of your heart.

4 So you will find favor, and good understanding in the sight of ELOHIM and man.

5 Trust in YAHWEH with all your heart, and don't lean on your own understanding.

6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

7 Don't be wise in your own eyes. Fear YAHWEH, and depart from evil.

8 It will be health to your body, and nourishment to your bones.

9 Honor YAHWEH with your substance, with the first fruits of all your increase:

10 so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.

11 My son, don't despise YAHWEH's discipline, neither be weary of his reproof:

12 for whom YAHWEH loves, he reproveth; even as a father reproveth the son in whom he delights.

13 Happy is the man who finds wisdom, the man who gets understanding.

14 For her good profit is better than getting silver, and her return is better than fine gold.

15 She is more precious than rubies. None of the things you can desire are to be compared to her.

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- 16 Length of days is in her right hand. In her left hand are riches and honor.  
17 Her ways are ways of pleasantness. All her paths are peace.  
18 She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her. Happy is everyone who retains her.  
19 By wisdom YAHWEH founded the earth. By understanding, he established the heavens.  
20 By his knowledge, the depths were broken up, and the skies drop down the dew.  
21 My son, let them not depart from your eyes. Keep sound wisdom and discretion:  
22 so they will be life to your soul, and grace for your neck.  
23 Then you shall walk in your way securely. Your foot won't stumble.  
24 When you lie down, you will not be afraid. Yes, you will lie down, and your sleep will be sweet.  
25 Don't be afraid of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it comes:  
26 for YAHWEH will be your confidence, and will keep your foot from being taken.  
27 Don't withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in the power of your hand to do it.  
28 Don't say to your neighbor, "Go, and come again; tomorrow I will give it to you," when you have it by you.  
29 Don't devise evil against your neighbor, since he dwells securely by you.  
30 Don't strive with a man without cause, if he has done you no harm.  
31 Don't envy the man of violence. Choose none of his ways.  
32 For the perverse is an abomination to YAHWEH, but his friendship is with the upright.  
33 YAHWEH's curse is in the house of the wicked, but he blesses the habitation of the righteous.  
34 Surely he mocks the mockers, but he gives grace to the humble.  
35 The wise will inherit glory, but shame will be the promotion of fools.

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

356. 21-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Ezekiel 31.

1 . **Egypt Cut Down Like a Great Tree. .**

It happened in the eleventh year, in the third month, in the first day of the month, that the word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,

2 Son of man, tell Pharaoh king of Egypt, and to his multitude: Whom are you like in your greatness?

3 Behold, the Assyrian was a cedar in Lebanon with beautiful branches, and with a forest-like shade, and of high stature; and its top was among the thick boughs.

4 The waters nourished it, the deep made it to grow: its rivers ran all around its plantation; and it sent out its channels to all the trees of the field.

5 Therefore its stature was exalted above all the trees of the field; and its boughs were multiplied, and its branches became long by reason of many waters, when it shot them forth.

6 All the birds of the sky made their nests in its boughs; and under its branches all the animals of the field brought forth their young; and all great nations lived under its shadow.

7 Thus was it beautiful in its greatness, in the length of its branches; for its root was by many waters.

8 The cedars in the garden of ELOHIM could not hide it; the fir trees were not like its boughs, and the plane trees were not as its branches; nor was any tree in the garden of ELOHIM like it in its beauty.

9 I made it beautiful by the multitude of its branches, so that all the trees of Eden, that were in the garden of ELOHIM, envied it.

10 Therefore thus said ADONAI YAHWEH: Because you are exalted in stature, and he has set his top among the thick boughs, and his heart is lifted up in his height;

11 I will even deliver him into the hand of El of the nations; he shall surely deal with him; I have driven him out for his wickedness.

12 Strangers, the terrible of the nations, have cut him off, and have left him: on the mountains and in all the valleys his branches are fallen, and his boughs are broken by all the watercourses of the land; and all the peoples of the earth are gone down from his shadow, and have left him.

13 On his ruin all the birds of the sky shall dwell, and all the animals of the field shall be on his branches;

14 to the end that none of all the trees by the waters exalt themselves in their stature, neither set their top among the thick boughs, nor that their mighty ones stand up on their height, even all who drink water: for they are all delivered to death, to the lower parts of the earth, in the midst of the children of men, with those who go down to the pit.

15 Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: In the day when he went down to Sheol I caused a mourning: I covered the deep for him, and I restrained its rivers; and the great waters were stayed; and I caused Lebanon to mourn for him, and all the trees of the field fainted for him.

16 I made the nations to shake at the sound of his fall, when I cast him down to Sheol with those who descend into the pit; and all the trees of Eden, the choice and best of Lebanon, all that drink water, were comforted in the lower parts of the earth.

17 They also went down into Sheol with him to those who are slain by the sword; yes, those who were his arm, that lived under his shadow in the midst of the nations.

18 To whom are you thus like in glory and in greatness among the trees of Eden? yet you will be brought down with the trees of Eden to the lower parts of the earth: you shall lie

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in the midst of the uncircumcised, with those who are slain by the sword. This is Pharaoh and all his multitude, says ADONAI YAHWEH!

### Ezekiel 32.

#### 1 **. Lamentation for Pharaoh and Egypt. .**

It happened in the twelfth year, in the twelfth month, in the first day of the month, that the word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,

2 Son of man, take up a lamentation over Pharaoh king of Egypt, and tell him, You were likened to a young lion of the nations: yet you are as a monster in the seas; and you broke out with your rivers, and troubled the waters with your feet, and fouled their rivers.

3 Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: I will spread out my net on you with a company of many peoples; and they shall bring you up in my net.

4 I will leave you on the land, I will cast you forth on the open field, and will cause all the birds of the sky to settle on you, and I will satisfy the animals of the whole earth with you.

5 I will lay your flesh on the mountains, and fill the valleys with your height.

6 I will also water with your blood the land in which you swim, even to the mountains; and the watercourses shall be full of you.

7 When I shall extinguish you, I will cover the heavens, and make its stars dark; I will cover the sun with a cloud, and the moon shall not give its light.

8 All the bright lights of the sky will I make dark over you, and set darkness on your land, says ADONAI YAHWEH!

9 I will also trouble the hearts of many peoples, when I shall bring your destruction among the nations, into the countries which you have not known.

10 Yes, I will make many peoples amazed at you, and their kings shall be horribly afraid for you, when I shall brandish my sword before them; and they shall tremble at every moment, every man for his own life, in the day of your fall.

11 For thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: The sword of the king of Babylon shall come on you.

12 By the swords of the mighty will I cause your multitude to fall; the terrible of the nations are they all: and they shall bring to nothing the pride of Egypt, and all its multitude shall be destroyed.

13 I will destroy also all its animals from beside many waters; neither shall the foot of man trouble them any more, nor the hoofs of animals trouble them.

14 Then will I make their waters clear, and cause their rivers to run like oil, says ADONAI YAHWEH!

15 When I shall make the land of Egypt desolate and waste, a land destitute of that of which it was full, when I shall strike all those who dwell therein, then shall they know that I am YAHWEH!

16 This is the lamentation with which they shall lament; the daughters of the nations shall lament therewith; over Egypt, and over all her multitude, shall they lament therewith, says ADONAI YAHWEH!

#### 17 **. Egypt and Others Consigned to the Pit. .**

It happened also in the twelfth year, in the fifteenth day of the month, that the word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,

18 Son of man, wail for the multitude of Egypt, and cast them down, even her, and the daughters of the famous nations, to the lower parts of the earth, with those who go down into the pit.

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- 19 Whom do you pass in beauty? Go down, and be laid with the uncircumcised.
- 20 They shall fall in the midst of those who are slain by the sword: she is delivered to the sword; draw her away and all her multitudes.
- 21 The strong among the mighty shall speak to him out of the midst of Sheol with those who help him: they are gone down, they lie still, even the uncircumcised, slain by the sword.
- 22 Asshur is there and all her company; her graves are all around her; all of them slain, fallen by the sword;
- 23 whose graves are set in the uttermost parts of the pit, and her company is around her grave; all of them slain, fallen by the sword, who caused terror in the land of the living.
- 24 There is Elam and all her multitude around her grave; all of them slain, fallen by the sword, who are gone down uncircumcised into the lower parts of the earth, who caused their terror in the land of the living, and have borne their shame with those who go down to the pit.
- 25 They have set her a bed in the midst of the slain with all her multitude; her graves are around her; all of them uncircumcised, slain by the sword; for their terror was caused in the land of the living, and they have borne their shame with those who go down to the pit: he is put in the midst of those who are slain.
- 26 There is Meshech, Tubal, and all their multitude; their graves are around them; all of them uncircumcised, slain by the sword; for they caused their terror in the land of the living.
- 27 They shall not lie with the mighty who are fallen of the uncircumcised, who are gone down to Sheol with their weapons of war, and have laid their swords under their heads, and their iniquities are on their bones; for they were the terror of the mighty in the land of the living.
- 28 But you shall be broken in the midst of the uncircumcised, and shall lie with those who are slain by the sword.
- 29 There is Edom, her kings and all her princes, who in their might are laid with those who are slain by the sword: they shall lie with the uncircumcised, and with those who go down to the pit.
- 30 There are the princes of the north, all of them, and all the Sidonians, who are gone down with the slain; in the terror which they caused by their might they are put to shame; and they lie uncircumcised with those who are slain by the sword, and bear their shame with those who go down to the pit.
- 31 Pharaoh shall see them, and shall be comforted over all his multitude, even Pharaoh and all his army, slain by the sword, says ADONAI YAHWEH!
- 32 For I have put his terror in the land of the living; and he shall be laid in the midst of the uncircumcised, with those who are slain by the sword, even Pharaoh and all his multitude, says ADONAI YAHWEH!

### Isaiah 56.

#### 1 . **Salvation for the Gentiles.** .

Thus says YAHWEH, "Keep justice, and do righteousness; for my salvation [yeshuah-ti] is near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed.

2 Blessed is the man who does this, and the son of man who holds it fast; who keeps the Sabbath from profaning it, and keeps his hand from doing any evil."

3 Neither let the foreigner, who has joined himself to YAHWEH, speak, saying, "YAHWEH will surely separate me from his people;" neither let the eunuch say, "Behold, I am a dry tree."

4 For thus says YAHWEH, "To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, and choose the

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things that please me, and hold fast my covenant:

5 to them I will give in my house and within my walls a memorial and a name better than of sons and of daughters; I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off.

6 Also the foreigners who join themselves to YAHWEH, to minister to him, and to love the name of YAHWEH, to be his servants, everyone who keeps the Sabbath from profaning it, and holds fast my covenant;

7 even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.”

8 ADONAI YAHWEH, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, says, “Yet will I gather others to him, besides his own who are gathered.”

### 9 **. Israel's Irresponsible Leaders. .**

All you animals of the field, come to devour, all you animals in the forest.

10 His watchmen are blind, they are all without knowledge; they are all mute dogs, they can't bark; dreaming, lying down, loving to slumber.

11 Yes, the dogs are greedy, they can never have enough; and these are shepherds who can't understand: they have all turned to their own way, each one to his gain, from every quarter.

12 “Come,” say they, “I will get wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink; and tomorrow shall be as this day, great beyond measure.”

## Psalms 17.

### 1 **. A Prayer of David.. .**

A Prayer by David. Hear, YAHWEH, my righteous plea; Give ear to my prayer, that doesn't go out of deceitful lips.

2 Let my sentence come forth from your presence. Let your eyes look on equity.

3 You have proved my heart. You have visited me in the night. You have tried me, and found nothing. I have resolved that my mouth shall not disobey.

4 As for the works of men, by the word of your lips, I have kept myself from the ways of the violent.

5 My steps have held fast to your paths. My feet have not slipped.

6 I have called on you, for you will answer me, ELOHIM! Turn your ear to me. Hear my speech.

7 Show your marvelous loving kindness, you who save those who take refuge by your right hand from their enemies.

8 Keep me as the apple of your eye. Hide me under the shadow of your wings,

9 from the wicked who oppress me, my deadly enemies, who surround me.

10 They close up their callous hearts. With their mouth they speak proudly.

11 They have now surrounded us in our steps. They set their eyes to cast us down to the earth.

12 He is like a lion that is greedy of his prey, as it were a young lion lurking in secret places.

13 Arise, YAHWEH, confront him. Cast him down. Deliver my soul from the wicked by your sword;

14 from men by your hand, YAHWEH, from men of the world, whose portion is in this life. You fill the belly of your cherished ones. Your sons have plenty, and they store up wealth for their children.

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15 As for me, I shall see your face in righteousness. I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with seeing your form.

### Proverbs 4.

#### 1 . Security in Wisdom. .

- Listen, sons, to a father's instruction. Pay attention and know understanding;  
2 for I give you sound learning. Don't forsake my Torah (teaching and instruction).  
3 For I was a son to my father, tender and an only child in the sight of my mother.  
4 He taught me, and said to me: "Let your heart retain my words. Keep my commandments, and live.  
5 Get wisdom. Get understanding. Don't forget, neither swerve from the words of my mouth.  
6 Don't forsake her, and she will preserve you. Love her, and she will keep you.  
7 Wisdom is supreme. Get wisdom. Yes, though it costs all your possessions, get understanding.  
8 Esteem her, and she will exalt you. She will bring you to honor, when you embrace her.  
9 She will give to your head a garland of grace. She will deliver a crown of splendor to you."  
10 Listen, my son, and receive my sayings. The years of your life will be many.  
11 I have taught you in the way of wisdom. I have led you in straight paths.  
12 When you go, your steps will not be hampered. When you run, you will not stumble.  
13 Take firm hold of instruction. Don't let her go. Keep her, for she is your life.  
14 Don't enter into the path of the wicked. Don't walk in the way of evil men.  
15 Avoid it, and don't pass by it. Turn from it, and pass on.  
16 For they don't sleep, unless they do evil. Their sleep is taken away, unless they make someone fall.  
17 For they eat the bread of wickedness, and drink the wine of violence.  
18 But the path of the righteous is like the dawning light, that shines more and more until the perfect day.  
19 The way of the wicked is like darkness. They don't know what they stumble over.  
20 My son, attend to my words. Turn your ear to my sayings.  
21 Let them not depart from your eyes. Keep them in the midst of your heart.  
22 For they are life to those who find them, and health to their whole body.  
23 Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it is the wellspring of life.  
24 Put away from yourself a perverse mouth. Put corrupt lips far from you.  
25 Let your eyes look straight ahead. Fix your gaze directly before you.  
26 Make the path of your feet level. Let all of your ways be established.  
27 Don't turn to the right hand nor to the left. Remove your foot from evil.

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

**19-25-Dec Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).**

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**Ezekiel 33.**

**1 . The Watchman and His Message. .**

The word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,

2 Son of man, speak to the children of your people, and tell them, When I bring the sword on a land, and the people of the land take a man from among them, and set him for their watchman;

3 if, when he sees the sword come on the land, he blow the shofar, and warn the people;

4 then whoever hears the sound of the shofar, and doesn't take warning, if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be on his own head.

5 He heard the sound of the shofar, and didn't take warning; his blood shall be on him; whereas if he had taken warning, he would have delivered his soul.

6 But if the watchman sees the sword come, and doesn't blow the shofar, and the people aren't warned, and the sword comes, and take any person from among them; he is taken away in his iniquity, but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand.

7 So you, son of man, I have set you a watchman to the house of Israel; therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.

8 When I tell the wicked, O wicked man, you shall surely die, and you don't speak to warn the wicked from his way; that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood will I require at your hand.

9 Nevertheless, if you warn the wicked of his way to turn from it, and he doesn't turn from his way; he shall die in his iniquity, but you have delivered your soul.

10 You, son of man, tell the house of Israel: Thus you speak, saying, Our transgressions and our sins are on us, and we pine away in them; how then can we live?

11 Tell them, As I live, says ADONAI YAHWEH, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn, turn from your evil ways; for why will you die, house of Israel?

**12 . The Fairness of ELOHIM's Judgment. .**

You, son of man, tell the children of your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him in the day of his disobedience; and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall thereby in the day that he turns from his wickedness; neither shall he who is righteous be able to live thereby in the day that he sins.

13 When I tell the righteous, that he shall surely live; if he trust to his righteousness, and commit iniquity, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered; but in his iniquity that he has committed, therein shall he die.

14 Again, when I say to the wicked, You shall surely die; if he turn from his sin, and do that which is legal and right;

15 if the wicked restore the pledge, give again that which he had taken by robbery, walk in the statutes of life, committing no iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die.

16 None of his sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him: he has done that which is legal and right; he shall surely live.

17 Yet the children of your people say, The way of ADONAI is not equal: but as for them, their way is not equal.

18 When the righteous turns from his righteousness, and commits iniquity, he shall even die therein.

19 When the wicked turns from his wickedness, and does that which is legal and right, he shall live thereby.



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20 Yet you say, The way of ADONAI is not equal. House of Israel, I will judge every one of you after his ways.

### 21 . The Fall of Jerusalem. .

It happened in the twelfth year of our captivity, in the tenth month, in the fifth day of the month, that one who had escaped out of Jerusalem came to me, saying, The city has been struck.

22 Now the hand of YAHWEH had been on me in the evening, before he who was escaped came; and he had opened my mouth, until he came to me in the morning; and my mouth was opened, and I was no more mute.

### 23 . The Cause of Judah's Ruin. .

The word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,

24 Son of man, they who inhabit those waste places in Eretz-Israel speak, saying, Abraham was one, and he inherited the land: but we are many; the land is given us for inheritance.

25 Therefore tell them, Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: You eat with the blood, and lift up your eyes to your idols, and shed blood: and shall you possess the land?

26 You stand on your sword, you work abomination, and every one of you defiles his neighbor's wife: and shall you possess the land?

27 You shall tell them, Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: As I live, surely those who are in the waste places shall fall by the sword; and him who is in the open field will I give to the animals to be devoured; and those who are in the strongholds and in the caves shall die of the pestilence.

28 I will make the land a desolation and an astonishment; and the pride of her power shall cease; and the mountains of Israel shall be desolate, so that none shall pass through.

29 Then shall they know that I am YAHWEH, when I have made the land a desolation and an astonishment, because of all their abominations which they have committed.

### 30 . Hearing and Not Doing. .

As for you, son of man, the children of your people talk of you by the walls and in the doors of the houses, and speak one to another, everyone to his brother, saying, Please come and hear what is the word that comes forth from YAHWEH!

31 They come to you as the people come, and they sit before you as my people, and they hear your words, but don't do them; for with their mouth they show much love, but their heart goes after their gain.

32 Behold, you are to them as a very lovely song of one who has a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument; for they hear your words, but they don't do them.

33 When this comes to pass, (behold, it comes), then shall they know that a prophet has been among them.

## Isaiah 57.

### 1 . Israel's Futile Idolatry. .

The righteous perishes, and no man lays it to heart; and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil.

2 He enters into peace; they rest in their beds, each one who walks in his uprightness.

3 "But draw near here, you sons of the sorceress, the seed of the adulterer and the

## 19-25-Dec Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

prostitute.

4 Against whom do you sport yourselves? Against whom do you make a wide mouth, and stick out your tongue? Aren't you children of disobedience, a seed of falsehood,

5 you who inflame yourselves among the oaks, under every green tree; who kill the children in the valleys, under the clefts of the rocks?

6 Among the smooth stones of the valley is your portion; they, they are your lot; you have even poured a drink offering to them. You have offered an offering. Shall I be appeased for these things?

7 On a high and lofty mountain you have set your bed; there also you went up to offer sacrifice.

8 Behind the doors and the posts you have set up your memorial: for you have uncovered to someone besides me, and have gone up; you have enlarged your bed, and made you a covenant with them: you loved their bed where you saw it.

9 You went to the king with oil, and increased your perfumes, and sent your ambassadors far off, and debased yourself even to Sheol.

10 You were wearied with the length of your way; yet you didn't say, 'It is in vain.' You found a reviving of your strength; therefore you weren't faint.

11 "Of whom have you been afraid and in fear, that you lie, and have not remembered me, nor laid it to your heart? Haven't I held my peace even of long time, and you don't fear me?"

12 I will declare your righteousness; and as for your works, they shall not profit you.

13 When you cry, let those who you have gathered deliver you; but the wind shall take them, a breath shall carry them all away: but he who takes refuge in me shall possess the land, and shall inherit my holy mountain."

### 14 **. Healing for the Backslider. .**

He will say, "Cast up, cast up, prepare the way, take up the stumbling-block out of the way of my people."

15 For thus says the high and lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also who is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite.

16 For I will not contend forever, neither will I be always angry; for the spirit would faint before me, and the souls who I have made.

17 For the iniquity of his covetousness was I angry, and struck him; I hid myself and was angry; and he went on backsliding in the way of his heart.

18 I have seen his ways, and will heal him: I will lead him also, and restore comforts to him and to his mourners.

19 I create the fruit of the lips: Peace, peace, to him who is far off and to him who is near," says YAHWEH; "and I will heal them."

20 But the wicked are like the troubled sea; for it can't rest, and its waters cast up mire and dirt.

21 "There is no peace," says my ELOHIM, "for the wicked."

## Psalms 18.

1 **. To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David the servant of YAHWEH, who spoke to YAHWEH the words of this song on the day that YAHWEH delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. And he said: . .**

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For the Chief Musician. By David the servant of YAHWEH, who spoke to YAHWEH the words of this song in the day that YAHWEH delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. He said, I love you, YAHWEH, my strength.

2 YAHWEH is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer; my ELOHIM, my rock, in whom I take refuge; my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower.

3 I call on YAHWEH, who is worthy to be praised; and I am saved from my enemies.

4 The cords of death surrounded me. The floods of ungodliness made me afraid.

5 The cords of Sheol were around me. The snares of death came on me.

6 In my distress I called on YAHWEH, and cried to my ELOHIM! He heard my voice out of his temple. My cry before him came into his ears.

7 Then the earth shook and trembled. The foundations also of the mountains quaked and were shaken, because he was angry.

8 Smoke went out of his nostrils. Consuming fire came out of his mouth. Coals were kindled by it.

9 He bowed the heavens also, and came down. Thick darkness was under his feet.

10 He rode on a cherub, and flew. Yes, he soared on the wings of the wind.

11 He made darkness his hiding place, his pavilion around him, darkness of waters, thick clouds of the skies.

12 At the brightness before him his thick clouds passed, hailstones and coals of fire.

13 YAHWEH also thundered in the sky. The Most High uttered his voice: hailstones and coals of fire.

14 He sent out his arrows, and scattered them; Yes, great lightning bolts, and routed them.

15 Then the channels of waters appeared. The foundations of the world were laid bare at your rebuke, YAHWEH, at the blast of the breath of your nostrils.

16 He sent from on high. He took me. He drew me out of many waters.

17 He delivered me from my strong enemy, from those who hated me; for they were too mighty for me.

18 They came on me in the day of my calamity, but YAHWEH was my support.

19 He brought me forth also into a large place. He delivered me, because he delighted in me.

20 YAHWEH has rewarded me according to my righteousness. According to the cleanness of my hands has he recompensed me.

21 For I have kept the ways of YAHWEH, and have not wickedly departed from my ELOHIM!

22 For all his ordinances were before me. I didn't put away his statutes from me.

23 I was also blameless with him. I kept myself from my iniquity.

24 Therefore YAHWEH has rewarded me according to my righteousness, according to the cleanness of my hands in his eyesight.

25 With the merciful you will show yourself merciful. With the perfect man, you will show yourself perfect.

26 With the pure, you will show yourself pure. With the crooked you will show yourself shrewd.

27 For you will save the afflicted people, but the haughty eyes you will bring down.

28 For you will light my lamp, YAHWEH! My ELOHIM will light up my darkness.

29 For by you, I advance through a troop. By my ELOHIM, I leap over a wall.

30 As for El, his way is perfect. The word of YAHWEH is tried. He is a shield to all those who take refuge in him.

31 For who is ELOHIM, except YAHWEH? Who is a rock, besides our ELOHIM,

32 the El who arms me with strength, and makes my way perfect?

33 He makes my feet like deer's feet, and sets me on my high places.

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- 34 He teaches my hands to war, so that my arms bend a bow of bronze.  
35 You have also given me the shield of your salvation. Your right hand sustains me. Your gentleness has made me great.  
36 You have enlarged my steps under me, My feet have not slipped.  
37 I will pursue my enemies, and overtake them. Neither will I turn again until they are consumed.  
38 I will strike them through, so that they will not be able to rise. They shall fall under my feet.  
39 For you have armed me with strength to the battle. You have subdued under me those who rose up against me.  
40 You have also made my enemies turn their backs to me, that I might cut off those who hate me.  
41 They cried, but there was none to save; even to YAHWEH, but he didn't answer them.  
42 Then I beat them small as the dust before the wind. I cast them out as the mire of the streets.  
43 You have delivered me from the strivings of the people. You have made me the head of the nations. A people whom I have not known shall serve me.  
44 As soon as they hear of me they shall obey me. The foreigners shall submit themselves to me.  
45 The foreigners shall fade away, and shall come trembling out of their close places.  
46 YAHWEH lives; and blessed be my rock. Exalted be the ELOHIM of my salvation,  
47 even the El who executes vengeance for me, and subdues peoples under me.  
48 He rescues me from my enemies. Yes, you lift me up above those who rise up against me. You deliver me from the violent man.  
49 Therefore I will give thanks to you, YAHWEH, among the nations, and will sing praises to your name.  
50 He gives great deliverance to his king, and shows loving kindness to his anointed, to David and to his seed, forevermore.

### Proverbs 5.

#### 1 **. The Peril of Adultery. .**

- My son, pay attention to my wisdom. Turn your ear to my understanding:  
2 that you may maintain discretion, that your lips may preserve knowledge.  
3 For the lips of an adulteress drip honey. Her mouth is smoother than oil,  
4 But in the end she is as bitter as wormwood, and as sharp as a two-edged sword.  
5 Her feet go down to death. Her steps lead straight to Sheol.  
6 She gives no thought to the way of life. Her ways are crooked, and she doesn't know it.  
7 Now therefore, my sons, listen to me. Don't depart from the words of my mouth.  
8 Remove your way far from her. Don't come near the door of her house,  
9 lest you give your honor to others, and your years to the cruel one;  
10 lest strangers feast on your wealth, and your labors enrich another man's house.  
11 You will groan at your latter end, when your flesh and your body are consumed,  
12 and say, "How I have hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof;  
13 neither have I obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor turned my ear to those who instructed me!  
14 I have come to the brink of utter ruin, in the midst of the gathered assembly."  
15 Drink water out of your own cistern, running water out of your own well.  
16 Should your springs overflow in the streets, streams of water in the public squares?  
17 Let them be for yourself alone, not for strangers with you.  
18 Let your spring be blessed. Rejoice in the wife of your youth.

**19-25-Dec Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).**

19 A loving doe and a graceful deer let her breasts satisfy you at all times. Be captivated always with her love.

20 For why should you, my son, be captivated with an adulteress? Why embrace the bosom of another?

21 For the ways of man are before the eyes of YAHWEH! He examines all his paths.

22 The evil deeds of the wicked ensnare him. The cords of his sin hold him firmly.

23 He will die for lack of instruction. In the greatness of his folly, he will go astray.

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

**19-25-Dec Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).**

**358. 23-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).**

**Ezekiel 34.**

**1 . Irresponsible Shepherds. .**

The word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,

2 Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy, and tell them, even to the shepherds, Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Woe to the shepherds of Israel who feed themselves! Shouldn't the shepherds feed the sheep?

3 You eat the fat, and you clothe yourself with the wool, you kill the fatlings; but you don't feed the sheep.

4 You haven't strengthened the diseased, neither have you healed that which was sick, neither have you bound up that which was broken, neither have you brought back that which was driven away, neither have you sought that which was lost; but with force and with rigor you have ruled over them.

5 They were scattered, because there was no shepherd; and they became food to all the animals of the field, and were scattered.

6 My sheep wandered through all the mountains, and on every high hill: yes, my sheep were scattered on all the surface of the earth; and there was none who searched or sought.

7 Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of YAHWEH:

8 As I live, says ADONAI YAHWEH, surely because my sheep became a prey, and my sheep became food to all the animals of the field, because there was no shepherd, neither did my shepherds search for my sheep, but the shepherds fed themselves, and didn't feed my sheep;

9 therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of YAHWEH:

10 Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my sheep at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the sheep; neither shall the shepherds feed themselves any more; and I will deliver my sheep from their mouth, that they may not be food for them.

**11 . ELOHIM, the True Shepherd. .**

For thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Behold, I myself, even I, will search for my sheep, and will seek them out.

12 As a shepherd seeks out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered abroad, so will I seek out my sheep; and I will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.

13 I will bring them out from the peoples, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited places of the country.

14 I will feed them with good pasture; and on the mountains of the height of Israel shall their fold be: there shall they lie down in a good fold; and on fat pasture shall they feed on the mountains of Israel.

15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will cause them to lie down, says ADONAI YAHWEH!

16 I will seek that which was lost, and will bring back that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick: but the fat and the strong I will destroy; I will feed them in justice.

17 As for you, O my flock, thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, the rams and the male goats.

18 Does it seem a small thing to you to have fed on the good pasture, but you must tread

## 19-25-Dec Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

down with your feet the residue of your pasture? and to have drunk of the clear waters, but you must foul the residue with your feet?

19 As for my sheep, they eat that which you have trodden with your feet, and they drink that which you have fouled with your feet.

20 Therefore thus says ADONAI YAHWEH to them: Behold, I, even I, will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep.

21 Because you thrust with side and with shoulder, and push all the diseased with your horns, until you have scattered them abroad;

22 therefore will I save my flock, and they shall no more be a prey; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

23 I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd.

24 I, YAHWEH, will be their ELOHIM, and my servant David prince among them; I, YAHWEH, have spoken it.

25 I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause evil animals to cease out of the land; and they shall dwell securely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods.

26 I will make them and the places around my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in its season; there shall be showers of blessing.

27 The tree of the field shall yield its fruit, and the earth shall yield its increase, and they shall be secure in their land; and they shall know that I am YAHWEH, when I have broken the bars of their yoke, and have delivered them out of the hand of those who made slaves of them.

28 They shall no more be a prey to the nations, neither shall the animals of the earth devour them; but they shall dwell securely, and none shall make them afraid.

29 I will raise up to them a plantation for renown, and they shall be no more consumed with famine in the land, neither bear the shame of the nations any more.

30 They shall know that I, YAHWEH, their ELOHIM am with them, and that they, the house of Israel, are my people, says ADONAI YAHWEH!

31 You my sheep, the sheep of my pasture, are men, and I am your ELOHIM, says ADONAI YAHWEH!

### Isaiah 58.

#### 1 **. Fasting that Pleases ELOHIM. .**

“Cry aloud, don’t spare, lift up your voice like a shofar, and declare to my people their disobedience, and to the house of Jacob their sins.

2 Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways: as a nation that did righteousness, and didn’t forsake the ordinance of their ELOHIM, they ask of me righteous judgments; they delight to draw near to ELOHIM!

3 ‘Why have we fasted,’ say they, ‘and you don’t see? Why have we afflicted our soul, and you take no knowledge?’ “Behold, in the day of your fast you find pleasure, and exact all your labors.

4 Behold, you fast for strife and contention, and to strike with the fist of wickedness: you don’t fast this day so as to make your voice to be heard on high.

5 Is such the fast that I have chosen? the day for a man to afflict his soul? Is it to bow down his head as a rush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and an acceptable day to YAHWEH?

6 “Isn’t this the fast that I have chosen: to release the bonds of wickedness, to undo the bands of the yoke, and to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke?

7 Isn’t it to distribute your bread to the hungry, and that you bring the poor who are cast out to your house? When you see the naked, that you cover him; and that you not hide

## 19-25-Dec Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

yourself from your own flesh?

8 Then your light shall break forth as the morning, and your healing shall spring forth speedily; and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of YAHWEH shall be your rear guard.

9 Then you shall call, and YAHWEH will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.' "If you take away from the midst of you the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking wickedly;

10 and if you draw out your soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul: then your light shall rise in darkness, and your obscurity be as the noonday;

11 and YAHWEH will guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in dry places, and make strong your bones; and you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters don't fail.

12 Those who shall be of you shall build the old waste places; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; and you shall be called The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

13 "If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, and the holy of YAHWEH honorable; and shall honor it, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words:

14 then you shall delight yourself in YAHWEH; and I will make you to ride on the high places of the earth; and I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father:" for the mouth of YAHWEH has spoken it.

### Psalms 19.

#### 1 . To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David..

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David. The heavens declare the glory of El! The expanse shows his handiwork.

2 Day after day they pour forth speech, and night after night they display knowledge.

3 There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.

4 Their voice has gone out through all the earth, their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun,

5 which is as a bridegroom coming out of his room, like a strong man rejoicing to run his course.

6 His going forth is from the end of the heavens, his circuit to its ends; There is nothing hidden from its heat.

7 YAHWEH's Torah is perfect, restoring the soul. YAHWEH's testimony is sure, making wise the simple.

8 YAHWEH's precepts are right, rejoicing the heart. YAHWEH's commandment is pure, enlightening the eyes.

9 The fear of YAHWEH is clean, enduring forever. YAHWEH's ordinances are true, and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, yes, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the extract of the honeycomb.

11 Moreover by them is your servant warned. In keeping them there is great reward.

12 Who can discern his errors? Forgive me from hidden errors.

13 Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins. Let them not have dominion over me. Then I will be upright. I will be blameless and innocent of great transgression.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, YAHWEH, my rock, and my redeemer.



**19-25-Dec Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).**

**Proverbs 6.**

**1 . Dangerous Promises. .**

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

2 You are trapped by the words of your mouth. You are ensnared with the words of your mouth.

3 Do this now, my son, and deliver yourself, since you have come into the hand of your neighbor. Go, humble yourself. Press your plea with your neighbor.

4 Give no sleep to your eyes, nor slumber to your eyelids.

5 Free yourself, like a gazelle from the hand of the hunter, like a bird from the snare of the fowler.

**6 . The Folly of Indolence. .**

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

7 which having no chief, overseer, or ruler,

8 provides her bread in the summer, and gathers her food in the harvest.

9 How long will you sleep, sluggard? When will you arise out of your sleep?

10 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:

11 so your poverty will come as a robber, and your scarcity as an armed man.

**12 . The Wicked Man. .**

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

13 who winks with his eyes, who signals with his feet, who motions with his fingers;

14 in whose heart is perverseness, who devises evil continually, who always sows discord.

15 Therefore his calamity will come suddenly. He will be broken suddenly, and that without remedy.

16 There are six things which YAHWEH hates; yes, seven which are an abomination to him:

17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood;

18 a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are swift in running to mischief,

19 a false witness who utters lies, and he who sows discord among brothers.

**20 . Beware of Adultery. .**

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

21 Bind them continually on your heart. Tie them around your neck.

22 When you walk, it will lead you. When you sleep, it will watch over you. When you awake, it will talk with you.

23 For the commandment is a lamp, and the Torah is light. Reproofs of instruction are the way of life,

24 to keep you from the immoral woman, from the flattery of the wayward wife's tongue.

25 Don't lust after her beauty in your heart, neither let her captivate you with her eyelids.

26 For a prostitute reduces you to a piece of bread. The adulteress hunts for your precious life.

27 Can a man scoop fire into his lap, and his clothes not be burned?

28 Or can one walk on hot coals, and his feet not be scorched?

29 So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife. Whoever touches her will not be

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unpunished.

30 Men don't despise a thief, if he steals to satisfy himself when he is hungry:

31 but if he is found, he shall restore seven times. He shall give all the wealth of his house.

32 He who commits adultery with a woman is void of understanding. He who does it destroys his own soul.

33 He will get wounds and dishonor. His reproach will not be wiped away.

34 For jealousy arouses the fury of the husband. He won't spare in the day of vengeance.

35 He won't regard any ransom, neither will he rest content, though you give many gifts.

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**19-25-Dec Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).**

**359. 24-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).**

**Ezekiel 35.**

**1 . Judgment on Mount Seir. .**

Moreover the word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,

2 Son of man, set your face against Mount Seir, and prophesy against it,

3 and tell it, Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Behold, I am against you, Mount Seir, and I will stretch out my hand against you, and I will make you a desolation and an astonishment.

4 I will lay your cities waste, and you shall be desolate; and you shall know that I am YAHWEH!

5 Because you have had a perpetual enmity, and have given over the children of Israel to the power of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time of the iniquity of the end;

6 therefore, as I live, says ADONAI YAHWEH, I will prepare you for blood, and blood shall pursue you: since you have not hated blood, therefore blood shall pursue you.

7 Thus will I make Mount Seir an astonishment and a desolation; and I will cut off from it him who passes through and him who returns.

8 I will fill its mountains with its slain: in your hills and in your valleys and in all your watercourses shall they fall who are slain with the sword.

9 I will make you a perpetual desolation, and your cities shall not be inhabited; and you shall know that I am YAHWEH!

10 Because you have said, These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess it; whereas YAHWEH was there:

11 therefore, as I live, says ADONAI YAHWEH, I will do according to your anger, and according to your envy which you have shown out of your hatred against them; and I will make myself known among them, when I shall judge you.

12 You shall know that I, YAHWEH, have heard all your insults which you have spoken against the mountains of Israel, saying, They are laid desolate, they have been given us to devour.

13 You have magnified yourselves against me with your mouth, and have multiplied your words against me: I have heard it.

14 Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: When the whole earth rejoices, I will make you desolate.

15 As you rejoiced over the inheritance of the house of Israel, because it was desolate, so will I do to you: you shall be desolate, Mount Seir, and all Edom, even all of it; and they shall know that I am YAHWEH!

**Ezekiel 36.**

**1 . Blessing on Israel. .**

You, son of man, prophesy to the mountains of Israel, and say, You mountains of Israel, hear the word of YAHWEH!

2 Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Because the enemy has said against you, Aha! and, The ancient high places are ours in possession;

3 therefore prophesy, and say, Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Because, even because they have made you desolate, and swallowed you up on every side, that you might be a possession to the residue of the nations, and you are taken up in the lips of talkers, and the evil report of the people;

4 therefore, you mountains of Israel, hear the word of ADONAI YAHWEH: Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH to the mountains and to the hills, to the watercourses and to the

## 19-25-Dec Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

valleys, to the desolate wastes and to the cities that are forsaken, which are become a prey and derision to the residue of the nations that are all around;

5 therefore thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Surely in the fire of my jealousy have I spoken against the residue of the nations, and against all Edom, that have appointed my land to themselves for a possession with the joy of all their heart, with despite of soul, to cast it out for a prey.

6 Therefore prophesy concerning Eretz-Israel, and tell the mountains and to the hills, to the watercourses and to the valleys, Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Behold, I have spoken in my jealousy and in my wrath, because you have borne the shame of the nations:

7 therefore thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: I have sworn, saying, Surely the nations that are around you, they shall bear their shame.

8 But you, mountains of Israel, you shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to my people Israel; for they are at hand to come.

9 For, behold, I am for you, and I will turn into you, and you shall be tilled and sown;

10 and I will multiply men on you, all the house of Israel, even all of it; and the cities shall be inhabited, and the waste places shall be built;

11 and I will multiply on you man and animal; and they shall increase and be fruitful; and I will cause you to be inhabited after your former estate, and will do better to you than at your beginnings: and you shall know that I am YAHWEH!

12 Yes, I will cause men to walk on you, even my people Israel; and they shall possess you, and you shall be their inheritance, and you shall no more henceforth bereave them of children.

13 Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Because they say to you, You are a devourer of men, and have been a bereaver of your nation;

14 therefore you shall devour men no more, neither bereave your nation any more, says ADONAI YAHWEH;

15 neither will I let you hear any more the shame of the nations, neither shall you bear the reproach of the peoples any more, neither shall you cause your nation to stumble any more, says ADONAI YAHWEH!

### 16 **. The Renewal of Israel. .**

Moreover the word of YAHWEH came to me, saying,

17 Son of man, when the house of Israel lived in their own land, they defiled it by their way and by their doings: their way before me was as the uncleanness of a woman in her impurity.

18 Therefore I poured out my wrath on them for the blood which they had poured out on the land, and because they had defiled it with their idols;

19 and I scattered them among the nations, and they were dispersed through the countries: according to their way and according to their doings I judged them.

20 When they came to the nations, where they went, they profaned my holy name; in that men said of them, These are the people of YAHWEH, and are gone forth out of his land.

21 But I had respect for my holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the nations, where they went.

22 Therefore tell the house of Israel, Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: I don't do this for your sake, house of Israel, but for my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations, where you went.

23 I will sanctify my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst; and the nations shall know that I am YAHWEH, says ADONAI YAHWEH, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.

## 19-25-Dec Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

- 24 For I will take you from among the nations, and gather you out of all the countries, and will bring you into your own land.
- 25 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.
- 26 I will also give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh.
- 27 I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and you shall keep my ordinances, and do them.
- 28 You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and you shall be my people, and I will be your ELOHIM!
- 29 I will save you from all your uncleanness: and I will call for the grain, and will multiply it, and lay no famine on you.
- 30 I will multiply the fruit of the tree, and the increase of the field, that you may receive no more the reproach of famine among the nations.
- 31 Then you shall remember your evil ways, and your doings that were not good; and you shall loathe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations.
- 32 Nor for your sake do I this, says ADONAI YAHWEH, be it known to you: be ashamed and confounded for your ways, house of Israel.
- 33 Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: In the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will cause the cities to be inhabited, and the waste places shall be built.
- 34 The land that was desolate shall be tilled, whereas it was a desolation in the sight of all who passed by.
- 35 They shall say, This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are fortified and inhabited.
- 36 Then the nations that are left around you shall know that I, YAHWEH, have built the ruined places, and planted that which was desolate: I, YAHWEH, have spoken it, and I will do it.
- 37 Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: For this, moreover, will I be inquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them: I will increase them with men like a flock.
- 38 As the flock for sacrifice, as the flock of Jerusalem in her appointed feasts, so shall the waste cities be filled with flocks of men; and they shall know that I am YAHWEH!

### Isaiah 59.

#### 1 . Separated from ELOHIM. .

- Behold, YAHWEH's hand is not shortened, that it can't save; neither his ear heavy, that it can't hear:
- 2 but your iniquities have separated between you and your ELOHIM, and your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.
- 3 For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue mutters wickedness.
- 4 None sues in righteousness, and none pleads in truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity.
- 5 They hatch adders' eggs, and weave the spider's web: he who eats of their eggs dies; and that which is crushed breaks out into a viper.
- 6 Their webs shall not become garments, neither shall they cover themselves with their works: their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence is in their hands.
- 7 Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; desolation and destruction are in their paths.
- 8 The way of peace they don't know; and there is no justice in their goings: they have made them crooked paths; whoever goes therein does not know peace.

## 19-25-Dec Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

### 9 . Sin Confessed. .

Therefore is justice far from us, neither does righteousness overtake us: we look for light, but, behold, darkness; for brightness, but we walk in obscurity.

10 We grope for the wall like the blind; yes, we grope as those who have no eyes: we stumble at noonday as in the twilight; among those who are lusty we are as dead men.

11 We roar all like bears, and moan bitterly like doves: we look for justice, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far off from us.

12 For our transgressions are multiplied before you, and our sins testify against us; for our transgressions are with us, and as for our iniquities, we know them:

13 transgressing and denying YAHWEH, and turning away from following our ELOHIM, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood.

14 Justice is turned away backward, and righteousness stands afar off; for truth is fallen in the street, and uprightness can't enter.

15 Yes, truth is lacking; and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. YAHWEH saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice.

### 16 . The Redeemer of Zion. .

He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his own arm brought salvation to him; and his righteousness, it upheld him.

17 He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head; and he put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a mantle.

18 According to their deeds, accordingly he will repay, wrath to his adversaries, recompense to his enemies; to the islands he will repay recompense.

19 So shall they fear the name of YAHWEH from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun; for he will come as a rushing stream, which the breath of YAHWEH drives.

20 "A Redeemer will come to Zion, and to those who turn from disobedience in Jacob," says YAHWEH!

21 "As for me, this is my covenant with them," says YAHWEH! "My Spirit who is on you, and my words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart out of your mouth, nor out of the mouth of your seed, nor out of the mouth of your seed's seed," says YAHWEH, "from henceforth and forever."

## Psalms 20.

### 1 . To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.. .

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David. May YAHWEH answer you in the day of trouble. May the name of the ELOHIM of Jacob set you up on high,

2 send you help from the sanctuary, grant you support from Zion,

3 remember all your offerings, and accept your burnt sacrifice. Selah.

4 May He grant you your heart's desire, and fulfill all your counsel.

5 We will triumph in your salvation. In the name of our ELOHIM, we will set up our banners. May YAHWEH grant all your requests.

6 Now I know that YAHWEH saves his anointed. He will answer him from his holy heaven, with the saving strength of his right hand.

7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses, but we trust the name of YAHWEH our ELOHIM!

8 They are bowed down and fallen, but we rise up, and stand upright.

9 Save, YAHWEH! Let the King answer us when we call!

## 19-25-Dec Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

### Proverbs 7.

1 My son, keep my words. Lay up my commandments within you.  
2 Keep my commandments and live! Guard my teaching as the apple of your eye.  
3 Bind them on your fingers. Write them on the tablet of your heart.  
4 Tell wisdom, "You are my sister." Call understanding your relative,  
5 that they may keep you from the strange woman, from the foreigner who flatters with her words.

#### 6 . The Crafty Harlot. .

For at the window of my house, I looked out through my lattice.  
7 I saw among the simple ones. I discerned among the youths a young man void of understanding,  
8 passing through the street near her corner, he went the way to her house,  
9 in the twilight, in the evening of the day, in the middle of the night and in the darkness.  
10 Behold, there a woman met him with the attire of a prostitute, and with crafty intent.  
11 She is loud and defiant. Her feet don't stay in her house.  
12 Now she is in the streets, now in the squares, and lurking at every corner.  
13 So she caught him, and kissed him. With an impudent face she said to him:  
14 "Sacrifices of peace offerings are with me. This day I have paid my vows.  
15 Therefore I came out to meet you, to diligently seek your face, and I have found you.  
16 I have spread my couch with carpets of tapestry, with striped cloths of the yarn of Egypt.  
17 I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.  
18 Come, let's take our fill of loving until the morning. Let's solace ourselves with loving.  
19 For my husband isn't at home. He has gone on a long journey.  
20 He has taken a bag of money with him. He will come home at the full moon."  
21 With persuasive words, she led him astray. With the flattering of her lips, she seduced him.  
22 He followed her immediately, as an ox goes to the slaughter, as a fool stepping into a noose.  
23 Until an arrow strikes through his liver, as a bird hurries to the snare, and doesn't know that it will cost his life.  
24 Now therefore, sons, listen to me. Pay attention to the words of my mouth.  
25 Don't let your heart turn to her ways. Don't go astray in her paths,  
26 for she has thrown down many wounded. Yes, all her slain are a mighty army.  
27 Her house is the way to Sheol, going down to the rooms of death.

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360. 25-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Ezekiel 37.

**1 . The Dry Bones Live. .**

The hand of YAHWEH was on me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of YAHWEH, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones.

2 He caused me to pass by them all around: and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and behold, they were very dry.

3 He said to me, Son of man, can these bones live? I answered, ADONAI YAHWEH, you know.

4 Again he said to me, Prophecy over these bones, and tell them, you dry bones, hear the word of YAHWEH!

5 Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live.

6 I will lay sinews on you, and will bring up flesh on you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am YAHWEH!

7 So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold, an earthquake; and the bones came together, bone to its bone.

8 I saw, and, behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh came up, and skin covered them above; but there was no breath in them.

9 Then he said to me, Prophecy to the wind, prophecy, son of man, and tell the wind, Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Come from the four winds, breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.

10 So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

11 Then he said to me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.

12 Therefore prophecy, and tell them, Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Behold, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, my people; and I will bring you into Eretz-Israel.

13 You shall know that I am YAHWEH, when I have opened your graves, and caused you to come up out of your graves, my people.

14 I will put my Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land: and you shall know that I, YAHWEH, have spoken it and performed it, says YAHWEH!

**15 . One Kingdom, One King. .**

The word of YAHWEH came again to me, saying,

16 You, son of man, take one stick, and write on it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write on it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions:

17 and join them for you one to another into one stick, that they may become one in your hand.

18 When the children of your people shall speak to you, saying, Will you not show us what you mean by these?

19 tell them, Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his companions; and I will put them with it, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in my hand.

20 The sticks whereon you write shall be in your hand before their eyes.

21 Say to them, Thus says ADONAI YAHWEH: Behold, I will take the children of Israel



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from among the nations, where they are gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land:

22 and I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all; and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all;

23 neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions; but I will save them out of all their dwelling places, in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them: so shall they be my people, and I will be their ELOHIM!

24 My servant David shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my ordinances, and observe my statutes, and do them.

25 They shall dwell in the land that I have given to Jacob my servant, in which your fathers lived; and they shall dwell therein, they, and their children, and their children's children, forever: and David my servant shall be their prince for ever.

26 Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in their midst forevermore.

27 My tent also shall be with them; and I will be their ELOHIM, and they shall be my people.

28 The nations shall know that I am YAHWEH who sanctifies Israel, when my sanctuary shall be in their midst forevermore.

### Isaiah 60.

#### 1 . The Gentiles Bless Zion. .

“Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of YAHWEH is risen on you.

2 For, behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the peoples; but YAHWEH will arise on you, and his glory shall be seen on you.

3 Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

4 “Lift up your eyes all around, and see: they all gather themselves together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far, and your daughters shall be carried in the arms.

5 Then you shall see and be radiant, and your heart shall thrill and be enlarged; because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

6 The multitude of camels shall cover you, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all they from Sheba shall come; they shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praises of YAHWEH!

7 All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered together to you, the rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you; they shall come up with acceptance on my altar; and I will glorify the house of my glory.

8 “Who are these who fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows?

9 Surely the islands shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring your sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, for the name of YAHWEH your ELOHIM, and for the Holy One of Israel, because he has glorified you.

10 “Foreigners shall build up your walls, and their kings shall minister to you: for in my wrath I struck you, but in my favor have I had mercy on you.

11 Your gates also shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that men may bring to you the wealth of the nations, and their kings led captive.

12 For that nation and kingdom that will not serve you shall perish; yes, those nations shall be utterly wasted.

13 “The glory of Lebanon shall come to you, the fir tree, the pine, and the box tree

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together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I will make the place of my feet glorious.

14 The sons of those who afflicted you shall come bending to you; and all those who despised you shall bow themselves down at the soles of your feet; and they shall call you The city of YAHWEH, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

15 “Whereas you have been forsaken and hated, so that no man passed through you, I will make you an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations.

16 You shall also drink the milk of the nations, and shall nurse from royal breasts; and you shall know that I, YAHWEH, am your Savior, and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.

17 For brass I will bring gold, and for iron I will bring silver, and for wood brass, and for stones iron. I will also make your officers peace, and righteousness your ruler.

18 Violence shall no more be heard in your land, desolation nor destruction within your borders; but you shall call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise.

### 19 **. ELOHIM the Glory of His People. .**

The sun shall be no more your light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light to you: but YAHWEH will be to you an everlasting light, and your ELOHIM your glory.

20 Your sun shall no more go down, neither shall your moon withdraw itself; for YAHWEH will be your everlasting light, and the days of your mourning shall be ended.

21 Your people also shall be all righteous; they shall inherit the land forever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified.

22 The little one shall become a thousand, and the small one a strong nation; I, YAHWEH, will hasten it in its time.”

## Psalms 21.

### 1 **. To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.. .**

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David. The king rejoices in your strength, YAHWEH! How greatly he rejoices in your salvation!

2 You have given him his heart’s desire, and have not withheld the request of his lips. Selah.

3 For you meet him with the blessings of goodness. You set a crown of fine gold on his head.

4 He asked life of you, you gave it to him, even length of days forever and ever.

5 His glory is great in your salvation. You lay honor and majesty on him.

6 For you make him most blessed forever. You make him glad with joy in your presence.

7 For the king trusts in YAHWEH! Through the loving kindness of the Most High, he shall not be moved.

8 Your hand will find out all of your enemies. Your right hand will find out those who hate you.

9 You will make them as a fiery furnace in the time of your anger. YAHWEH will swallow them up in his wrath. The fire shall devour them.

10 You will destroy their descendants from the earth, their posterity from among the children of men.

11 For they intended evil against you. They plotted evil against you which cannot succeed.

12 For you will make them turn their back, when you aim drawn bows at their face.

13 Be exalted, YAHWEH, in your strength, so we will sing and praise your power.

**Proverbs 8.**

**1 . The Excellence of Wisdom. .**

Doesn't wisdom cry out? Doesn't understanding raise her voice?

2 On the top of high places by the way, where the paths meet, she stands.

3 Beside the gates, at the entry of the city, at the entry doors, she cries aloud:

4 "To you men, I call! I send my voice to the sons of mankind.

5 You simple, understand prudence. You fools, be of an understanding heart.

6 Hear, for I will speak excellent things. The opening of my lips is for right things.

7 For my mouth speaks truth. Wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

8 All the words of my mouth are in righteousness. There is nothing crooked or perverse in them.

9 They are all plain to him who understands, right to those who find knowledge.

10 Receive my instruction rather than silver; knowledge rather than choice gold.

11 For wisdom is better than rubies. All the things that may be desired can't be compared to it.

12 "I, wisdom, have made prudence my dwelling. Find out knowledge and discretion.

13 The fear of YAHWEH is to hate evil. I hate pride, arrogance, the evil way, and the perverse mouth.

14 Counsel and sound knowledge are mine. I have understanding and power.

15 By me kings reign, and princes decree justice.

16 By me princes rule; nobles, and all the righteous rulers of the earth.

17 I love those who love me. Those who seek me diligently will find me.

18 With me are riches, honor, enduring wealth, and prosperity.

19 My fruit is better than gold, yes, than fine gold; my yield than choice silver.

20 I walk in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of justice;

21 That I may give wealth to those who love me. I fill their treasuries.

22 "YAHWEH possessed me in the beginning of his work, before his deeds of old.

23 I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, before the earth existed.

24 When there were no depths, I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water.

25 Before the mountains were settled in place, before the hills, I was brought forth;

26 while as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the beginning of the dust of the world.

27 When he established the heavens, I was there; when he set a circle on the surface of the deep,

28 when he established the clouds above, when the springs of the deep became strong,

29 when he gave to the sea its boundary, that the waters should not violate his commandment, when he marked out the foundations of the earth;

30 then I was the craftsman by his side. I was a delight day by day, always rejoicing before him,

31 Rejoicing in his whole world. My delight was with the sons of men.

32 "Now therefore, my sons, listen to me, for blessed are those who keep my ways.

33 Hear instruction, and be wise. Don't refuse it.

34 Blessed is the man who hears me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at my door posts.

35 For whoever finds me, finds life, and will obtain favor from YAHWEH!

36 But he who sins against me wrongs his own soul. All those who hate me love death."

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