363. 28-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Ezekiel 42.

. The Chambers for the Priests. .

Then he brought me forth into the outer court, the way toward the north: and he brought me into the room that was over against the separate place, and which was over against the building toward the north.

- 2 Before the length of one hundred cubits was the north door, and the breadth was fifty cubits.
- 3 Over against the twenty cubits which belonged to the inner court, and over against the pavement which belonged to the outer court, was gallery against gallery in the third story.
- 4 Before the rooms was a walk of ten cubits' breadth inward, a way of one cubit; and their doors were toward the north.
- 5 Now the upper rooms were shorter; for the galleries took away from these, more than from the lower and the middle, in the building.
- 6 For they were in three stories, and they didn't have pillars as the pillars of the courts: therefore the uppermost was straitened more than the lowest and the middle from the ground.
- 7 The wall that was outside by the side of the rooms, toward the outer court before the rooms, its length was fifty cubits.
- 8 For the length of the rooms that were in the outer court was fifty cubits: and behold, before the temple were one hundred cubits.
- 9 From under these rooms was the entry on the east side, as one goes into them from the outer court.
- 10 In the thickness of the wall of the court toward the east, before the separate place, and before the building, there were rooms.
- 11 The way before them was like the appearance of the way of the rooms which were toward the north; according to their length so was their breadth: and all their exits were both according to their fashions, and according to their doors.
- 12 According to the doors of the rooms that were toward the south was a door at the head of the way, even the way directly before the wall toward the east, as one enters into them.
- 13 Then he said to me, The north rooms and the south rooms, which are before the separate place, they are the holy rooms, where the priests who are near to YHWH shall eat the most holy things: there shall they lay the most holy things, and the meal offering, and the sin offering, and the trespass offering; for the place is holy.
- 14 When the priests enter in, then shall they not go out of the holy place into the outer court, but there they shall lay their garments in which they minister; for they are holy: and they shall put on other garments, and shall approach to that which pertains to the people.

. Outer Dimensions of the Temple. .

Now when he had made an end of measuring the inner house, he brought me forth by the way of the gate whose prospect is toward the east, and measured it all around.

- 16 He measured on the east side with the measuring reed five hundred reeds, with the measuring reed all around.
- 17 He measured on the north side five hundred reeds with the measuring reed all around
- 18 He measured on the south side five hundred reeds with the measuring reed.
- 19 He turned about to the west side, and measured five hundred reeds with the

measuring reed.

20 He measured it on the four sides: it had a wall around it, the length five hundred, and the breadth five hundred, to make a separation between that which was holy and that which was common.

Ezekiel 43.

1 . The Temple, YHWH's Dwelling Place. .

Afterward he brought me to the gate, even the gate that looks toward the east.

- 2 Behold, the glory of the ELOHIM of Israel came from the way of the east: and his voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shined with his glory.
- 3 It was according to the appearance of the vision which I saw, even according to the vision that I saw when I came to destroy the city; and the visions were like the vision that I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell on my face.
- 4 The glory of YHWH came into the house by the way of the gate whose prospect is toward the east.
- 5 The Spirit took me up, and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of YHWH filled the house.
- 6 I heard one speaking to me out of the house; and a man stood by me.
- 7 He said to me, Son of man, this is the place of my throne, and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever. The house of Israel shall no more defile my holy name, neither they, nor their kings, by their prostitution, and by the dead bodies of their kings in their high places;
- 8 in their setting of their threshold by my threshold, and their doorpost beside my doorpost, and there was but the wall between me and them; and they have defiled my holy name by their abominations which they have committed: therefore I have consumed them in my anger.
- 9 Now let them put away their prostitution, and the dead bodies of their kings, far from me; and I will dwell in their midst forever.
- 10 You, son of man, show the house to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities; and let them measure the pattern.
- 11 If they be ashamed of all that they have done, make known to them the form of the house, and its fashion, and its exits, and its entrances, and all its forms, and all its ordinances, and all its forms, and all its Torah (teachings and instructions); and write it in their sight; that they may keep the whole form of it, and all its ordinances, and do them.
- 12 This is the Torah-instruction of the house: on the top of the mountain the whole limit around it shall be most holy. Behold, this is the Torah-instruction of the house.

. Dimensions of the Altar. .

These are the measures of the altar by cubits (the cubit is a cubit and a handbreadth): the bottom shall be a cubit, and the breadth a cubit, and its border around its edge a span; and this shall be the base of the altar.

- 14 From the bottom on the ground to the lower ledge shall be two cubits, and the breadth one cubit; and from the lesser ledge to the greater ledge shall be four cubits, and the breadth a cubit.
- 15 The upper altar shall be four cubits; and from the altar hearth and upward there shall be four horns.
- 16 The altar hearth shall be twelve cubits long by twelve broad, square in the four sides of it.

17 The ledge shall be fourteen cubits long by fourteen broad in the four sides of it; and the border about it shall be half a cubit; and its bottom shall be a cubit around; and its steps shall look toward the east.

. Consecrating the Altar..

He said to me, Son of man, thus says ADONAI YHWH: These are the ordinances of the altar in the day when they shall make it, to offer burnt offerings thereon, and to sprinkle blood thereon.

- 19 You shall give to the priests the Levites who are of the seed of Zadok, who are near to me, to minister to me, says ADONAI YHWH, a young bull for a sin offering.
- 20 You shall take of its blood, and put it on the four horns of it, and on the four corners of the ledge, and on the border all around: thus you shall cleanse it and make atonement for it.
- 21 You shall also take the bull of the sin offering, and it shall be burnt in the appointed place of the house, outside of the sanctuary.
- 22 On the second day you shall offer a male goat without blemish for a sin offering; and they shall cleanse the altar, as they cleansed it with the bull.
- 23 When you have finished cleansing it, you shall offer a young bull without blemish, and a ram out of the flock without blemish.
- 24 You shall bring them near to YHWH, and the priests shall cast salt on them, and they shall offer them up for a burnt offering to YHWH!
- 25 Seven days you shall prepare every day a goat for a sin offering: they shall also prepare a young bull, and a ram out of the flock, without blemish.
- 26 Seven days shall they make atonement for the altar and purify it; so shall they consecrate it.
- 27 When they have accomplished the days, it shall be that on the eighth day, and forward, the priests shall make your burnt offerings on the altar, and your peace offerings; and I will accept you, says ADONAI YHWH!

Isaiah 63.

1 . YHWH in Judgment and Salvation. .

Who is this who comes from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this who is glorious in his clothing, marching in the greatness of his strength? "It is I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save."

- 2 Why are you red in your clothing, and your garments like him who treads in the wine vat?
- 3 "I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the peoples there was no man with me: yes, I trod them in my anger, and trampled them in my wrath; and their lifeblood is sprinkled on my garments, and I have stained all my clothing.
- 4 For the day of vengeance was in my heart, and the year of my redeemed has come.
- 5 I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore my own arm brought salvation to me; and my wrath, it upheld me.
- 6 I trod down the peoples in my anger, and made them drunk in my wrath, and I poured out their lifeblood on the earth."

7 . ELOHIM's Mercy Remembered. .

I will make mention of the loving kindnesses of YHWH and the praises of YHWH, according to all that YHWH has bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the

house of Israel, which he has bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his loving kindnesses.

- 8 For he said, "Surely, they are my people, children who will not deal falsely:" so he was their Savior.
- 9 In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bore them, and carried them all the days of old.
- 10 But they rebelled, and grieved his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he himself fought against them.
- 11 Then he remembered the days of old, Moses and his people, saying, Where is he who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? where is he who put his holy Spirit in their midst?
- 12 who caused his glorious arm to go at the right hand of Moses? who divided the waters before them, to make himself an everlasting name?
- 13 who led them through the depths, as a horse in the wilderness, so that they didn't stumble?
- 14 As the livestock that go down into the valley, the Spirit of YHWH caused them to rest; so you led your people, to make yourself a glorious name.

. A Prayer of Penitence. .

Look down from heaven, and see from the habitation of your holiness and of your glory: where are your zeal and your mighty acts? the yearning of your heart and your compassion is restrained toward me.

- 16 For you are our Father, though Abraham doesn't know us, and Israel does not acknowledge us: you, YHWH, are our Father; our Redeemer from everlasting is your name.
- 17 O YHWH, why do you make us to err from your ways, and harden our heart from your fear? Return for your servants' sake, the tribes of your inheritance.
- 18 Your holy people possessed it but a little while: our adversaries have trodden down your sanctuary.
- 19 We have become as they over whom you never bear rule, as those who were not called by your name.

Psalms 78.

. A Contemplation of Asaph...

A contemplation by Asaph. Hear my teaching, my people. Turn your ears to the words of my mouth.

- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable. I will utter dark sayings of old,
- 3 Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.
- 4 We will not hide them from their children, telling to the generation to come the praises of YHWH, his strength, and his wondrous works that he has done.
- 5 For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a teaching in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children;
- 6 that the generation to come might know, even the children who should be born; who should arise and tell their children,
- 7 that they might set their hope in ELOHIM, and not forget the works of El, but keep his commandments,
- 8 and might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation that didn't make their hearts loyal, whose spirit was not steadfast with El!

- 9 The children of Ephraim, being armed and carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle.
- 10 They didn't keep ELOHIM's covenant, and refused to walk by his Torah.
- 11 They forgot his doings, his wondrous works that he had shown them.
- 12 He did marvelous things in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- 13 He split the sea, and caused them to pass through. He made the waters stand as a heap.
- 14 In the daytime he also led them with a cloud, and all night with a light of fire.
- 15 He split rocks in the wilderness, and gave them drink abundantly as out of the depths.
- 16 He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers.
- 17 Yet they still went on to sin against him, to rebel against the Most High in the desert.
- 18 They tempted El in their heart by asking food according to their desire.
- 19 Yes, they spoke against ELOHIM! They said, "Can El prepare a table in the wilderness?
- 20 Behold, he struck the rock, so that waters gushed out, and streams overflowed. Can he give bread also? Will he provide flesh for his people?"
- 21 Therefore YHWH heard, and was angry. A fire was kindled against Jacob, anger also went up against Israel,
- 22 because they didn't believe in ELOHIM, and didn't trust in his salvation [yeshuat].
- 23 Yet he commanded the skies above, and opened the doors of heaven.
- 24 He rained down manna on them to eat, and gave them food from the sky.
- 25 Man ate the bread of angels. He sent them food to the full.
- 26 He caused the east wind to blow in the sky. By his power he guided the south wind.
- 27 He rained also flesh on them as the dust; winged birds as the sand of the seas.
- 28 He let them fall in the midst of their camp, around their habitations.
- 29 So they ate, and were well filled. He gave them their own desire.
- 30 They didn't turn from their cravings. Their food was yet in their mouths,
- 31 when the anger of ELOHIM went up against them, killed some of their fattest, and struck down the young men of Israel.
- 32 For all this they still sinned, and didn't believe in his wondrous works.
- 33 Therefore he consumed their days in vanity, and their years in terror.
- 34 When he killed them, then they inquired after him. They returned and sought El earnestly.
- 35 They remembered that ELOHIM was their rock, the Most High ELOHIM, their redeemer
- 36 But they flattered him with their mouth, and lied to him with their tongue.
- 37 For their heart was not right with him, neither were they faithful in his covenant.
- 38 But he, being merciful, forgave iniquity, and didn't destroy them. Yes, many times he turned his anger away, and didn't stir up all his wrath.
- 39 He remembered that they were but flesh, a wind that passes away, and doesn't come again.
- 40 How often they rebelled against him in the wilderness, and grieved him in the desert!
- 41 They turned again and tempted El, and provoked the Holy One of Israel.
- 42 They didn't remember his hand, nor the day when he redeemed them from the adversary;
- 43 how he set his signs in Egypt, his wonders in the field of Zoan,
- 44 he turned their rivers into blood, and their streams, so that they could not drink.
- 45 He sent among them swarms of flies, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them.
- 46 He gave also their increase to the caterpillar, and their labor to the locust.

- 47 He destroyed their vines with hail, their sycamore fig-trees with frost.
- 48 He gave over their livestock also to the hail, and their flocks to hot thunderbolts.
- 49 He threw on them the fierceness of his anger, wrath, indignation, and trouble, and a band of angels of evil.
- 50 He made a path for his anger. He didn't spare their soul from death, but gave their life over to the pestilence,
- 51 and struck all the firstborn in Egypt, the chief of their strength in the tents of Ham.
- 52 But he led forth his own people like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.
- 53 He led them safely, so that they weren't afraid, but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.
- 54 He brought them to the border of his sanctuary, to this mountain, which his right hand had taken.
- 55 He also drove out the nations before them, allotted them for an inheritance by line, and made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.
- 56 Yet they tempted and rebelled against the Most High ELOHIM, and didn't keep his testimonies;
- 57 but turned back, and dealt treacherously like their fathers. They were turned aside like a deceitful bow.
- 58 For they provoked him to anger with their high places, and moved him to jealousy with their engraved images.
- 59 When ELOHIM heard this, he was angry, and greatly abhorred Israel:
- 60 So that he forsook the tent of Shiloh, the tent which he placed among men;
- 61 and delivered his strength into captivity, his glory into the adversary's hand.
- 62 He also gave his people over to the sword, and was angry with his inheritance.
- 63 Fire devoured their young men. Their virgins had no wedding song.
- 64 Their priests fell by the sword, and their widows couldn't weep.
- 65 Then ADONAI awakened as one out of sleep, like a mighty man who shouts by reason of wine.
- 66 He struck his adversaries backward. He put them to a perpetual reproach.
- 67 Moreover he rejected the tent of Joseph, and didn't choose the tribe of Ephraim,
- 68 But chose the tribe of Judah, Mount Zion which he loved.
- 69 He built his sanctuary like the heights, like the earth which he has established forever.
- 70 He also chose David his servant, and took him from the sheepfolds;
- 71 from following the ewes that have their young, he brought him to be the shepherd of Jacob, his people, and Israel, his inheritance.
- 72 So he was their shepherd according to the integrity of his heart, and guided them by the skillfulness of his hands.

Proverbs 11.

- 1 A false balance is an abomination to YHWH, but accurate weights are his delight.
- 2 When pride comes, then comes shame, but with humility comes wisdom.
- 3 The integrity of the upright shall guide them, but the perverseness of the treacherous shall destroy them.
- 4 Riches don't profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.
- 5 The righteousness of the blameless will direct his way, but the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.
- 6 The righteousness of the upright shall deliver them, but the unfaithful will be trapped by evil desires.

- 7 When a wicked man dies, hope perishes, and expectation of power comes to nothing.
- 8 A righteous person is delivered out of trouble, and the wicked takes his place.
- 9 With his mouth the godless man destroys his neighbor, but the righteous will be delivered through knowledge.
- 10 When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices. When the wicked perish, there is shouting.
- 11 By the blessing of the upright, the city is exalted, but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.
- 12 One who despises his neighbor is void of wisdom, but a man of understanding holds his peace.
- 13 One who brings gossip betrays a confidence, but one who is of a trustworthy spirit is one who keeps a secret.
- 14 Where there is no wise guidance, the nation falls, but in the multitude of counselors there is victory.
- 15 He who is collateral for a stranger will suffer for it, but he who refuses pledges of collateral is secure.
- 16 A gracious woman obtains honor, but violent men obtain riches.
- 17 The merciful man does good to his own soul, but he who is cruel troubles his own flesh.
- 18 Wicked people earn deceitful wages, but one who sows righteousness reaps a sure reward.
- 19 He who is truly righteous gets life. He who pursues evil gets death.
- 20 Those who are perverse in heart are an abomination to YHWH, but those whose ways are blameless are his delight.
- 21 Most certainly, the evil man will not be unpunished, but the seed of the righteous will be delivered.
- 22 Like a gold ring in a pig's snout, is a beautiful woman who lacks discretion.
- 23 The desire of the righteous is only good. The expectation of the wicked is wrath.
- 24 There is one who scatters, and increases yet more. There is one who withholds more than is appropriate, but gains poverty.
- 25 The liberal soul shall be made fat. He who waters shall be watered also himself.
- 26 People curse someone who withholds grain, but blessing will be on the head of him who sells it.
- 27 He who diligently seeks good seeks favor, but he who searches after evil, it shall come to him
- 28 He who trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous shall flourish as the green leaf.
- 29 He who troubles his own house shall inherit the wind. The foolish shall be servant to the wise of heart.
- 30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life. He who is wise wins souls.
- 31 Behold, the righteous shall be repaid in the earth; how much more the wicked and the sinner!

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