

29-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

364. 29-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

Ezekiel 44.

1 . The East Gate and the Prince. .

Then he brought me back by the way of the outer gate of the sanctuary, which looks toward the east; and it was shut.

2 YHWH said to me, This gate shall be shut; it shall not be opened, neither shall any man enter in by it; for YHWH, the ELOHIM of Israel, has entered in by it; therefore it shall be shut.

3 As for the prince, he shall sit therein as prince to eat bread before YHWH; he shall enter by the way of the porch of the gate, and shall go out by the way of the same.

4 . Those Admitted to the Temple. .

Then he brought me by the way of the north gate before the house; and I looked, and behold, the glory of YHWH filled the house of YHWH: and I fell on my face.

5 YHWH said to me, Son of man, mark well, and see with your eyes, and hear with your ears all that I tell you concerning all the ordinances of the house of YHWH, and all its Torah (teachings and instructions); and mark well the entrance of the house, with every exit of the sanctuary.

6 You shall tell the rebellious, even to the house of Israel, Thus says ADONAI YHWH: you house of Israel, let it suffice you of all your abominations,

7 in that you have brought in foreigners, uncircumcised in heart and uncircumcised in flesh, to be in my sanctuary, to profane it, even my house, when you offer my bread, the fat and the blood, and they have broken my covenant, to add to all your abominations.

8 You have not performed the duty of my holy things; but you have set performers of my duty in my sanctuary for yourselves.

9 Thus says ADONAI YHWH, No foreigner, uncircumcised in heart and uncircumcised in flesh, shall enter into my sanctuary, of any foreigners who are among the children of Israel.

10 . Teaching and Instructions Governing Priests. .

But the Levites who went far from me, when Israel went astray, who went astray from me after their idols, they shall bear their iniquity.

11 Yet they shall be ministers in my sanctuary, having oversight at the gates of the house, and ministering in the house: they shall kill the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister to them.

12 Because they ministered to them before their idols, and became a stumbling block of iniquity to the house of Israel; therefore have I lifted up my hand against them, says ADONAI YHWH, and they shall bear their iniquity.

13 They shall not come near to me, to execute the office of priest to me, nor to come near to any of my holy things, to the things that are most holy; but they shall bear their shame, and their abominations which they have committed.

14 Yet will I make them performers of the duty of the house, for all its service, and for all that shall be done therein.

15 But the priests the Levites, the sons of Zadok, who performed the duty of my sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from me, they shall come near to me to minister to me; and they shall stand before me to offer to me the fat and the blood, says ADONAI YHWH:

16 they shall enter into my sanctuary, and they shall come near to my table, to minister

29-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

to me, and they shall keep my instruction.

17 It shall be that, when they enter in at the gates of the inner court, they shall be clothed with linen garments; and no wool shall come on them, while they minister in the gates of the inner court, and within.

18 They shall have linen tires on their heads, and shall have linen breeches on their waists; they shall not clothe themselves with anything that causes sweat.

19 When they go forth into the outer court, even into the outer court to the people, they shall put off their garments in which they minister, and lay them in the holy rooms; and they shall put on other garments, that they not sanctify the people with their garments.

20 Neither shall they shave their heads, nor allow their locks to grow long; they shall only cut off the hair of their heads.

21 Neither shall any of the priests drink wine, when they enter into the inner court.

22 Neither shall they take for their wives a widow, nor her who is put away; but they shall take virgins of the seed of the house of Israel, or a widow who is the widow of a priest.

23 They shall teach my people the difference between the holy and the common, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.

24 In a controversy they shall stand to judge; according to my ordinances shall they judge it: and they shall keep my Torah (teachings and instructions) and my statutes in all my appointed feasts; and they shall make my Sabbaths holy.

25 They shall go in to no dead person to defile themselves; but for father, or for mother, or for son, or for daughter, for brother, or for sister who has had no husband, they may defile themselves.

26 After he is cleansed, they shall reckon to him seven days.

27 In the day that he goes into the sanctuary, into the inner court, to minister in the sanctuary, he shall offer his sin offering, says ADONAI YHWH!

28 They shall have an inheritance: I am their inheritance; and you shall give them no possession in Israel; I am their possession.

29 They shall eat the meal offering, and the sin offering, and the trespass offering; and every devoted thing in Israel shall be theirs.

30 The first of all the first fruits of every thing, and every offering of everything, of all your offerings, shall be for the priest: you shall also give to the priests the first of your dough, to cause a blessing to rest on your house.

31 The priests shall not eat of anything that dies of itself, or is torn, whether it be bird or animal.

Ezekiel 45.

1 . The Holy District. .

Moreover, when you shall divide by lot the land for inheritance, you shall offer an offering to YHWH, a holy portion of the land; the length shall be the length of twenty-five thousand reeds, and the breadth shall be ten thousand: it shall be holy in all its border all around.

2 Of this there shall be for the holy place five hundred in length by five hundred in breadth, square all around; and fifty cubits for its suburbs all around.

3 Of this measure you shall measure a length of twenty-five thousand, and a breadth of ten thousand: and in it shall be the sanctuary, which is most holy.

4 It is a holy portion of the land; it shall be for the priests, the ministers of the sanctuary, who come near to minister to YHWH; and it shall be a place for their houses, and a holy place for the sanctuary.

29-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

5 Twenty-five thousand in length, and ten thousand in breadth, shall be to the Levites, the ministers of the house, for a possession to themselves, for twenty rooms.

6 . Properties of the City and the Prince. .

You shall appoint the possession of the city five thousand broad, and twenty-five thousand long, side by side with the offering of the holy portion: it shall be for the whole house of Israel.

7 Whatever is for the prince shall be on the one side and on the other side of the holy offering and of the possession of the city, in front of the holy offering and in front of the possession of the city, on the west side westward, and on the east side eastward; and in length answerable to one of the portions, from the west border to the east border.

8 In the land it shall be to him for a possession in Israel: and my princes shall no more oppress my people; but they shall give the land to the house of Israel according to their tribes.

9 . Teaching and Instructions Governing the Prince. .

Thus says ADONAI YHWH: Let it suffice you, princes of Israel: remove violence and spoil, and execute justice and righteousness; dispossessing my people, says ADONAI YHWH!

10 You shall have just balances, and a just ephah, and a just bath.

11 The ephah and the bath shall be of one measure, that the bath may contain the tenth part of a homer, and the ephah the tenth part of a homer: its measure shall be after the homer.

12 The shekel shall be twenty gerahs. Twenty shekels plus twenty-five shekels plus fifteen shekels shall be your mina.

13 This is the offering that you shall offer: the sixth part of an ephah from a homer of wheat; and you shall give the sixth part of an ephah from a homer of barley;

14 and the set portion of oil, of the bath of oil, the tenth part of a bath out of the cor, which is ten baths, even a homer; (for ten baths are a homer;)

15 and one lamb of the flock, out of two hundred, from the well-watered pastures of Israel for a meal offering, and for a burnt offering, and for peace offerings, to make atonement for them, says ADONAI YHWH!

16 All the people of the land shall give to this offering for the prince in Israel.

17 It shall be the prince's part to give the burnt offerings, and the meal offerings, and the drink offerings, in the feasts, and on the new moons, and on the Sabbaths, in all the appointed feasts of the house of Israel: he shall prepare the sin offering, and the meal offering, and the burnt offering, and the peace offerings, to make atonement for the house of Israel.

18 . Keeping the Feasts. .

Thus says ADONAI YHWH: In the first month, in the first day of the month, you shall take a young bull without blemish; and you shall cleanse the sanctuary.

19 The priest shall take of the blood of the sin offering, and put it on the door posts of the house, and on the four corners of the ledge of the altar, and on the posts of the gate of the inner court.

20 So you shall do on the seventh day of the month for everyone who errs, and for him who is simple: so you shall make atonement for the house.

21 In the first month, in the fourteenth day of the month, you shall have the Passover, a feast of seven days; unleavened bread shall be eaten.

29-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

22 On that day shall the prince prepare for himself and for all the people of the land a bull for a sin offering.

23 The seven days of the feast he shall prepare a burnt offering to YHWH, seven bulls and seven rams without blemish daily the seven days; and a male goat daily for a sin offering.

24 He shall prepare a meal offering, an ephah for a bull, and an ephah for a ram, and a hin of oil to an ephah.

25 In the seventh month, in the fifteenth day of the month, in the feast, shall he do the like the seven days; according to the sin offering, according to the burnt offering, and according to the meal offering, and according to the oil.

Isaiah 64.

1 Oh that you would tear the heavens, that you would come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence,

2 as when fire kindles the brushwood, and the fire causes the waters to boil; to make your name known to your adversaries, that the nations may tremble at your presence!

3 When you did awesome things which we didn't look for, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

4 For from of old men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither has the eye seen an ELOHIM besides you, who works for him who waits for him.

5 You meet him who rejoices and works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned. We have been in sin for a long time; and shall we be saved?

6 For we have all become as one who is unclean, and all our righteousness is as a polluted garment: and we all fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

7 There is none who calls on your name, who stirs up himself to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have consumed us by means of our iniquities.

8 But now, YHWH, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you our potter; and we all are the work of your hand.

9 Don't be furious, YHWH, neither remember iniquity forever: see, look, we beg you, we are all your people.

10 Your holy cities are become a wilderness, Zion has become a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation.

11 Our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised you, is burned with fire; and all our pleasant places are laid waste.

12 Will you refrain yourself for these things, YHWH? Will you hold your peace, and afflict us very severely?

Psalms 89.

1 . A Contemplation of Ethan the Ezrahite..

A contemplation by Ethan, the Ezrahite. I will sing of the loving kindness of YHWH forever. With my mouth, I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.

2 I indeed declare, "Love stands firm forever. You established the heavens. Your faithfulness is in them."

3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David, my servant,

4 'I will establish your seed forever, and build up your throne to all generations.'" Selah.

5 The heavens will praise your wonders, YHWH; your faithfulness also in the assembly of the holy ones.

29-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

- 6 For who in the skies can be compared to YHWH? Who among the sons of the heavenly beings is like YHWH,
7 a very awesome ELOHIM in the council of the holy ones, to be feared above all those who are around him?
8 YHWH, ELOHIM of Hosts, who is a mighty one, like you? YAH, your faithfulness is around you.
9 You rule the pride of the sea. When its waves rise up, you calm them.
10 You have broken Rahab in pieces, like one of the slain. You have scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.
11 The heavens are yours. The earth also is yours; the world and its fullness. You have founded them.
12 The north and the south, you have created them. Tabor and Hermon rejoice in your name.
13 You have a mighty arm. Your hand is strong, and your right hand is exalted.
14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne. Loving kindness and truth go before your face.
15 Blessed are the people who learn to acclaim you. They walk in the light of your presence, YHWH!
16 In your name they rejoice all day. In your righteousness, they are exalted.
17 For you are the glory of their strength. In your favor, our horn will be exalted.
18 For our shield belongs to YHWH; our king to the Holy One of Israel.
19 Then you spoke in vision to your holy ones, and said, "I have bestowed strength on the warrior. I have exalted a young man from the people.
20 I have found David, my servant. I have anointed him with my holy oil,
21 with whom my hand shall be established. My arm will also strengthen him.
22 No enemy will tax him. No wicked man will oppress him.
23 I will beat down his adversaries before him, and strike those who hate him.
24 But my faithfulness and my loving kindness will be with him. In my name, his horn will be exalted.
25 I will set his hand also on the sea, and his right hand on the rivers.
26 He will call to me, 'You are my Father, my ELOHIM, and the rock of my salvation!'
27 I will also appoint him my firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth.
28 I will keep my loving kindness for him forevermore. My covenant will stand firm with him.
29 I will also make his seed endure forever, and his throne as the days of heaven.
30 If his children forsake my Torah, and don't walk in my ordinances;
31 if they break my statutes, and don't keep my commandments;
32 then I will punish their sin with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes.
33 But I will not completely take my loving kindness from him, nor allow my faithfulness to fail.
34 I will not break my covenant, nor alter what my lips have uttered.
35 Once have I sworn by my holiness, I will not lie to David.
36 His seed will endure forever, his throne like the sun before me.
37 It will be established forever like the moon, the faithful witness in the sky." Selah.
38 But you have rejected and spurned. You have been angry with your anointed.
39 You have renounced the covenant of your servant. You have defiled his crown in the dust.
40 You have broken down all his hedges. You have brought his strongholds to ruin.
41 All who pass by the way rob him. He has become a reproach to his neighbors.
42 You have exalted the right hand of his adversaries. You have made all of his enemies rejoice.

29-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

- 43 Yes, you turn back the edge of his sword, and haven't supported him in battle.
44 You have ended his splendor, and thrown his throne down to the ground.
45 You have shortened the days of his youth. You have covered him with shame. Selah.
46 How long, YHWH? Will you hide yourself forever? Will your wrath burn like fire?
47 Remember how short my time is! For what vanity have you created all the children of men!
48 What man is he who shall live and not see death, who shall deliver his soul from the power of Sheol? Selah.
49 ADONAI, where are your former loving kindnesses, which you swore to David in your faithfulness?
50 Remember, ADONAI, the reproach of your servants, how I bear in my heart the taunts of all the mighty peoples,
51 With which your enemies have mocked, YHWH, with which they have mocked the footsteps of your anointed one.
52 Blessed be YHWH forevermore. Amen, and Amen. BOOK IV

Proverbs 12.

- 1 Whoever loves correction loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid.
2 A good man shall obtain favor from YHWH, but he will condemn a man of wicked devices.
3 A man shall not be established by wickedness, but the root of the righteous shall not be moved.
4 A worthy woman is the crown of her husband, but a disgraceful wife is as rotteness in his bones.
5 The thoughts of the righteous are just, but the advice of the wicked is deceitful.
6 The words of the wicked are about lying in wait for blood, but the speech of the upright rescues them.
7 The wicked are overthrown, and are no more, but the house of the righteous shall stand.
8 A man shall be commended according to his wisdom, but he who has a warped mind shall be despised.
9 Better is he who is lightly esteemed, and has a servant, than he who honors himself, and lacks bread.
10 A righteous man respects the life of his animal, but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.
11 He who tills his land shall have plenty of bread, but he who chases fantasies is void of understanding.
12 The wicked desires the plunder of evil men, but the root of the righteous flourishes.
13 An evil man is trapped by sinfulness of lips, but the righteous shall come out of trouble.
14 A man shall be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth. The work of a man's hands shall be rewarded to him.
15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but he who is wise listens to counsel.
16 A fool shows his annoyance the same day, but one who overlooks an insult is prudent.
17 He who is truthful testifies honestly, but a false witness lies.
18 There is one who speaks rashly like the piercing of a sword, but the tongue of the wise heals.
19 Truth's lips will be established forever, but a lying tongue is only momentary.
20 Deceit is in the heart of those who plot evil, but joy comes to the promoters of peace.
21 No mischief shall happen to the righteous, but the wicked shall be filled with evil.

29-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

- 22 Lying lips are an abomination to YHWH, but those who do the truth are his delight.
23 A prudent man keeps his knowledge, but the hearts of fools proclaim foolishness.
24 The hands of the diligent ones shall rule, but laziness ends in slave labor.
25 Anxiety in a man's heart weighs it down, but a kind word makes it glad.
26 A righteous person is cautious in friendship, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.
27 The slothful man doesn't roast his game, but the possessions of diligent men are prized.
28 In the way of righteousness is life; in its path there is no death.

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