

31-December Daily Reading (Prophets and Writings).

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Ezekiel 48.

1 . Division of the Land. .

Now these are the names of the tribes: From the north end, beside the way of Hethlon to the entrance of Hamath, Hazar Enan at the border of Damascus, northward beside Hamath, (and they shall have their sides east and west), Dan, one portion.

2 By the border of Dan, from the east side to the west side, Asher, one portion.

3 By the border of Asher, from the east side even to the west side, Naphtali, one portion.

4 By the border of Naphtali, from the east side to the west side, Manasseh, one portion.

5 By the border of Manasseh, from the east side to the west side, Ephraim, one portion.

6 By the border of Ephraim, from the east side even to the west side, Reuben, one portion.

7 By the border of Reuben, from the east side to the west side, Judah, one portion.

8 By the border of Judah, from the east side to the west side, shall be the offering which you shall offer, twenty-five thousand reeds in breadth, and in length as one of the portions, from the east side to the west side: and the sanctuary shall be in its midst.

9 The offering that you shall offer to YHWH shall be twenty-five thousand reeds in length, and ten thousand in breadth.

10 For these, even for the priests, shall be the holy offering: toward the north twenty-five thousand in length, and toward the west ten thousand in breadth, and toward the east ten thousand in breadth, and toward the south twenty-five thousand in length: and the sanctuary of YHWH shall be in its midst.

11 It shall be for the priests who are sanctified of the sons of Zadok, who have kept my instruction, who didn't go astray when the children of Israel went astray, as the Levites went astray.

12 It shall be to them an offering from the offering of the land, a thing most holy, by the border of the Levites.

13 Answerable to the border of the priests, the Levites shall have twenty-five thousand in length, and ten thousand in breadth: all the length shall be twenty-five thousand, and the breadth ten thousand.

14 They shall sell none of it, nor exchange it, nor shall the first fruits of the land be alienated; for it is holy to YHWH!

15 The five thousand that are left in the breadth, in front of the twenty-five thousand, shall be for common use, for the city, for dwelling and for suburbs; and the city shall be in its midst.

16 These shall be its measures: the north side four thousand and five hundred, and the south side four thousand and five hundred, and on the east side four thousand and five hundred, and the west side four thousand and five hundred.

17 The city shall have suburbs: toward the north two hundred fifty, and toward the south two hundred fifty, and toward the east two hundred fifty, and toward the west two hundred fifty.

18 The remainder in the length, answerable to the holy offering, shall be ten thousand eastward, and ten thousand westward; and it shall be answerable to the holy offering; and its increase shall be for food to those who labor in the city.

19 Those who labor in the city, out of all the tribes of Israel, shall cultivate it.

20 All the offering shall be twenty-five thousand by twenty-five thousand: you shall offer the holy offering foursquare, with the possession of the city.

21 The residue shall be for the prince, on the one side and on the other of the holy offering and of the possession of the city; in front of the twenty-five thousand of the

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offering toward the east border, and westward in front of the twenty-five thousand toward the west border, answerable to the portions, it shall be for the prince: and the holy offering and the sanctuary of the house shall be in its midst.

22 Moreover from the possession of the Levites, and from the possession of the city, being in the midst of that which is the prince's, between the border of Judah and the border of Benjamin, it shall be for the prince.

23 As for the rest of the tribes: from the east side to the west side, Benjamin, one portion.

24 By the border of Benjamin, from the east side to the west side, Simeon, one portion.

25 By the border of Simeon, from the east side to the west side, Issachar, one portion.

26 By the border of Issachar, from the east side to the west side, Zebulun, one portion.

27 By the border of Zebulun, from the east side to the west side, Gad, one portion.

28 By the border of Gad, at the south side southward, the border shall be even from Tamar to the waters of Meribath Kadesh, to the brook of Egypt, to the great sea.

29 This is the land which you shall divide by lot to the tribes of Israel for inheritance, and these are their several portions, says ADONAI YHWH!

30 . The Gates of the City and Its Name. .

These are the exits of the city: On the north side four thousand and five hundred reeds by measure;

31 and the gates of the city shall be after the names of the tribes of Israel, three gates northward: the gate of Reuben, one; the gate of Judah, one; the gate of Levi, one.

32 At the east side four thousand and five hundred reeds, and three gates: even the gate of Joseph, one; the gate of Benjamin, one; the gate of Dan, one.

33 At the south side four thousand and five hundred reeds by measure, and three gates: the gate of Simeon, one; the gate of Issachar, one; the gate of Zebulun, one.

34 At the west side four thousand and five hundred reeds, with their three gates: the gate of Gad, one; the gate of Asher, one; the gate of Naphtali, one.

35 It shall be eighteen thousand reeds around: and the name of the city from that day shall be, YHWH is there.

Isaiah 66.

1 . True Worship and False. .

Thus says YHWH, "Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: what kind of house will you build to me? and what place shall be my rest?"

2 For all these things has my hand made, and so all these things came to be," says YHWH: "but to this man will I look, even to him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at my word.

3 He who kills an ox is as he who kills a man; he who sacrifices a lamb, as he who breaks a dog's neck; he who offers an offering, as he who offers pig's blood; he who burns frankincense, as he who blesses an idol. Yes, they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delights in their abominations:

4 I also will choose their delusions, and will bring their fears on them; because when I called, no one answered; when I spoke, they didn't listen; but they did that which was evil in my eyes, and chose that in which I didn't delight."

5 . YHWH Vindicates Zion. .

Hear the word of YHWH, you who tremble at his word: "Your brothers who hate you, who cast you out for my name's sake, have said, 'Let YHWH be glorified, that we may

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see your joy;’ but it is those who shall be disappointed.

6 A voice of tumult from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice of YHWH that renders recompense to his enemies.

7 “Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she delivered a son.

8 Who has heard such a thing? who has seen such things? Shall a land be born in one day? shall a nation be brought forth at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

9 Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth?” says YHWH: “shall I who cause to bring forth shut the womb?” says your ELOHIM!

10 “Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her: rejoice for joy with her, all you who mourn over her;

11 that you may nurse and be satisfied at the comforting breasts; that you may drink deeply, and be delighted with the abundance of her glory.”

12 For thus says YHWH, “Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream: and you will nurse. You will be carried on her side, and will be dandled on her knees.

13 As one whom his mother comforts, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted in Jerusalem.”

14 **. The Reign and Indignation of ELOHIM. .**

You will see it, and your heart shall rejoice, and your bones shall flourish like the tender grass: and the hand of YHWH shall be known toward his servants; and he will have indignation against his enemies.

15 For, behold, YHWH will come with fire, and his chariots shall be like the whirlwind; to render his anger with fierceness, and his rebuke with flames of fire.

16 For by fire will YHWH execute judgment, and by his sword, on all flesh; and the slain of YHWH shall be many.

17 “Those who sanctify themselves and purify themselves to go to the gardens, behind one in the midst, eating pig’s flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, they shall come to an end together,” says YHWH!

18 “For I know their works and their thoughts: the time comes, that I will gather all nations and languages; and they shall come, and shall see my glory.

19 “I will set a sign among them, and I will send such as escape of them to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the islands afar off, who have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the nations.

20 They shall bring all your brothers out of all the nations for an offering to YHWH, on horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and on mules, and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says YHWH, as the children of Israel bring their offering in a clean vessel into the house of YHWH!

21 Of them also will I take for priests and for Levites,” says YHWH!

22 “For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me,” says YHWH, “so your seed and your name shall remain.

23 It shall happen, that from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me,” says YHWH!

24 “They shall go forth, and look on the dead bodies of the men who have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they will be loathsome to all mankind.”

Psalms 105.

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1 **. The Eternal Faithfulness of YHWH. .**

Give thanks to YHWH! Call on his name! Make his doings known among the peoples.
2 Sing to him, sing praises to him! Tell of all his marvelous works.
3 Glory in his holy name. Let the heart of those who seek YHWH rejoice.
4 Seek YHWH and his strength. Seek his face forever more.
5 Remember his marvelous works that he has done; his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth,
6 you seed of Abraham, his servant, you children of Jacob, his chosen ones.
7 He is YHWH, our ELOHIM! His judgments are in all the earth.
8 He has remembered his covenant forever, the word which he commanded to a thousand generations,
9 the covenant which he made with Abraham, his oath to Isaac,
10 and confirmed the same to Jacob for a statute; to Israel for an everlasting covenant,
11 saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance;"
12 when they were but a few men in number, yes, very few, and foreigners in it.
13 They went about from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another people.
14 He allowed no one to do them wrong. Yes, he reproved kings for their sakes,
15 "Don't touch my anointed ones! Do my prophets no harm!"
16 He called for a famine on the land. He destroyed the food supplies.
17 He sent a man before them. Joseph was sold for a slave.
18 They bruised his feet with shackles. His neck was locked in irons,
19 until the time that his word happened, and YHWH's word proved him true.
20 The king sent and freed him; even the ruler of peoples, and let him go free.
21 He made him master of his house, and ruler of all of his possessions;
22 to discipline his princes at his pleasure, and to teach his elders wisdom.
23 Israel also came into Egypt. Jacob lived in the land of Ham.
24 He increased his people greatly, and made them stronger than their adversaries.
25 He turned their heart to hate his people, to conspire against his servants.
26 He sent Moses, his servant, and Aaron, whom he had chosen.
27 They performed miracles among them, and wonders in the land of Ham.
28 He sent darkness, and made it dark. They didn't rebel against his words.
29 He turned their waters into blood, and killed their fish.
30 Their land swarmed with frogs, even in the rooms of their kings.
31 He spoke, and swarms of flies came, and lice in all their borders.
32 He gave them hail for rain, with lightning in their land.
33 He struck their vines and also their fig-trees, and shattered the trees of their country.
34 He spoke, and the locusts came, and the grasshoppers, without number,
35 ate up every plant in their land; and ate up the fruit of their ground.
36 He struck also all the firstborn in their land, the first fruits of all their manhood.
37 He brought them forth with silver and gold. There was not one feeble person among his tribes.
38 Egypt was glad when they departed, for the fear of them had fallen on them.
39 He spread a cloud for a covering, fire to give light in the night.
40 They asked, and he brought quails, and satisfied them with the bread of the sky.
41 He opened the rock, and waters gushed out. They ran as a river in the dry places.
42 For he remembered his holy word, and Abraham, his servant.
43 He brought forth his people with joy, his chosen with singing.
44 He gave them the lands of the nations. They took the labor of the peoples in possession,
45 that they might keep his statutes, and observe his Torah (teachings and instructions).
Praise YAH!

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Proverbs 14.

- 1 Every wise woman builds her house, but the foolish one tears it down with her own hands.
 - 2 He who walks in his uprightness fears YHWH, but he who is perverse in his ways despises him.
 - 3 The fool's talk brings a rod to his back, but the lips of the wise protect them.
 - 4 Where no oxen are, the crib is clean, but much increase is by the strength of the ox.
 - 5 A truthful witness will not lie, but a false witness pours out lies.
 - 6 A scoffer seeks wisdom, and doesn't find it, but knowledge comes easily to a discerning person.
 - 7 Stay away from a foolish man, for you won't find knowledge on his lips.
 - 8 The wisdom of the prudent is to think about his way, but the folly of fools is deceit.
 - 9 Fools mock at making atonement for sins, but among the upright there is good will.
 - 10 The heart knows its own bitterness and joy; he will not share these with a stranger.
 - 11 The house of the wicked will be overthrown, but the tent of the upright will flourish.
 - 12 There is a way which seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.
 - 13 Even in laughter the heart may be sorrowful, and mirth may end in heaviness.
 - 14 The unfaithful will be repaid for his own ways; likewise a good man will be rewarded for his ways.
 - 15 A simple man believes everything, but the prudent man carefully considers his ways.
 - 16 A wise man fears, and shuns evil, but the fool is hotheaded and reckless.
 - 17 He who is quick to become angry will commit folly, and a crafty man is hated.
 - 18 The simple inherit folly, but the prudent are crowned with knowledge.
 - 19 The evil bow down before the good, and the wicked at the gates of the righteous.
 - 20 The poor person is shunned even by his own neighbor, but the rich person has many friends.
 - 21 He who despises his neighbor sins, but blessed is he who has pity on the poor.
 - 22 Don't they go astray who plot evil? But love and faithfulness belong to those who plan good.
 - 23 In all hard work there is profit, but the talk of the lips leads only to poverty.
 - 24 The crown of the wise is their riches, but the folly of fools crowns them with folly.
 - 25 A truthful witness saves souls, but a false witness is deceitful.
 - 26 In the fear of YHWH is a secure fortress, and he will be a refuge for his children.
 - 27 The fear of YHWH is a fountain of life, turning people from the snares of death.
 - 28 In the multitude of people is the king's glory, but in the lack of people is the destruction of the prince.
 - 29 He who is slow to anger has great understanding, but he who has a quick temper displays folly.
 - 30 The life of the body is a heart at peace, but envy rots the bones.
 - 31 He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for his Maker, but he who is kind to the needy honors him.
 - 32 The wicked is brought down in his calamity, but in death, the righteous has a refuge.
 - 33 Wisdom rests in the heart of one who has understanding, and is even made known in the inward part of fools.
 - 34 Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.
 - 35 The king's favor is toward a servant who deals wisely, but his wrath is toward one who causes shame.
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