

# There I will Accept You

[Ezekiel 20 Expanded Bible](#) (There Will I Accept You)

## Israel Has Refused Yah

It was the seventh year [<sup>C</sup> since Jehoiachin's exile ([1:2](#))], in the fifth month, on the tenth day of the month [<sup>C</sup> August 14, 591 BC]. Some of the elders of Israel came to ask about Yah and sat down in front of me.

<sup>2</sup> Yah spoke his word [<sup>L</sup> word of Yah came] to me, saying: <sup>3</sup>“‘Human [<sup>T</sup> Son of man; [2:1](#)], speak to the elders of Israel and say to them: ‘This is what Yah GOD says: Did you come to ·ask me questions [inquire of/consult me]? As surely as I live, I will not let you ·ask me questions [inquire of/consult me].’

<sup>4</sup>“Will you judge them? Will you judge them, ·human [<sup>T</sup> son of man; [2:1](#)]? Let them know the ·hateful [detestable; abominable] things their ·ancestors [fathers] did. <sup>5</sup> Say to them: ‘This is what Yah says:

When [<sup>L</sup> On the day when] I chose Israel, I ·made a promise [<sup>L</sup> lifted my hand] to the ·descendants [offspring; seed] of Jacob. I made myself known to them in the land of Egypt/slavery, and I ·promised them [<sup>L</sup> lifted my hand to them, saying], “I am Yah your God.”

<sup>6</sup> At that time [On that day] I ·promised them I would [<sup>L</sup> lifted my hand to them to] bring them out of Egypt into a land I had ·found [searched out] for them, a ·fertile land [land flowing with milk and honey; [Ex. 3:8](#)], **the best [most beautiful land in the world]**. <sup>7</sup> I said to them, “Each one of you must throw away the ·hateful idols [detestable/abominable things] you have ·seen and liked [<sup>L</sup> set your eyes on]. Don't ·make yourselves unclean [defile yourselves] with the idols of Egypt. I am Yah your God.”

<sup>8</sup>“‘But they ·turned [rebelled] against me and refused to listen to me. They did not throw away the ·hateful idols [detestable/abominable things] which they ·saw and liked [<sup>L</sup> set your eyes on]; they did not give up the idols of Egypt. Then I decided to pour out my anger against them while they were still in Egypt.

<sup>9</sup> But I acted for the sake of my name so it would not be ·dishonored [profaned; <sup>C</sup> ritually] in ·full view [<sup>L</sup> the eyes] of the nations where the Israelites lived. I made myself known to ·the Israelites [<sup>L</sup> them] by bringing them out of Egypt while the

nations were watching [before their eyes]. <sup>10</sup> So I took them out of Egypt and brought them into the ·desert [wilderness]. <sup>11</sup> I gave them my ·rules [statutes; ordinances; requirements] and told them about my ·laws [judgments], by which people will live if they ·obey [do; practice] them.

<sup>12</sup> I also gave them my Sabbaths [[Ex. 20:8–11](#); [Deut. 5:12–15](#)] **to be a sign** [[Ex. 31:13](#)] between us so they would know that I am Yah who ·made them holy [sanctified them; set them apart].

<sup>13</sup> ““But in the ·desert [wilderness] ·Israel [<sup>L</sup> the house of Israel] ·turned [rebelled] against me. They did not follow my ·rules [statutes], and they rejected my ·laws [rules; judgments], by which people will live if they obey them.

They ·dishonored [desecrated; profaned; <sup>C</sup> ritually] my Sabbaths. Then I decided to pour out my ·anger [wrath] against them and destroy them in the ·desert [wilderness].

<sup>14</sup> But I acted for the sake of my name so it would not be ·dishonored [profaned; <sup>C</sup> ritually] in ·full view [<sup>L</sup> the eyes] of the nations ·who watched as [before whose eyes] I had brought the Israelites out of Egypt.

<sup>15</sup> And in the ·desert [wilderness] I ·swore [<sup>L</sup> lifted my hand] to the Israelites that I would not bring them into the land I had given them. It is a ·fertile land [land flowing with milk and honey; [Ex. 3:8](#)], the ·best [most beautiful] land in the world.

<sup>16</sup> This was because they rejected my ·laws [judgments] and did not ·follow [<sup>L</sup> walk in] my ·rules [statutes; ordinances; requirements].

They ·dishonored [desecrated; profaned; <sup>C</sup> ritually] my Sabbaths and ·wanted to worship [<sup>L</sup> their hearts went after] their idols. <sup>17</sup> But I ·had pity on [*or* spared] them. I did not destroy them or put an end to them in the ·desert [wilderness].

<sup>18</sup> I said to their children in the ·desert [wilderness], “Don’t ·live by [<sup>L</sup> walk in] the ·rules [statutes; ordinances; requirements] of your ·parents [fathers], or obey their ·laws [judgments]. Don’t ·make yourselves unclean [defile yourselves] with their idols.

<sup>19</sup> I am Yah your God. ·Live by [<sup>L</sup> Walk in] my ·rules [statutes; ordinances; requirements], obey my ·laws [judgments], and follow them. <sup>20</sup> Keep my Sabbaths holy, and they will be a sign between me and you [[Ex. 31:13](#)]. Then you will know that I am Yah your God.”

<sup>21</sup> ““But the children turned against me. They did not ·live by [walk in] my ·rules [statutes; ordinances; requirements], nor were they careful to obey my ·laws [judgments], by which people **will live if they obey them.**

They ·dishonored [desecrated; profaned; <sup>C</sup> ritually] my Sabbaths. So I decided to pour out my anger and ·rage [<sup>L</sup> vent/exhaust my rage] against them in the ·desert [wilderness].

<sup>22</sup> But I ·held back my anger [<sup>L</sup> withdrew my hand]. I acted for the sake of my name so it would not be ·dishonored [profaned; <sup>C</sup> ritually] in ·full view [<sup>L</sup> the eyes] of the nations ·who watched as [<sup>L</sup> before whose eyes] I brought the Israelites out.

<sup>23</sup> And in the ·desert [wilderness] **I swore to the Israelites that I would scatter them among the nations and spread them among the ·countries [lands],**

<sup>24</sup> because they had not obeyed my ·laws [judgments]. They had rejected my ·rules [statutes; ordinances; requirements] and ·dishonored [profaned; <sup>C</sup> ritually] my Sabbaths and ·worshiped [<sup>L</sup> set their eyes on] the idols of their ·parents [fathers].

<sup>25</sup> I also allowed them to follow ·rules [statutes] that were not good and ·laws [judgments] by which they could not live.

### **IMPORTANT NOTES:**

[Isaiah 27:12](#)

**At that time [<sup>L</sup> In that day]** Yah of Hosts will begin **gathering** ·his people [<sup>L</sup> you, sons/children of Israel] one by one from the ·Euphrates River [<sup>L</sup> flowing River] to the brook of Egypt. He will ·separate **them** from others as grain is separated from chaff [thresh/<sup>L</sup> beat **them out**].

To be separated from others has a double meaning; 1. Separated from out of all the nations and places where we were scattered to, 2. And also to be separated from amongst OUR OWN PEOPLE who show their hate for Yah/Ahayah **by the evil that they do!**

THERE IS A TIME LIMIT for each man and woman to correct themselves! Stop worrying so much about how you are being treated at this moment, as opposed to caring about, and keeping your mind on Jerusalem and the wonderful times ahead;

After going through this hell who would want to fail in keeping focus on Yah and His promises of a better life, because of rotten treatment from our own people and families?

### [TLB](#)

Yet the time will come when Yah of Hosts will gather them together one by one like hand-picked grain, selecting them here and there from his great threshing floor that reaches all the way from the Euphrates River to the Egyptian boundary.

### [MSG](#)

At that time Yah will thresh from the River Euphrates to the Brook of Egypt, **And you, people of Israel, will be selected grain by grain.** At that same time a great trumpet will be blown, calling home the exiles from Assyria, Welcoming home the refugees from Egypt to come and worship Yah on the holy mountain, Jerusalem.

### [Amos 9:9](#)

For, lo, I will command, and I will **sift** the house of Israel among all nations, like as corn is **sifted** in a sieve, yet shall not the least grain fall upon the earth.

### [Jeremiah 3:14](#)

“Return, apostate children,” *declares* Yahweh. “For *I am your master*, and I will take you **one from** a city and two **from a clan**, and I will bring you *to* Zion.

### [AMPC](#)

Return, O faithless children [of the whole twelve tribes], says Yah of Hosts, for I am Yah *and* Master *and* Husband to you, and I will take you [not as a nation, but individually]—one from a city and two from a tribal family—and I will bring you to Zion.

### [Ecclesiastes 3:18](#) KJV

I said to myself concerning *humans*, “Yah **sifts** them in order to show them that they are like beasts.”

### [AMPC](#)

I said in my heart regarding the subject of the sons of men, Yah is trying (separating and sifting) them, that they may see that by themselves [under the sun, without Yah] they are but like beasts.

## [TLB](#)

And then I realized that Yah is letting the world go on its sinful way so that he can test mankind, and so that men themselves will see that they are no better than beasts.

## [Zechariah 13:8](#)

Yah of Hosts says, “Two-**thirds** of the people through all the land will die. They will be gone [struck down; <sup>L</sup> cut off], and **one-third** will be left.

## [Exodus 31:13](#)

<sup>13</sup> “Say to the Israelites, ‘You must observe my Sabbaths. **This will be a sign between me and you for the generations to come, so you may know that I am Yah of Hosts, who makes you holy.**”

## [2 kings 24:12, 15](#)

<sup>12</sup> Jehoiachin king of Judah, his mother, his attendants, his nobles and his officials all surrendered to him.

In the eighth year of the reign of the king of Babylon, he took Jehoiachin prisoner.

## [2 kings Verse 15](#)

<sup>15</sup> Nebuchadnezzar took Jehoiachin captive to Babylon. He also took from Jerusalem to Babylon the king’s mother, his wives, his officials and the prominent people of the land.

## [Deuteronomy 18:14-18](#)

### **The Prophet – [A Modern Day Moses]**

<sup>14</sup> The nations you will dispossess listen to those who practice sorcery or divination. **But as for you,** Yah of Hosts your God **has not** permitted you to do so.

<sup>15</sup> **Yah of Hosts your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you,** from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. <sup>16</sup> **For this is what you asked of Yah of Hosts your God at Horeb** on the day of the assembly when you said, “Let us not hear the voice of Yah of Hosts our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die.”

<sup>17</sup> Yah of Hosts said to me: “What they say is good. <sup>18</sup> I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him.

[Daniel 7:13](#) ..... [*The one of whom your fathers asked for will appear in the “**end days**”*]

<sup>13</sup> “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, <sup>[a]</sup> coming with the clouds of heaven. **He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence.** <sup>14</sup> **He was given authority, glory and sovereign power;** all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

[Zephaniah 2](#) King James Bible

**1Gather yourselves together**, yea, **gather** together, **O nation not desired**; **Before the decree bring forth**, **before the day pass as the chaff**, before the fierce anger of Yah of Hosts come upon you, **before the day** of Yah of Host's anger come upon you. **Seek** you **Yah of Hosts**, all you **meek** of the earth, which have wrought/brought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be you shall be hid/spared in the day of Yah of Host's anger. ...

[AMP](#)

Seek Yah of Hosts [search diligently for Him and regard Him as the foremost necessity of your life], All you humble of the land Who have practiced His ordinances *and* have kept His commandments; Seek righteousness, seek humility [regard them as vital]. Perhaps you will be hidden [and pardoned and rescued] In the day of Yah of Host's anger.

[AMPC](#)

Seek Yah of Hosts [inquire for Him, inquire of Him, and require Him as the foremost necessity of your life], all you humble of the land who have acted in compliance with His revealed will *and* have kept His commandments; seek righteousness, seek humility [inquire for them, require them as vital]. It may be you will be hidden in the day of Yah of Host's anger.

**Resuming:** [Ezekiel 20 Expanded Bible](#) at verse 26

<sup>26</sup> I ·let the Israelites make themselves unclean [<sup>L</sup> defiled them; <sup>C</sup> ritually] by the gifts they brought to their gods when they sacrificed their first children in the fire [[16:20–21](#)]. I wanted to ·terrify [*or* devastate] them so they would know that I am Yah.’ [[Long story short is; don’t cross Yahweh](#)]

<sup>27</sup> “So, ·human [<sup>T</sup> son of man; [2:1](#)], speak to the ·people [<sup>L</sup> house] of Israel. Say to them, ‘This is what Yah GOD says: Your ·ancestors [fathers] **spoke against** [blasphemed] **me** by being unfaithful to me in another way.

<sup>28</sup> When I had brought them into the land I ·promised [<sup>L</sup> lifted my hand] to give them, they saw every high hill and every leafy tree. There they offered their sacrifices to gods. They brought offerings that ·made me angry [provoked my anger] and burned their incense and poured out their drink offerings. <sup>29</sup> Then I said to them: What is this high place where you go to worship?’” (It is still called ·High Place [<sup>L</sup> Bamah] today.)

<sup>30</sup> “So say to the ·people [<sup>L</sup> house] of Israel: ‘This is what Yah GOD says: Are you going to ·make yourselves unclean [defile yourselves; <sup>C</sup> ritually] as your ·ancestors [fathers] did? Are you going to ·be unfaithful and desire [**prostitute yourselves** with] their ·hateful idols [detestable/abominable things]?’

<sup>31</sup> When you offer your children as gifts and sacrifice them in the fire, you ·are making yourselves unclean [defile yourselves; <sup>C</sup> ritually] with all your idols even today. So, ·people [<sup>L</sup> house] of Israel, should I let you ·ask me questions [consult with me]? As surely as I live, says Yah GOD, I will not ·accept questions from you [let you seek/inquire of me].

<sup>32</sup> “‘What you ·want [*or* plan] will not come true. You say, “We want to be like the other nations, like the ·people [clans; families] in other lands. We want to worship ·idols made of wood and stone [<sup>L</sup> wood and stone].”

<sup>33</sup> As surely as I live, says Yah GOD, ·I will use my great power and strength and anger to [<sup>L</sup> with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm I will; [Deut. 4:34](#); [5:15](#)] ·rule [be king] over you.

<sup>34</sup> I will bring you out from the foreign nations. With ·my great power and strength [<sup>L</sup> a mighty hand and an outstretched arm] and anger I will gather you from the lands where you are scattered. <sup>35</sup> **I will bring you into the ·desert [wilderness] of the ·peoples [nations].** **There I will judge you face to face.** <sup>36</sup> **[I will judge you the same](#)**

way I judged your ·ancestors [fathers] in the ·desert [wilderness] of the land of Egypt, says Yah GOD.

<sup>37</sup> I will ·count you like sheep [<sup>L</sup> make you pass under the rod/shepherd's staff; [Lev. 27:32](#)] and will bring you into ·line with [<sup>L</sup> the bond of] my ·agreement [covenant; treaty]. <sup>38</sup> **I will ·get rid of** [purge out] those who ·refuse to obey me [revolt] and ·who turn [rebel] against me.

**I will bring them out of the land where they are now living, but they will never enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am Yah.**

<sup>39</sup> ““This is what Yah GOD says: People [<sup>L</sup> House] of Israel, go serve your idols for now.

**But later you will** [*or* ...if you will not] listen to me; **you will not continue to ·dishonor** [profane; <sup>C</sup> ritually] **my holy name with your gifts and ·gods** [idols].

<sup>40</sup> [<sup>L</sup> For] On my holy mountain [<sup>C</sup> Mount Zion; [Ps. 2:6](#); [3:4](#); [15:1](#)], the high mountain of Israel, **all** [<sup>L</sup> the house of] Israel will serve me **in the land**, says Yah GOD.

**There I will accept you.**

There **I will ·expect** [require] your offerings [contributions], the first harvest of your offerings [*or* your choicest gifts], and all your holy gifts.

<sup>41</sup> I will accept you like ·the pleasing smell of sacrifices [a pleasing aroma; a fragrant incense; [Ps. 141:2](#)] **when I bring you out from the nations and gather you from the lands where you are scattered.**

Then through you I will ·show how holy I am [manifest/display my holiness] ·so the nations will see [<sup>L</sup> in the eyes/sight of the nations].

<sup>42</sup> When I bring you into the land of Israel, the land I ·promised [swore to] your ancestors, you will know that I am Yah.

<sup>43</sup> **There you will remember** ·everything you did [<sup>L</sup> your ways and deeds] that ·made you unclean [defiled you; <sup>C</sup> ritually], and then you will hate [despise; loathe] yourselves for all the evil things you have done.



<sup>44</sup> I will deal with you for the sake of my name, **not because of your evil ways or unclean [corrupt] actions**. Then you will know I am Yah, ·people [<sup>L</sup>house] of Israel, says Yah GOD.”

### Babylon, Yah’s Sword

<sup>45</sup> Now Yah spoke his word [<sup>L</sup>word of Yah came] to me, saying: <sup>46</sup> “Human [<sup>T</sup>Son of man; [2:1](#)], ·look [<sup>L</sup>set your face] toward the south. Prophecy against the south and against the ·forest [*or* shrubland] of the ·southern area [<sup>L</sup>Negev].

<sup>47</sup> Say to that ·forest [*or* shrubland]: ‘Hear the word of Yah. This is what Yah GOD says: I am ready to start a fire in you that will destroy all your green trees and all your dry trees. The flames that burn will not be put out.

Every face from south to north will ·feel their heat [*or* be scorched by it]. <sup>48</sup> Then all ·the people [<sup>L</sup>flesh] will see that I, Yah, have ·started the fire [kindled it]. It will not be ·put out [extinguished].”

<sup>49</sup> Then I said, “Ah, AhaYah GOD! **The people are saying** about me, ‘**He is only** [<sup>L</sup>Isn’t he just...?] **telling ·stories** [parables].”

### The Great Congregation

1. What is the meaning of the “Great Congregation?”
2. When can we expect the great congregation; is it in heaven or earth?
3. What people will make up, or be in the “Great Congregation?”
4. Does receiving your reward spoken of in Daniel **finish this**

#### [Daniel 12 King James Version](#)

And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which stands for the children of your people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time your people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

<sup>2</sup> And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

<sup>3</sup> And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

<sup>4</sup> But you, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

<sup>5</sup> Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river.

<sup>6</sup> And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?

<sup>7</sup> And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that lives for ever that it shall be for a **time**, [1] times, [2] and an half; [½] [[Equaling 3 ½ years](#)] and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.

<sup>8</sup> And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Yah, what shall be the end of these things?

<sup>9</sup> And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

<sup>10</sup> Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.

<sup>11</sup> And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that make desolate set up, there shall be a **thousand two hundred and ninety days**.

<sup>12</sup> Blessed is **he that waits**, and cometh to the **thousand three hundred and five and thirty** [1335] days.

<sup>13</sup> But go you your way till the end be: for you shall rest, and stand in your lot at the end of the days.

### The Time of the End

#### [Daniel 12 The Clear Word](#)

Gabriel continued, “At that time, Michael, the Great Prince who protects Yah’s people, **will finish His work in heaven** and bring all things to an end. [[What work in heaven?](#)] Engrave upon the stone 7 eyes]

### [Zechariah 3:9](#)

For behold the **stone** that I have laid before Joshua; upon one **stone** shall be **seven** eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith Yah of hosts, and **I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day**. Ezekiel 4:6 a day for a year

### [Continuing Daniel 12](#)

But before he comes, there will be a time of trouble such as there never has been since there first were nations, even up to that time. That's when Yah's people will be delivered, everyone whose name is written in His book [[Malachi 3:16](#)]

### [Malachi 3:16](#)

Then they that feared Yah of Hosts spoke often one to another: and Yah of Hosts hearkened, and heard it, and a book of **remembrance** was written before him for them that feared Yah of Hosts, and that thought upon his name.

## **The Great Congregation [Notes]**

- [Judges 21:5](#)

And the children of Israel said, Who is there among all the tribes of Israel that came not up with the **congregation** unto Yah of Hosts? For they had made a **great** oath concerning him that came not up to Yah of Hosts to Mizpeh, saying, He shall surely be put to death.

### [Judges 21 Living Bible](#)

The leaders of Israel had vowed at Mizpah never to let their daughters marry a man from the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2</sup> And now the Israelites leaders met at Bethel and sat before Yah until evening, weeping/crying bitterly.

<sup>3</sup> “O Yah God of Israel,” they cried out, “why has this happened, that now one of our tribes is missing?”

<sup>4</sup> The next morning they were up early and built an altar, and offered sacrifices and peace offerings on it. <sup>5</sup> And they said among themselves, “Was any tribe of Israel not represented when we held our council before Yah of Hosts at Mizpah?” For at that time it was agreed by solemn oath that anyone who refused to come must die. <sup>6</sup> There was deep sadness throughout all Israel for the loss of their brother tribe, Benjamin.

“Gone,” they kept saying to themselves, “gone—an entire tribe of Israel has been cut off and is gone.<sup>7</sup> And how shall we get wives for the few who remain, since we have sworn by Yah of Hosts that we will not give them our daughters?”

<sup>8-9</sup> Then they thought again of their oath to kill anyone who refused to come to Mizpah and discovered that no one had attended from Jabesh-gilead.<sup>10-12</sup> So they sent 12,000 of their best soldiers to destroy the people of Jabesh-gilead. All the men, married women, and children were slain, but the young virgins of marriageable age were saved. There were 400 of these, and they were brought to the camp at Shiloh.

<sup>13</sup> Then Israel sent a peace delegation to the little remnant of the men of Benjamin at Rimmon Rock.<sup>14</sup> The 400 girls were given to them as wives, and they returned to their homes; but there were not enough of these girls for all of them.<sup>15</sup> (What a sad time it was in Israel in those days because Yah of Hosts had made a breach in the tribes of Israel.)

<sup>16</sup> “What shall we do for wives for the others, since all the women of the tribe of Benjamin are dead?” the leaders of Israel asked.<sup>17</sup> “There must be some way to get wives for them, so that an entire tribe of Israel will not be lost forever.<sup>18</sup> But we can’t give them our own daughters. We have sworn with a solemn oath that anyone who does this shall be cursed of Yah.”

<sup>19</sup> Suddenly someone thought of the annual religious festival held in the fields of Shiloh, between Lebonah and Bethel, along the east side of the road that goes from Bethel to Shechem.

<sup>20</sup> They told the men of Benjamin who still needed wives, “Go and hide in the vineyards,<sup>21</sup> and when the girls of Shiloh come out for their dances, rush out and catch them and take them home with you to be your wives!<sup>22</sup> And when their fathers and brothers come to us in protest, we will tell them, ‘Please be understanding and let them have your daughters, for we didn’t find enough wives for them when we destroyed Jabesh-gilead, and you couldn’t have given your daughters to them without being guilty.’”

<sup>23</sup> So the men of Benjamin did as they were told and kidnapped the girls who took part in the celebration, and carried them off to their own land. Then they rebuilt their cities and lived in them.<sup>24</sup> So the people of Israel returned to their homes.

<sup>25</sup> (There was no king in Israel in those days, and every man did whatever he thought was right.)

- [1 Kings 8:65](#)

And at that time Solomon held a feast, and all Israel with him, a **great congregation**, from the entering in of Hamath unto the river of Egypt, before Yah of Hosts our God, seven days and seven days, even fourteen days.

### [1 Kings 8 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition](#)

1 Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the chiefs of the fathers' houses of the Israelites, before the king in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of Yah of Hosts out of Zion, the City of David.

<sup>2</sup> All the men of Israel assembled themselves before King Solomon at the feast in the seventh month, Ethanim.

<sup>3</sup> All the elders of Israel came, and the priests took up the ark.

<sup>4</sup> And they brought up the ark of Yah of Hosts, the Tent of Meeting, **and all the holy vessels that were in the tent**; the priests and the Levites brought them up.

<sup>5</sup> King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel who had assembled before him were with him before the ark, sacrificing sheep and oxen, so many that they could not be reported or counted.

<sup>6</sup> And the priests brought the ark of the covenant of Yah of Hosts to its place in the **Holy of Holies** of the house, under the wings of the cherubim.

<sup>7</sup> For the **cherubim** spread forth their two wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubim covered the ark and its poles.

<sup>8</sup> The poles were so long that the ends of them were seen from the Holy Place before the Holy of Holies, but they were not seen outside; they are there to this day.

<sup>9</sup> There was nothing in the ark except the **two tables of stone which Moses put there at Horeb**, where Yah of Hosts *made a covenant with the Israelites when they came out of the land of Egypt*.

<sup>10</sup> When the priests had come out of the Holy Place, the cloud filled Yah of Host's house,

<sup>11</sup> So the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of Yah of Hosts had filled Yah of Host's house.

<sup>12</sup> Then Solomon said, Yah of Hosts said that He would dwell in the thick darkness.

<sup>13</sup> I have surely built You a house of habitation, a settled place for You to dwell in forever.

<sup>14</sup> And the king turned his face about and blessed all the assembly of Israel, and all the assembly of Israel stood.

<sup>15</sup> He said, Blessed be Yah of Hosts, the God of Israel, Who spoke with His mouth to David my father and has with His hand fulfilled it, saying,

<sup>16</sup> Since the day that I brought forth My people Israel out of Egypt, I chose no city out of all the tribes of Israel in which to build a house that My Name [and My Presence] might be in it, but I chose David to be over My people Israel.

**<sup>17</sup> Now it was in the heart of David my father to build a house for the Name [the Presence] of Yah of Hosts, the God of Israel.**

<sup>18</sup> And Yah of Hosts said to David my father, Whereas **it was in your heart** to build a house for My Name, you did well that it was in your heart.

<sup>19</sup> Yet you shall not build the house, but your son, who shall be born to you, shall build it to My Name [and My actively present Person].

<sup>20</sup> And Yah of Hosts has fulfilled His promise which He made: I have risen up in the place of David my father, and sit on the throne of Israel, as Yah of Hosts promised, and have built a house for the Name (renown) of Yah of Hosts, the God of Israel.

<sup>21</sup> And I have made there a place for the ark [the token of <sup>[a]</sup>His presence], in which is the covenant [the Ten Commandments] of Yah of Hosts which He made with our fathers when He brought them out of the land of Egypt.

<sup>22</sup> Then Solomon stood [in the court] before Yah of Host's burnt offering altar in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven

<sup>23</sup> And he said, O Yah, the God of Israel, there is no God like You in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and showing mercy *and* **loving-kindness to Your servants who walk before You with all their heart.**

<sup>24</sup> You have kept what You promised Your servant David my father. You also spoke with Your mouth and have fulfilled it with Your hand, as it is this day.

<sup>25</sup> Therefore now, O Yah, the God of Israel, keep with Your servant David my father what You promised him when You said, There shall not fail you a man before Me to sit on the throne of Israel, **if only your children take heed to their way, that they walk before Me as you have done.** You wont know written on tablets of hearts

<sup>26</sup> Now, O God of Israel, let Your word which You spoke to Your servant David my father be confirmed [by experience].

<sup>27</sup> But will God indeed dwell with men on the earth? Behold, the heavens and heaven of heavens [in its most extended compass] cannot contain You; how much less this house that I have built?

<sup>28</sup> Yet graciously consider the prayer and supplication of Your servant, O Yah my God, to hearken to the [loud] cry and prayer which he prays before You today,

<sup>29</sup> That Your eyes may be open toward **this house night and day, toward the place** of which You have said, **My Name [and the token of My presence]** shall be there, that You may hearken to the prayer which Your servant shall make in [or facing toward] this place.

<sup>30</sup> Hearken to the prayer of Your servant and of Your people Israel when they pray in *or* toward this place. **Hear in heaven, Your dwelling place, and when You hear, forgive.**

<sup>31</sup> Whenever a man sins against his neighbor and is made to take an oath and comes and swears the oath before Your altar in this house,

<sup>32</sup> Then hear in heaven and do and judge Your servants, condemning the wicked by bringing his guilt upon his own head and justifying the [uncompromisingly] righteous by rewarding him according to his righteousness (his uprightness, right standing with Yah).

<sup>33</sup> When Your people Israel are struck down before the enemy because they have sinned against You, **and they turn again to You,** confess Your <sup>[b]</sup>name (Your revelation of Yourself), and pray, beseeching You in this house,

<sup>34</sup> Then hear in heaven and forgive the sin of Your people Israel **and return them to the land You gave to their fathers.**

<sup>35</sup> **When heaven is shut up and no rain falls because** they have sinned against You, if they pray in [or toward] this place and confess Your name (Your revelation of Yourself) ***and turn from their sin when You afflict them,***

<sup>36</sup> Then hear in heaven and forgive the sin of Your servants, **Your people Israel, when You teach them the good way in which they should walk.** And give rain upon Your land which You have given to Your people as an inheritance.

<sup>37</sup> If there is famine in the land or pestilence, blight, mildew, locust, or caterpillar, if their enemy besieges them in the land of their cities, whatever plague, whatever sickness there is,

<sup>38</sup> Whatever prayer or supplication **is made by any or all of Your people Israel**—each man knowing the affliction of his own heart, and spreading forth his hands toward this house [and its pledge of Your presence]—

<sup>39</sup> Then hear in heaven, Your dwelling place, and forgive and act and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart You know, for You and You only know the hearts of all the children of men,

<sup>40</sup> That they may fear *and* revere You all the days that they live in the land which You gave to our fathers.

<sup>41</sup> Moreover, concerning a stranger who is not of Your people Israel but comes from a far country for the sake of Your name [and Your active Presence]—

<sup>42</sup> For they will hear of Your great name (Your revelation of Yourself), Your strong hand, and outstretched arm—when he shall pray in [or toward] this house,

<sup>43</sup> Hear in heaven, Your dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger asks of You, so that all peoples of the earth may know Your name [and <sup>[e]</sup>Your revelation of Your presence] and fear *and* revere You, as do Your people Israel, and may know *and* comprehend that this house which I have built is called by Your Name [and contains the token of Your presence].

<sup>44</sup> If Your people go out to battle against their enemy, wherever You shall send them, and shall pray to Yah of Hosts toward the city which You have chosen and the house that I have built for Your Name [and Your revelation of Yourself],



<sup>45</sup> Then hear in heaven their prayer and supplication, and defend their cause *and* maintain their right.

<sup>46</sup> If they sin against You—for there is no man who does not sin—and You are angry with them and deliver them to the enemy, so that they are carried away captive to the enemy's land, far or near;

<sup>47</sup> Yet if they think *and* consider in the land where they were carried captive, and repent and make supplication to You there, saying, We have sinned and have done perversely and wickedly;

<sup>48</sup> If they repent *and* turn to You with all their mind and with all their heart **in the land of their enemies** who took them captive, and pray to You toward their land which You gave to their fathers, the city which You have chosen, and the house which I have built for Your Name;

<sup>49</sup> Then hear their prayer and their supplication in heaven, Your dwelling place, and **defend their cause and maintain their right.**

<sup>50</sup> And forgive Your people, who have sinned against You, and all their transgressions against You, **and grant them compassion before those who took them captive**, that they may have pity and be merciful to them;

<sup>51</sup> For they are Your people and Your heritage, which You brought out of Egypt, from the midst of the iron furnace.

<sup>52</sup> Let Your eyes be open to the supplication of Your servant and of Your people Israel, to hearken to them in all for which they call to You.

<sup>53</sup> ***For You separated them from among all the peoples of the earth to be Your heritage***, as You declared through Moses Your servant when You brought our fathers out of Egypt, O Yah God.

<sup>54</sup> When Solomon finished offering all this prayer and supplication to Yah of Hosts, he arose from before Yah of Host's altar, where he had knelt with hands stretched toward heaven.

<sup>55</sup> And he stood and blessed all the assembly of Israel with a loud voice, saying,

<sup>56</sup> Blessed be Yah of Hosts, Who has **given rest** to His people Israel, according to all that He promised. Not one word has failed of all His good promise which He promised through Moses His servant.

<sup>57</sup> **May Yah of Hosts our God be with us as He was with our fathers**; may He not leave us or forsake us,

<sup>58</sup> That He may incline our hearts to Him, to walk in all His ways and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His precepts which He commanded our fathers.

<sup>59</sup> Let these my words, with which I have made supplication before Yah of Hosts, be near to Yah of Hosts our God day and night, that He may maintain the cause *and* right of His servant and of His people Israel **as each day requires**,

<sup>60</sup> That all the earth's people may know that Yah of Hosts is God and that there is no other.

<sup>61</sup> Let your hearts therefore be blameless *and* wholly true to Yah of Hosts our God, to walk in His statutes and to keep His commandments, as today.

<sup>62</sup> And the king and all Israel with him offered sacrifice before Yah of Hosts.

<sup>63</sup> Solomon offered as peace offerings to Yah of Hosts: 22,000 oxen and 120,000 sheep. So the king and all the Israelites dedicated the house of Yah of Hosts.

<sup>64</sup> On that same day the king consecrated the middle of the court that was before Yah of Host's house; there he offered burnt offerings, cereal offerings, and the fat of the peace offerings, because the bronze altar that was before Yah of Hosts was too small to receive [all] the offerings.

<sup>65</sup> So at that time Solomon held the feast, and all Israel with him, **a great assembly**, from the entrance of Hamath to the Brook of Egypt, before Yah of Hosts our God, **for seven days** [for the dedication] and seven days [for the Feast of Tabernacles], fourteen days in all.

<sup>66</sup> On the **eighth day** he sent the people away; they blessed the king and went to their tents with greatest joy and gratitude for all the goodness Yah of Hosts had shown to David His servant and Israel His people.

#### *Footnotes*

1. [1 Kings 8:21](#) Yah acknowledged the ark as a token of His presence (Matthew Henry, *Commentary on the Holy Bible*). The ark of the covenant is the pledge of the divine gracious presence, and the cloud that filled the house (1 Kings 8:10) is the sign that Yahweh will dwell here (J.P. Lange, *A Commentary*).
2. [1 Kings 8:33](#) See footnote on Exod. 3:15.
3. [1 Kings 8:43](#) See footnote on Exod. 3:15.

- [1 Chronicles 29:1](#)

Furthermore David the king said unto all the **congregation**, Solomon my son, whom alone God hath chosen, is yet young and tender, and the work is **great**: for the palace is not for man, but for Yah of Hosts God.

## [1 Chronicles 29 Good News Translation](#)

### **Gifts for Building the Temple**

<sup>1</sup> King David announced to the whole assembly: “My son Solomon is the one whom Yah has chosen, but he is still young and lacks experience. The work to be done is tremendous, because this is not a palace for people but a temple for Yah of Hosts God.

<sup>2</sup> I have made every effort to prepare materials **for the Temple**—gold, silver, bronze, iron, timber, precious stones and gems, stones for mosaics, and quantities of marble.

<sup>3</sup> Over and above all this that I have provided, I have given silver and gold from my personal property because of my love for Yah's Temple. <sup>4</sup> I have given 115 tons of the finest gold and 265 tons of pure silver for decorating the walls of the Temple <sup>5</sup> and for all the objects which the skilled workers are to make. Now who else is willing to give a generous offering to Yah of Hosts?”

<sup>6</sup> Then the heads of the clans, the officials of the tribes, the commanders of the army, and the administrators of the royal property volunteered to give <sup>7</sup> ***the following for the work on the Temple: 190 tons of gold, 380 tons of silver, 675 tons of bronze, and 3,750 tons of iron.***

<sup>8</sup> Those who had precious stones gave them to the Temple treasury, which was administered by Jehiel of the Levite clan of Gershon. <sup>9</sup> The people had given willingly to Yah of Hosts, and they were Joyous that so much had been given. King David also was extremely Joyous.

### **David Praises Yah**

<sup>10</sup> There in front of the whole assembly King David praised Yah of Hosts. He said, “YAH God of our ancestor Jacob, may you be praised forever and ever! <sup>11</sup> You are great and powerful, glorious, splendid, and majestic. **Everything in heaven and earth is yours**, and you are king, supreme ruler over all. <sup>12</sup> All riches and wealth come from you; you rule everything by your strength and power; and you are able to make anyone great and strong. <sup>13</sup> Now, our Yah, we give you thanks, and we praise your glorious name.

<sup>14</sup>“Yet my people and I cannot really give you anything, because everything is a gift from you, and we have only given back what is yours already. <sup>15</sup> You know, O YAH, that we pass through life like exiles and strangers, as our ancestors did. Our days are like a passing shadow, and we cannot escape death.

<sup>16</sup> O YAH, our God, we have brought together all this wealth to build a temple to honor your holy name, but it all came from you and all belongs to you. <sup>17</sup> I know that you test everyone's heart and are pleased with people of integrity. In honesty and sincerity I have willingly given all this to you, and I have seen how your people who are gathered here have been Joyous to bring offerings to you.

<sup>18</sup> YAH God of our ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, keep such devotion forever strong in your people's hearts and keep them always faithful to you. <sup>19</sup> Give my son Solomon a wholehearted desire to obey everything that you command and to build the Temple for which I have made these preparations.”

<sup>20</sup> Then David commanded the people, “Praise Yah of Hosts your God!” And the whole assembly praised Yah of Hosts, the God of their ancestors, and they bowed low and gave honor to Yah of Hosts and also to the king.

<sup>21</sup> The following day they killed animals as sacrifices, dedicating them to Yah of Hosts, **and then gave them to the people to eat.**

In addition, they sacrificed a thousand bulls, a thousand rams, and a thousand lambs, which they burned whole on the altar. They also brought the offerings of wine. <sup>22</sup> So that day they were very Joyous as they ate and drank in the presence of Yah of Hosts.

For a second time they proclaimed Solomon king. In the name of Yah of Hosts they anointed him as their ruler and Zadok as priest. <sup>23</sup> So Solomon succeeded his father David on the throne which Yah of Hosts had established. He was a successful king, and the whole nation of Israel obeyed him.

<sup>24</sup> All the officials and soldiers, and even all of David's other sons, promised to be loyal to Solomon as king. <sup>25</sup> Yah of Hosts made the whole nation stand in awe of Solomon, and he made him more glorious than any other king that had ruled Israel.

### **Summary of David's Reign**

<sup>26</sup> David son of Jesse ruled over all Israel <sup>27</sup> for **forty years.** He ruled in Hebron for seven years and in Jerusalem for thirty-three. <sup>28</sup> He died at a ripe old age, wealthy and respected, and his son Solomon succeeded him as king. <sup>29</sup> The history of King David from beginning to end is recorded in the records of the three prophets, Samuel,

Nathan, and Gad. <sup>30</sup> The records tell how he ruled, how powerful he was, and all the things that happened to him, to Israel, and to the surrounding kingdoms.

- [2 Chronicles 7:8](#)

Also at the same time Solomon kept the feast seven days, and all Israel with him, a very **great congregation**, from the entering in of Hamath unto the river of Egypt.

### [2 Chronicles 7 Lexham English Bible](#)

#### **Yah Answers with Fire from Heaven**

And when Solomon finished praying, then fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of Yahweh filled the house. [**QUESTION**, **who else prayed and fire came down from Heaven** – *Hint* [Elijah](#)]

<sup>2</sup> And the priests were not able to go into the house of Yahweh, for the glory of Yahweh had filled the house. <sup>3</sup> When all the *Israelites*<sup>[a]</sup> saw the fire come down and the glory of Yahweh upon the house, they knelt down *with their* faces to the ground on the pavement and worshiped and gave thanks to Yahweh, for *he is* good, for his loyal love *is* everlasting.

#### **The Temple Dedication**

<sup>4</sup> Then the king and all the people were offering a sacrifice before Yahweh. <sup>5</sup> And King Solomon offered a sacrifice of twenty-two thousand cattle and one hundred and twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all the people dedicated the house of Yah.

<sup>6</sup> And the priests stood at their posts with the Levites, with the instruments of the song of Yahweh that King David had made to give thanks to Yahweh—for his loyal love *is* everlasting—whenever David offered praise by their hand. Now the priests sounded trumpets *standing* opposite them, and all Israel stood.

<sup>7</sup> And Solomon consecrated the middle of the courtyard that *was* before the house of Yahweh, for there he had made the burnt offerings and the fat of the fellowship offerings, for the bronze altar that Solomon had made was not able to hold the burnt offerings, cereal offerings, and the fat.

<sup>8</sup> And Solomon held<sup>[b]</sup> a feast at that time *of* seven days. And all Israel *was* with him, a very great assembly, from Lebo-Hamath to the river of Egypt.

<sup>9</sup> And on the **eighth day** they made a solemn assembly, for they held<sup>[c]</sup> the dedication of the altar seven days and the feast seven days. <sup>10</sup> And on the twenty-third day of the seventh month he sent the people away to their tents rejoicing and festive of heart on account of the goodness that Yahweh had done for David, Solomon, and Israel his people.

<sup>11</sup> And Solomon finished the house of Yahweh and the house of the king. And all that came into the heart of Solomon to do with respect to the house of Yahweh and his own house he accomplished.

### **Yahweh's Charge to Solomon**

<sup>12</sup> Then Yahweh appeared to Solomon at night and said to him, "I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a house of sacrifice.

<sup>13</sup> When I hold back the heavens so that there **is not rain**, and when I command the locust to devour the earth, and if I send disease among my people, <sup>14</sup> *then if* my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and will pray and will **seek my face** and will turn from their evil ways, then I myself shall hear from the heavens and will forgive their sins and heal their land.

<sup>15</sup> Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer of this place. <sup>16</sup> And now I have chosen and consecrated this house for my name to be there forever. My eyes and my heart will be there *for all time*.<sup>[d]</sup>

<sup>17</sup> Now *as for* you, if you will walk before me as David your father walked and do according to all that I have commanded you and will keep my ordinances and judgments, <sup>18</sup> then I will establish the throne of your kingdom as I promised<sup>[e]</sup> to David your father, saying, 'A man shall not be cut off for you *from* ruling over Israel.'

<sup>19</sup> "But if you turn yourselves away and forsake my ordinances and my commandments which I have given before you *all* and will go and serve other gods and bow down to them, <sup>20</sup> then I will uproot them from upon my land that I have given to them, and this house that I have consecrated for my name I will send away from before my face, and I will make it a proverb and a taunt among all the nations.

<sup>21</sup> And *as for* this house, which was exalted, all who pass by it will be appalled and will say, 'Why has Yahweh done thus to this land and to this house?' <sup>22</sup> Then they will say, 'Because they forsook Yahweh, the God of their ancestors,<sup>[f]</sup> who brought them out from the land of Egypt, and *they* laid hold of other gods and worshiped them and served them. Therefore he has brought upon them all this evil.'"

## Footnotes

1. [2 Chronicles 7:3](#) Literally “sons/children of Israel”
2. [2 Chronicles 7:8](#) Or “made”
3. [2 Chronicles 7:9](#) Or “made”
4. [2 Chronicles 7:16](#) Literally “all the days”
5. [2 Chronicles 7:18](#) Or “covenanted”
6. [2 Chronicles 7:22](#) Or “fathers”

- [2 Chronicles 30:13](#)

And there assembled at Jerusalem much people to keep the feast of unleavened bread in the second month, a very **great congregation**.

## [2 Chronicles 30 Living Bible](#)

King Hezekiah now sent letters throughout all of Israel, Judah, Ephraim, and Manasseh, inviting everyone to come to the Temple at Jerusalem for the annual Passover celebration.<sup>2-3</sup> The king, his aides, and all the assembly of Jerusalem had voted to celebrate the Passover in May this time, rather than at the normal time in April, because not enough priests were sanctified at the earlier date, and there wasn't enough time to get notices out.

<sup>4</sup> The king and his advisors were in complete agreement in this matter,<sup>5</sup> so they sent a Passover proclamation throughout Israel, from Dan to Beersheba, inviting everyone. They had not kept it in great numbers as prescribed.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>6</sup> “Come back to Yah of Hosts God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel,” the king's letter said, “so that he will return to us who have escaped from the power of the kings of Assyria.<sup>7</sup> Do not be like your fathers and brothers who sinned against Yah of Hosts God of their fathers and were destroyed.

<sup>8</sup> Do not be stubborn, as they were, but yield yourselves to Yah of Hosts and come to his Temple which he has sanctified forever, and worship Yah of Hosts your God so that his fierce anger will turn away from you.<sup>9</sup> For if you turn to Yah of Hosts again, your brothers and your children will be treated mercifully by their captors, and they will be able to return to this land. For Yah of Hosts your God is full of kindness and mercy and will not continue to turn away his face from you if you return to him.”

<sup>10</sup> So the messengers went from city to city throughout Ephraim and Manasseh and as far as Zebulun. But for the most part they were received with laughter and scorn!

<sup>11</sup> However, some from the tribes of Asher, Manasseh, and Zebulun turned to Yah and



came to Jerusalem. <sup>12</sup> But in Judah the entire nation felt a strong, Yah-given desire to obey Yah of Host's direction as commanded by the king and his officers.

<sup>13</sup> And so it was that a very large crowd assembled at Jerusalem in the month of May for the Passover celebration. <sup>14</sup> They set to work and destroyed the heathen altars in Jerusalem, and knocked down all the incense altars, and threw them into Kidron Brook.

<sup>15</sup> On the first day of May the people killed their Passover lambs. Then the priests and Levites became ashamed of themselves for not taking a more active part, so they sanctified themselves and brought burnt offerings into the Temple. <sup>16</sup> They stood at their posts as instructed by the law of Moses the man of Yah; and the priests sprinkled the blood received from the Levites.

<sup>17-19</sup> Since many of the people arriving from Ephraim, Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun were ceremonially impure because they had not undergone the purification rites, the Levites killed their Passover lambs for them, to sanctify them. Then King Hezekiah prayed for them, and they were permitted to eat the Passover anyway, even though this was contrary to Yah's rules. But Hezekiah said, "**May the good Yahweh pardon everyone who determines to follow Yah of Hosts God of his fathers**, even though he is not properly sanctified for the ceremony." <sup>20</sup> And Yah of Hosts listened to Hezekiah's prayer and did not destroy them.

<sup>21</sup> So the people of Israel celebrated the Passover at Jerusalem for seven days with great joy.

Meanwhile the Levites and priests praised Yah of Hosts with music and cymbals day after day. <sup>22</sup> (King Hezekiah spoke very appreciatively to the Levites of their excellent music.)

So for seven days the observance continued, and peace offerings were sacrificed, and the people confessed their sins to Yah of Hosts God of their fathers. <sup>23</sup> The enthusiasm continued, so it was unanimously decided to continue the observance for another seven days. <sup>24</sup> King Hezekiah gave the people 1,000 young bulls for offerings and 7,000 sheep; and the princes donated 1,000 young bulls and 10,000 sheep. And at this time another large group of priests stepped forward and sanctified themselves.

<sup>25</sup> Then the people of Judah, together with the priests, the Levites, the foreign residents, and the visitors from Israel, were filled with deep joy. <sup>26</sup> For Jerusalem hadn't seen a celebration like this one since the days of King David's son Solomon. <sup>27</sup> Then the priests and Levites stood and blessed the people, and Yah of Hosts heard their prayers from his holy temple in heaven.



## Footnotes

1. [2 Chronicles 30:5](#) *They had not kept it in great numbers as prescribed, or “The Passover had not been celebrated by the northern tribes of Israel for a long time; only a faithful few had been doing it in the proper way.”*

- [2 Chronicles 30:24](#)

For Hezekiah king of Judah did give to the **congregation** a thousand bullocks and seven thousand sheep; and the princes gave to the **congregation** a thousand bullocks and ten thousand sheep: and a **great** number of priests sanctified themselves.

## 2 Chronicles 30 YAH’S WORD Translation

### Hezekiah Celebrates **The Passover**

Hezekiah sent a message to all Israel and Judah and wrote letters to the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh. He invited them to come to Yah of Host’s temple in Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover of Yah of Hosts God of Israel.

<sup>2</sup> The king, his officials, and the whole assembly in Jerusalem decided to celebrate the Passover in the second month. <sup>3</sup> They couldn’t celebrate it at the regular time because not enough priests had performed the ceremonies to make themselves holy and the people hadn’t gathered in Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup> The king and the whole assembly considered their plan to be the right thing to do.

<sup>5</sup> So they decided to send an announcement throughout Israel from Beersheba to Dan. They summoned everyone to come to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover of Yah of Hosts God of Israel. These people had not celebrated it in large numbers as the written instructions said they should.

<sup>6</sup> Messengers took letters from the king and his officials throughout Israel and Judah. The king’s order said, “Israelites, return to Yah of Hosts God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel. Then he will return to the few of you who escaped from the power of the kings of Assyria.

<sup>7</sup> Don’t be like your ancestors and your relatives who were unfaithful to Yah of Hosts God of their ancestors. He made them something that shocks people, as you have seen. <sup>8</sup> Don’t be impossible to deal with like your ancestors. Reach out for Yah of Hosts. Come to his holy place that he made holy forever. Serve Yah of Hosts your God, and he will turn his burning anger away from you.

<sup>9</sup> When you return to Yah of Hosts, your relatives and children will find compassion from those who captured them. They will return to this land. Yah of Hosts your God is merciful and compassionate. He will not turn his face away from you if you return to him.”

<sup>10</sup> So the messengers went from city to city in the territories of Ephraim and Manasseh, as far as Zebulun. But the people ridiculed them. <sup>11</sup> However, some people from Asher, Manasseh, and Zebulun humbled themselves and came to Jerusalem.

<sup>12</sup> Also, Yah guided the people of Judah so that they united to carry out the command which the king and the leaders gave from Yah of Host’s word.

<sup>13</sup> Many people gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate the Festival of Unleavened Bread in the second month. They formed a large assembly.

<sup>14</sup> Then the people got rid of the idols’ altars in Jerusalem. They got rid of all the altars for incense by dumping them in the [Kidron Valley](#).

<sup>15</sup> They slaughtered the Passover lamb on the fourteenth day of the second month. The priests and Levites were ashamed, so they performed the ceremonies to make themselves holy. Then they brought burnt offerings to Yah of Host’s temple.

<sup>16</sup> They stood in their regular places as instructed by Moses’ Teachings. (Moses was a man of Yah.) The priests sprinkled the blood they received from the Levites. <sup>17</sup> Many people in the assembly had not made themselves holy.

So the Levites had to kill the Passover lambs for all who weren’t clean<sup>[a]</sup> and couldn’t make their lambs holy for Yah of Hosts.

<sup>18</sup> Many people from Ephraim, Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun had not made themselves clean.

So they ate the Passover, but not in the way the written instructions said they should. Hezekiah prayed for them: “May the good YAHWEH forgive <sup>19</sup> those who have their hearts set on dedicating their lives to serving God.

May Yah of Hosts God of their ancestors do this for those who are not clean as required for the holy place.” <sup>20</sup> Yah of Hosts listened to Hezekiah and healed the people.

<sup>21</sup> So the Israelites in Jerusalem celebrated the Festival of Unleavened Bread for seven days with great joy. Each day the Levites and priests praised Yah of Hosts in song.

They played Yah of Host's instruments loudly. <sup>22</sup> Hezekiah spoke encouraging words to all the Levites who had the skills to serve Yah of Hosts. They ate the festival meals for seven days, sacrificed fellowship offerings, and confessed their sins to Yah of Hosts God of their ancestors.

<sup>23</sup> Then the whole assembly decided to celebrate the festival for seven more days. So they joyfully celebrated for seven more days. <sup>24</sup> King Hezekiah of Judah provided **1,000 bulls** and **7,000 sheep** as sacrifices for the assembly. The leaders provided **1,000 bulls** and **10,000 sheep** for the assembly. *So a large number of priests were able to perform the ceremonies to make themselves holy.*

<sup>25</sup> The whole assembly from Judah, the priests, the Levites, the whole assembly from Israel, the foreigners who came from Israel, and those who lived in Judah rejoiced.

<sup>26</sup> The city of Jerusalem was filled with joy. Nothing like this had happened in Jerusalem since the days of King Solomon of Israel.

<sup>27</sup> Then the Levitical priests blessed the people. Their voices were heard, and their prayers went to Yah's holy place in heaven.

#### *Footnotes*

1. [30:17](#) "Clean" refers to anything that Moses' Teachings say is presentable to God.

- [Ezra 10:1](#)

Now when Ezra had prayed, and when he had confessed, weeping and casting himself down before the house of Yah, there assembled unto him out of Israel a very **great congregation** of men and women and children: for the people wept very sore.

#### [Ezra 10 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition](#)

Now while Ezra prayed and made confession, weeping and casting himself down before the house of Yah, there gathered to him out of Israel a very great assembly of men, women, and children; for the people wept bitterly.

<sup>2</sup> And Shecaniah [II] son of Jehiel [one of the congregation], of the sons of Elam, said to Ezra: We have broken faith *and* dealt treacherously against our God and have **married foreign women of the peoples of the land**; yet now **there is still hope for Israel in spite of this thing.**

<sup>3</sup> Therefore let us make a covenant with our God to put away all the foreign wives and their children, according to the counsel of Yahweh and of those who tremble at the command of our God; and let it be done according to the Law.

<sup>4</sup> Arise, for it is your duty, and we are with you. Be strong *and* brave and do it.

<sup>5</sup> Then Ezra arose and made the chiefs of the priests, the Levites, and all Israel swear that they would do as had been said. So they took the oath.

<sup>6</sup> Then Ezra came from before the house of Yah and went into the lodging place of Jehohanan son of Eliashib [for the night]. There he ate no bread and drank no water, for he mourned over the returned exiles' faithlessness [and violation of Yah's law].

<sup>7</sup> And proclamation was made throughout Judah and Jerusalem to all the returned exiles, that they should assemble in Jerusalem,

<sup>8</sup> And that whoever did not come within **three days**, by order of the officials and the elders, all his property should be forfeited and he himself banned from the assembly of the exiles.

<sup>9</sup> Then all the men of Judah and Benjamin gathered at Jerusalem **within three days**. It was the twentieth day of the ninth month, and all the people sat in the open space before the house of Yah, trembling because of this matter and because of the heavy rain.

<sup>10</sup> And Ezra the priest stood up and said to them, You have acted wickedly *and* broken faith [with Yah] and have married foreign (heathen) women, increasing the guilt of Israel.

<sup>11</sup> So now make confession *and* give thanks to Yahweh, the God of your fathers [for not consuming you], and do His will. <sup>[a]</sup>Separate yourselves from the peoples of the land and from [your] foreign (heathen) wives.

<sup>12</sup> Then all the assembly answered with a loud voice, As you have said, so must we do.

<sup>13</sup> **But the people are many** and it is a time of heavy rain; we cannot stand outside. Nor can this work be done in a day or two, for we have greatly transgressed in this matter.

<sup>14</sup> Let our officials stand for the whole assembly; let all in our cities who have foreign wives come by appointment, and with each group the elders of that city and its judges, until the fierce wrath of our God over this matter is turned away from us.

<sup>15</sup> Only Jonathan son of Asahel and Jahzeiah son of Tikvah opposed this, and Meshullam and Shabbethai the Levite supported them.

<sup>16</sup> Then the returned exiles did so. Ezra the priest and certain heads of fathers' houses were selected, according to their fathers' houses, each of them by name; and they sat down on the first day of the tenth month to investigate the matter.

<sup>17</sup> And by the first day of the first month they had come to the end of the cases of the men married to foreign wives.

<sup>18</sup> Of the sons of the priests who had married non-Jewish women were found: of the sons of Jeshua [the high priest] son of Jozadak, and his brethren: Maaseiah, Eliezer, Jarib, and Gedaliah.

<sup>19</sup> They solemnly vowed to put away their [heathen] wives, and, being guilty, [each] offered a ram of the flock for [his] guilt.

<sup>20</sup> Of the sons of Immer: Hanani and Zebadiah.

<sup>21</sup> Of the sons of Harim: Maaseiah, Elijah, Shemaiah, Jehiel, and Uzziash.

<sup>22</sup> Of the sons of Pashhur: Elioenai, Maaseiah, Ishmael, Nethanel, Jozabad, and Elasaah.

<sup>23</sup> Of the Levites: Jozabad, Shimei, Kelaiah (Kelita), Pethahiah, Judah, and Eliezer.

<sup>24</sup> Of the singers: Eliashib. Of the gatekeepers: Shallum, Telem, and Uri.

<sup>25</sup> And of Israel: of the sons of Parosh: Ramiah, Izziah, Malchijah, Mijamin, Eleazar, Malchijah (Hashabiah), and Benaiah.

<sup>26</sup> Of the sons of Elam: Mattaniah, Zechariah, Jehiel, Abdi, Jeremoth, and Elijah.

<sup>27</sup> Of the sons of Zattu: Elioenai, Eliashib, Mattaniah, Jeremoth, Zabad, and Aziza.

<sup>28</sup> Of the sons also of Bebai: Jehohanan, Hananiah, Zabbai, and Athlai.

<sup>29</sup> Of the sons of Bani: Meshullam, Malluch, Adaiah, Jashub, Sheal, and Jeremoth.

<sup>30</sup> Of the sons of Pahath-moab: Adna, Chelal, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattaniah, Bezalel, Binnui, and Manasseh.

<sup>31</sup> Of the sons of Harim: Eliezer, Isshijah, Malchijah, Shemaiah, Shimeon,

<sup>32</sup> Benjamin, Malluch, and Shemariah.

<sup>33</sup> Of the sons of Hashum: Mattenai, Mattattah, Zabad, Eliphelet, Jeremai, Manasseh, and Shimei.

<sup>34</sup> Of the sons of Bani: Maadai, Amram, Uel,

<sup>35</sup> Benaiah, Bedeiah, Cheluhi (Cheluhu),

<sup>36</sup> Vaniah, Meremoth, Eliashib,

<sup>37</sup> Mattaniah, Mattenai, Jaasu [Jaasai],

<sup>38</sup> Bani, Binnui, Shimei,

<sup>39</sup> Shelemiah, Nathan, Adaiiah,

<sup>40</sup> Machnadebai, Shashai, Sharai,

<sup>41</sup> Azarel, Shelemiah, Shemariah,

<sup>42</sup> Shallum, Amariah, and Joseph.

<sup>43</sup> Of the sons of Nebo: Jeiel, Mattithiah, Zabad, Zebina, Iddo (Jaddai), Joel, and Benaiah.

<sup>44</sup> All these had married foreign women, and some of the wives had borne children.

### *Footnotes*

1. [Ezra 10:11](#) The apparently great severity which characterized Ezra's divorce policy, as shown in chapters 9 and 10, becomes thoroughly justified when Israel's tragic experiences because of marriages with **heathen/gentile women** are considered. The consequent idolatry, first of King Solomon, for example, and then of the whole nation, was fatal.

Yah's wrath had been so great that He not only took the kingship from Solomon, but eventually turned the Israelites over to their enemies and left the promised land desolate, while the people bewailed their fate as captives **in a heathen country**.

Ezra, to whom the keeping of Yah's law was of constant concern, had been born in captivity among exiles who hung their harps on the willow trees and grieved for the country, for the peace and prosperity which their now justly offended Yahweh had once given them.

Nothing could have been more abhorrent to Ezra than that the Hebrews should again fall into the snare of idolatry. His action in leading the exiles to give up their foreign

wives and their children was the only way out if Yah's consuming wrath was not again to be incurred.

That those still living of the 42,360 men who over eighty years before had made up the congregation ([Ezra 2:64](#)) also saw complete separation from the foreign women as the unavoidable solution is obvious from the fact that only four ([Ezra 10:15](#)) spoke against it.

However, those who were now actually married to native heathen women were only 17 priests, 10 Levites, and 86 laymen—113 in all, according to the records, though the list may be incomplete.

- [Nehemiah 8:17](#)

**And all the congregation of them** that were come again out of the captivity made booths, and sat under the booths: for since the days of Jeshua the son of Nun unto that day had not the children of Israel done so. And there was very **great** gladness.

### [Nehemiah 8 Living Bible](#)

<sup>1-5</sup> Now, in mid-September, all the people assembled at the plaza in front of the Water Gate and requested Ezra, their religious leader, to read to them the law of Yah, which he had given to Moses.

So Ezra the priest brought out to them the scroll of Moses' laws. He stood on a wooden stand made especially for the occasion so that everyone could see him as he read. He faced the square in front of the Water Gate and read from early morning until noon.

Everyone stood up as he opened the scroll. And all who **were old enough to understand** paid close attention. To his right stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiyah, and Maaseiah. To his left were Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hash-baddenah, Zechariah, and Meshullam.

<sup>6</sup> Then Ezra blessed Yah of Hosts, the great God, and all the people said, "Hallelujah," and lifted their hands toward heaven; then they bowed and worshiped Yah of Hosts with their faces toward the ground.

<sup>7-8</sup> As Ezra read from the scroll, Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiyah, and the Levites went among the people<sup>[a]</sup> and explained the meaning of the passage that was being read.

<sup>9</sup> All the people began sobbing when they heard the commands of the law.

Then Ezra the priest, and I as governor, and the Levites who were assisting me said to them, “Don’t cry on such a day as this! For today is a sacred day before Yah of Hosts your God—<sup>10</sup> it is a time to celebrate with a hearty meal and to send presents to those in need, for the joy of Yah of Hosts is your strength. You must not be dejected and sad!”

<sup>11</sup> And the Levites, too, quieted the people, telling them, “That’s right! Don’t weep! For this is a day of holy joy, not of sadness.”

<sup>12</sup> So the people went away to eat a festive meal and to send presents; it was a time of great and joyful celebration because they could hear and understand Yah’s words.

<sup>13</sup> The next day the clan leaders and the priests and Levites met with Ezra to go over the law in greater detail. <sup>14</sup> As they studied it, they noted that Yahweh had told Moses that the people of Israel should live in tents during the Festival of Tabernacles to be held that month.

<sup>15</sup> He had said also that a proclamation should be made throughout the cities of the land, especially in Jerusalem, telling the people to go to the hills to get branches from olive, myrtle, palm, and fig trees and to make huts in which to live for the duration of the feast.

<sup>16</sup> So the people went out and cut branches and used them to build huts on the roofs of their houses, or in their courtyards, or in the court of the Temple, or on the plaza beside the Water Gate, or at the Ephraim Gate Plaza.

<sup>17</sup> They lived in these huts for the **seven days of the feast**, and everyone was filled with joy! (This procedure had not been carried out since the days of Joshua.) <sup>18</sup> Ezra read from the scroll on each of the **seven days** of the feast, and on the **eighth day** there was a solemn closing service as required by the laws of Moses.

#### *Footnotes*

1. [Nehemiah 8:7](#) *the Levites went among the people*, literally, “while the people remained in their places.”

- [Psalm 22:25](#)

My praise shall be of thee in the **great congregation**: I will pay my vows before them that fear him.



## Psalm 22 Good News Translation

### **A Cry of Anguish and a Song of Praise<sup>[a]</sup>**

My Yah, my God, why have you abandoned me?  
I have cried desperately for help,  
but still it does not come.

<sup>2</sup> During the day I call to you, my God,  
but you do not answer;  
I call at night,  
but get no rest.

<sup>3</sup> But you are enthroned as the Holy One,  
the one whom Israel praises.

<sup>4</sup> Our ancestors put their trust in you;  
they trusted you, and you saved them.

<sup>5</sup> They called to you and escaped from danger;  
they trusted you and were not disappointed.

<sup>6</sup> But I am no longer a human being; I am a worm,  
despised and scorned by everyone!

<sup>7</sup> All who see me make fun of me;  
they stick out their tongues and shake their heads.

<sup>8</sup> “You relied on Yah of Hosts,” they say.  
“Why doesn't he save you?

If Yah of Hosts likes you,  
why doesn't he help you?”

<sup>9</sup> It was you who brought me safely through birth,  
and when I was a baby, you kept me safe.

<sup>10</sup> I have relied on you since the day I was born,  
and you have always been my God.

<sup>11</sup> Do not stay away from me!  
Trouble is near,  
and there is no one to help.

<sup>12</sup> Many enemies surround me like bulls;  
they are all around me,

- like fierce bulls from the land of Bashan.
- <sup>13</sup> They open their mouths like lions,  
roaring and tearing at me.
- <sup>14</sup> My strength is gone,  
gone like water spilled on the ground.  
All my bones are out of joint;  
my heart is like melted wax.
- <sup>15</sup> My throat<sup>[b]</sup> is as dry as dust,  
and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth.  
You have left me for dead in the dust.
- <sup>16</sup> An evil gang is around me;  
like a pack of dogs they close in on me;  
they tear at<sup>[c]</sup> my hands and feet.
- <sup>17</sup> All my bones can be seen.  
My enemies look at me and stare.
- <sup>18</sup> They gamble for my clothes  
and divide them among themselves.
- <sup>19</sup> O Yah, don't stay away from me!  
Come quickly to my rescue!
- <sup>20</sup> Save me from the sword;  
save my life from these dogs.
- <sup>21</sup> Rescue me from these lions;  
I am helpless<sup>[d]</sup> before these wild bulls.
- <sup>22</sup> **I will tell my people what you have done;**  
I will praise you in their assembly [**Congregation**]:
- <sup>23</sup> “Praise him, you servants of Yah of Hosts!  
Honor him, you descendants of Jacob!  
Worship him, you people of Israel!
- <sup>24</sup> He does not neglect the poor or ignore their suffering;  
he does not turn away from them,  
but answers when they call for help.”
- <sup>25</sup> In the **full assembly** [**Great Congregation**] I will praise you for what you have  
done;

**in the presence of those who worship you**  
**I will offer the sacrifices I promised.** Hosea 9<sup>th</sup> chapter

<sup>26</sup> The poor will eat as much as they want;  
those who come to Yah of Hosts will praise him.  
May they prosper forever!

<sup>27</sup> All nations will remember Yah of Hosts.  
**From every part of the world they will turn to him;**  
**all races will worship him.**

<sup>28</sup> Yah of Hosts is king,  
and he rules the nations.

<sup>29</sup> All proud people will bow down to him;<sup>[e]</sup>  
all mortals will bow down before him.

<sup>30</sup> **Future generations** will serve him;  
they will speak of Yah of Hosts **to the coming generation.**

<sup>31</sup> People **not yet born** will be told:  
“Yah of Hosts saved his people.”

**Footnotes**

1. [Psalm 22:1](#) HEBREW TITLE: A psalm by David.
2. [Psalm 22:15](#) Probable text throat; Hebrew strength.
3. [Psalm 22:16](#) Some ancient translations they tear at; others they tie; Hebrew like a lion.
4. [Psalm 22:21](#) Some ancient translations I am helpless; Hebrew you answered me.
5. [Psalm 22:29](#) Probable text will bow down to him; Hebrew will eat and bow down.

• [Psalm 35:18](#)

I will give you thanks in the **great congregation**: I will praise you among much people.

**Psalm 35 Living Bible**

**O Yah, fight those fighting me;** declare war on them for their attacks on me.

<sup>2</sup> Put on your armor, take your shield and protect me by standing in front. <sup>3</sup> Lift your spear in my defense, for my pursuers are getting very close. Let me hear you say that you will save me from them.

<sup>4</sup> Dishonor those who are trying to kill me. Turn them back and confuse them. <sup>5</sup> Blow them away like chaff in the wind—wind sent by the Angel of Yah of Hosts. <sup>6</sup> Make their path dark and slippery before them, with the Angel of Yah of Hosts pursuing them. <sup>7</sup> For though I did them no wrong, yet they laid a trap for me and dug a pitfall in my path.

<sup>8</sup> Let them be overtaken by sudden ruin, caught in their own net and destroyed.

<sup>9</sup> But I will rejoice in Yah of Hosts. He shall rescue me!

<sup>10</sup> From the bottom of my heart praise rises to him. Where is his equal in all of heaven and earth? Who else protects the weak and helpless from the strong, and the poor and needy from those who would rob them?

<sup>11</sup> These evil men swear to a lie. They accuse me of things I have never even heard about.

<sup>12</sup> I do them good, but they return me harm. I am sinking down to death. <sup>13</sup> When they were ill, I mourned before Yah of Hosts in sackcloth, asking him to make them well; I refused to eat; I prayed for them with utmost earnestness, but Yah did not listen.

<sup>14</sup> I went about sadly as though it were my mother, friend, or brother who was sick and nearing death.

<sup>15</sup> But now that I am in trouble they are glad; they come together in meetings filled with slander against me—I didn't even know some of those who were there. <sup>16</sup> For they gather with the worthless fellows of the town and spend their time cursing me.

<sup>17</sup> Yah, how long will you stand there, doing nothing? Act now and rescue me, for I have but one life and these young lions are out to get it. <sup>18</sup> Save me, and I will thank you publicly before the entire congregation, before the largest crowd I can find.

<sup>19</sup> Don't give victory to those who fight me without any reason! Don't let them rejoice<sup>[a]</sup> at my fall—let them die. <sup>20</sup> They don't talk of peace and doing good, but of plots against innocent men who are minding their own business. <sup>21</sup> They shout that they have seen *me* doing wrong! "Aha!" they say. "With our own eyes we saw him do it." <sup>22</sup> Yah, you know all about it. Don't stay silent! Don't desert me now!

<sup>23</sup> Rise up, O Yah my God; vindicate me. <sup>24</sup> Declare me "not guilty," for you are just.<sup>[b]</sup> Don't let my enemies rejoice over me in my troubles.

<sup>25</sup> Don't let them say, "Aha! Our dearest wish against him will soon be fulfilled!" and, "At last we have him!" <sup>26</sup> Shame them; let these who boast against me and who rejoice at my troubles be themselves overcome by misfortune that strips them bare of everything they own. Bare them to dishonor.

<sup>27</sup> But give great joy to all who wish me well. Let them shout with delight, "Great is Yah of Hosts who enjoys helping his child!"<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>28</sup> And I will tell everyone how great and good you are; I will praise you all day long.

## Footnotes

1. [Psalm 35:19](#) *rejoice*, literally, “wink with the eye.”
2. [Psalm 35:24](#) *Declare me “not guilty,” for you are just*, literally, “Judge me according to your righteousness.”
3. [Psalm 35:27](#) *child*, literally, “servant.”

- [Psalm 40:9](#)

I have preached righteousness in the **great congregation**: lo, I have not refrained my lips, O Yah, you know.

## Isaiah 40 Good News Translation

### Words of Hope

<sup>1</sup>“Comfort my people,” says our God. “Comfort them!

<sup>2</sup>Encourage the people of Jerusalem.  
Tell them they have suffered long enough  
and their sins are now forgiven.<sup>[a]</sup>

I have punished them in full for all their sins.”

<sup>3</sup>A voice cries out,  
“Prepare in the wilderness a road for Yah of Hosts!  
Clear the way in the desert for our God!

<sup>4</sup>Fill every valley;  
level every mountain.  
The hills will become a plain,  
and the rough country will be made smooth.

<sup>5</sup>Then the glory of Yah of Hosts **will be revealed**,  
and all people will see it.  
Yah of Hosts himself has promised this.”

<sup>6</sup>A voice cries out, “Proclaim a message!”  
**“What message shall I proclaim?” I ask.**  
“Proclaim that all human beings are like grass;  
they last no longer than wild flowers.

<sup>7</sup>Grass withers and flowers fade  
when Yah of Hosts sends the wind blowing over them.

People are no more enduring than grass.

<sup>8</sup> Yes, grass withers and flowers fade,  
but **the word of our God** endures forever.”

<sup>9</sup> Jerusalem, go up on a high mountain  
and proclaim the good news!  
Call out with a loud voice, Zion;  
announce the good news!<sup>[b]</sup>

Speak out and do not be afraid.  
Tell the towns of Judah  
that their God is coming!

<sup>10</sup> The Sovereign Yah is coming to rule with power,  
bringing with him the people he has rescued.<sup>[c]</sup>

<sup>11</sup> He will take care of his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs together  
and carry them in his arms;  
he will gently lead their mothers.

### **Israel's Incomparable God**

<sup>12</sup> Can anyone measure the ocean by handfuls  
or measure the sky with his hands?  
Can anyone hold the soil of the earth in a cup  
or weigh the mountains and hills on scales?

<sup>13</sup> Can anyone tell Yah of Hosts what to do?  
Who can teach him or give him advice?

\*\*\*\*\*

**In this life that we are living in, and also shall we say for those of us that have already passed away; WHEN we fill we can't take another step forward, then please consider↓**

**Book of Job Notes for verse→ [Isaiah 40:13](#) in this study guide:**

**“There I will Accept You.”**

Job 40 New International Version

<sup>1</sup>Yah of Hosts said to Job:

<sup>2</sup>“Will the one who contends with the Almighty correct him?  
Let him who accuses Yah answer him!”

<sup>3</sup>Then Job answered Yah of Hosts:

<sup>4</sup>“I am unworthy—how can I reply to you?  
I put my hand over my mouth.

<sup>5</sup>I spoke once, but I have no answer—  
twice, but I will say no more.”

<sup>6</sup>Then Yah of Hosts spoke to Job out of the storm:

<sup>7</sup>“Brace yourself like a man;  
I will question you,  
and you shall answer me.

<sup>8</sup>“Would you discredit my justice?  
Would you condemn me to justify yourself?

<sup>9</sup>Do you have an arm like Yah’s,  
and can your voice thunder like his?

<sup>10</sup>Then adorn yourself with glory and splendor,  
and clothe yourself in honor and majesty.

<sup>11</sup>Unleash the fury of your wrath,  
look at all who are proud and bring them low,

<sup>12</sup>look at all who are proud and humble them,  
crush the wicked where they stand.

<sup>13</sup>Bury them all in the dust together;  
shroud their faces in the grave.

<sup>14</sup>Then I myself will admit to you  
that your own right hand can save you.

<sup>15</sup>“Look at Behemoth,  
which I made along with you  
and which feeds on grass like an ox.

<sup>16</sup>What strength it has in its loins,  
what power in the muscles of its belly!

<sup>17</sup>Its tail sways like a cedar;

the sinews of its thighs are close-knit.  
<sup>18</sup> Its bones are tubes of bronze,  
its limbs like rods of iron.  
<sup>19</sup> **It ranks first among the works of Yah,**  
yet its Maker can approach it with his sword.  
<sup>20</sup> The hills bring it their produce,  
and all the wild animals play nearby.  
<sup>21</sup> Under the lotus plants it lies,  
hidden among the reeds in the marsh.  
<sup>22</sup> The lotuses conceal it in their shadow;  
the poplars by the stream surround it.  
<sup>23</sup> A raging river does not alarm it;  
it is secure, though the Jordan should surge against its mouth.  
<sup>24</sup> Can anyone capture it by the eyes,  
or trap it and pierce its nose?

### [Job 38 New International Version](#)

#### **Yah of Hosts Speaks**

Then Yah of Hosts spoke to Job out of the storm. He said:

<sup>2</sup> “Who is this that obscures [disguises, confuses] my plans  
with **words without knowledge**?

<sup>3</sup> Brace yourself like a man;  
**I will question you,**  
**and you shall answer me.**

<sup>4</sup> “Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation?  
Tell me, if you understand.

<sup>5</sup> Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!  
Who stretched a measuring line across it?



<sup>6</sup> On what were its footings set,  
or who laid its cornerstone—  
<sup>7</sup> while the morning stars sang together  
and all the angels<sup>[a]</sup> shouted for joy?

<sup>8</sup> “Who shut up the sea behind doors  
when it burst forth from the womb,  
<sup>9</sup> when I made the clouds its garment  
and wrapped it in thick darkness,  
<sup>10</sup> when I fixed limits for it  
and set its doors and bars in place,  
<sup>11</sup> when I said, ‘This far you may come and no farther;  
here is where your proud waves halt’?

<sup>12</sup> “Have you ever given orders to the morning,  
or shown the dawn its place,  
<sup>13</sup> that it might take the earth by the edges  
and shake the wicked out of it?  
<sup>14</sup> The earth takes shape like clay under a seal;  
its features stand out like those of a garment.  
<sup>15</sup> The wicked are denied their light,  
and their upraised arm is broken.

<sup>16</sup> “Have you journeyed to the springs of the sea  
or walked in the recesses of the deep?  
<sup>17</sup> Have the gates of death been shown to you?  
Have you seen the gates of the deepest darkness?  
<sup>18</sup> Have you comprehended the vast expanses of the earth?  
Tell me, if you know all this.

<sup>19</sup> “What is the way to the abode of light?  
And where does darkness reside?  
<sup>20</sup> Can you take them to their places?  
Do you know the paths to their dwellings?  
<sup>21</sup> Surely you know, for you were already born!  
You have lived so many years!

<sup>22</sup> “Have you entered the storehouses of the snow  
or seen the storehouses of the hail,  
<sup>23</sup> which I reserve for times of trouble,

for days of war and battle?  
24 What is the way to the place where the lightning is dispersed,  
or the place where the east winds are scattered over the earth?  
25 Who cuts a channel for the torrents of rain,  
and a path for the thunderstorm,  
26 to water a land where no one lives,  
an uninhabited desert,  
27 to satisfy a desolate wasteland  
and make it sprout with grass?  
28 **Does the rain have a father?**  
Who fathers the drops of dew?  
29 From whose womb comes the ice?  
Who gives birth to the frost from the heavens  
30 when the waters become hard as stone,  
when the surface of the deep is frozen?  
31 “Can you bind the chains<sup>[b]</sup> of the Pleiades?  
Can you loosen Orion’s belt?  
32 Can you bring forth the constellations in their seasons<sup>[c]</sup>  
or lead out the Bear<sup>[d]</sup> with its cubs?  
33 Do you know the laws of the heavens?  
**Can you set up Yah’s<sup>[e]</sup> dominion over the earth?**  
34 “Can you raise your voice to the clouds  
and cover yourself with a flood of water?  
35 Do you send the lightning bolts on their way?  
Do they report to you, ‘Here we are’?  
36 Who gives the ibis (*Tropical wading bird*) wisdom<sup>[f]</sup>  
or gives the rooster understanding?<sup>[g]</sup>  
37 Who has the wisdom to count the clouds?  
Who can tip over the water jars of the heavens  
38 when the dust becomes hard  
and the clods of earth stick together?  
39 “Do you hunt the prey for the lioness  
and satisfy the hunger of the lions  
40 when they crouch in their dens  
or lie in wait in a thicket?  
41 Who provides food for the raven

when its young cry out to Yah  
and wander about for lack of food?

### Footnotes

1. [Job 38:7](#) Hebrew *the sons of God*
2. [Job 38:31](#) Septuagint; Hebrew *beauty*
3. [Job 38:32](#) Or *the morning star in its season*
4. [Job 38:32](#) Or *out Leo*
5. [Job 38:33](#) Or *their*
6. [Job 38:36](#) That is, wisdom about the flooding of the Nile
7. [Job 38:36](#) That is, understanding of when to crow; the meaning of the Hebrew for this verse is uncertain.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Resuming Isaiah 40:14-31

<sup>14</sup> With whom does Yah consult  
in order to know and understand  
and to learn how things should be done?

<sup>15</sup> To Yah of Hosts the nations are nothing,  
no more than a drop of water;  
the distant islands are as light as dust.

<sup>16</sup> All the animals in the forests of Lebanon  
are not enough for a sacrifice to our God,  
and its trees are too few to kindle the fire.

<sup>17</sup> The nations are nothing at all to him.

<sup>18</sup> To whom can Yah be compared?  
How can you describe what he is like?

<sup>19</sup> He is not like an idol that workers make,  
that metalworkers cover with gold  
and set in a base of silver.

<sup>20</sup> Anyone who cannot afford silver or gold<sup>[d]</sup>  
chooses wood that will not rot.

He finds a skillful worker  
to make an image that won't fall down.

<sup>21</sup> Do you not know?  
Were you not told long ago?  
Have you not heard how the world began?

<sup>22</sup> It was made by the one who sits on his throne  
above the earth and beyond the sky;  
the people below look as tiny as ants.

He stretched out the sky like a curtain,  
like a tent in which to live.

<sup>23</sup> He brings down powerful rulers  
and reduces them to nothing.

<sup>24</sup> They are like young plants,  
just set out and barely rooted.  
When Yah of Hosts sends a wind,  
they dry up and blow away like straw.

<sup>25</sup> To whom can the holy Yah be compared?  
Is there anyone else like him?

<sup>26</sup> Look up at the sky!  
Who created the stars you see?  
The one who leads them out like an army,  
he knows how many there are  
and calls each one by name!  
His power is so great—  
not one of them is ever missing!

<sup>27</sup> Israel, why then do you complain  
that Yah of Hosts doesn't know your troubles  
or care if you suffer injustice?

<sup>28</sup> Don't you know? Haven't you heard?  
Yah of Hosts is the everlasting God;  
he created all the world.  
He never grows tired or weary.  
No one understands his thoughts.

<sup>29</sup> He strengthens those who are weak and tired.

<sup>30</sup> Even those who are young grow weak;  
young people can fall exhausted.

<sup>31</sup> But those who trust in Yah of Hosts for help  
will find their strength renewed.

**They will rise on wings like eagles;**  
they will run and not get weary;  
they will walk and not grow weak.

#### *Footnotes*

1. [Isaiah 40:2](#) and their sins are now forgiven; or they have paid for what they did.
2. [Isaiah 40:9](#) Jerusalem, go up ... news!; or Go up on a high mountain and proclaim the good news to Jerusalem! Call out with a loud voice and announce the good news to Zion!
3. [Isaiah 40:10](#) the people he has rescued; or the rewards he has for his people.
4. [Isaiah 40:20](#) Verses 19-20a in Hebrew are unclear.

- [Psalm 40:10](#)

I have not hid your righteousness within my heart; I have declared your faithfulness and your salvation: I have not concealed your lovingkindness and your truth from the **great congregation**.

### [Psalm 40 Good News Translation](#)

#### **A Song of Praise<sup>[a]</sup>**

I waited patiently for Yahweh's help;  
then he listened to me and **heard my cry**.

<sup>2</sup> He pulled me out of a dangerous pit,  
out of the deadly quicksand.

He set me safely on a rock  
and made me secure.

<sup>3</sup> He taught me to sing a new song,  
a song of praise to our God.  
Many who see this will take warning  
and will put their trust in Yahweh.

<sup>4</sup> Joyous are those who trust Yahweh,  
who do not turn to idols  
or join those who worship false gods.

<sup>5</sup> You have done many things for us, O Yah our God;  
there is no one like you!

**You have made many wonderful plans for us.**

I could never speak of them all—  
their number is so great!

<sup>6</sup> **You do not want sacrifices and offerings;**  
**you do not ask for animals burned whole on the altar**  
**or for sacrifices to take away sins.**

Instead, you have given me ears to hear you,

<sup>7</sup> and so I answered, “**Here I am;**

your instructions for me are **in the book of the Law.** <sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>8</sup> How I love to do your will, my God!  
I keep your teaching in my heart.”

<sup>9</sup> In the assembly of all your people, YAH,  
I told the good news that you save us.  
You know that I will never stop telling it.

<sup>10</sup> I have not kept the news of salvation to myself;  
I have always spoken of your faithfulness and help.  
In the assembly of all your people I have not been silent  
about your loyalty and constant love.

<sup>11</sup> YAH, I know you will never stop being merciful to me.  
Your love and loyalty will always keep me safe.

### A Prayer **for Help**

<sup>12</sup> I am surrounded by many troubles—  
too many to count!

**My sins have caught up with me,**  
**and I can no longer see;**

they are more than the hairs of my head,  
and I have lost my courage.

<sup>13</sup> Save me, YAH! Help me now!

<sup>14</sup> May those who try to kill me  
be completely defeated and confused.

May those who are Joyous because of my troubles  
be turned back and disgraced.

<sup>15</sup> May those who make fun of me  
be dismayed by their defeat.

<sup>16</sup> May all who come to you  
be glad and joyful.  
May all who are thankful for your salvation  
always say, “How great is Yahweh!”

<sup>17</sup> **I am weak and poor**, O Yah,  
but you have not forgotten me.  
**You are my savior** and my God—  
hurry to my aid!

### *Footnotes*

1. [Psalm 40:1](#) HEBREW TITLE: A psalm by David.
2. [Psalm 40:7](#) your instructions ... Law; or my devotion to you is recorded in your book.

### Continuing Daniel 12:2 The Clear Word

2Many who sleep in their graves will be resurrected to see His coming, some to everlasting life, but some to shame and everlasting contempt. 3 Those who understood and ACTED wisely will shine as the brightness of the firmament/sky, and those who led many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever. You need to stop writing now, Daniel, and roll up the scroll.

What is written will be sealed and will not be fully understood until the time of the end when many will open the scroll, and interest in the prophecies will increase. There will also be great advances in knowledge, and many people will travel back and forth all over the world.” [*In Airplanes*]

## **Incensed/enraged/ furious Against You**

### Isaiah 41 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

1Listen in silence before Me, O islands *and* regions bordering on the sea! And let the people gather *and* renew their strength [for the argument; let them offer their strongest arguments]! Let them come near, then let them speak; let us come near together for judgment [and decide the point at issue between us concerning the enemy advancing from the east].

<sup>2</sup> Who has roused up one [Cyrus] from the east, whom He calls in righteousness to His service *and* whom victory meets at every step? He [Yah of Hosts] subdues nations before him and makes him ruler over kings. He turns them to dust with the sword [of Cyrus], and to driven straw *and* chaff with his bow.

<sup>3</sup> He [Cyrus] pursues them and passes safely *and* unhindered, even by a way his feet had not trod *and* so swiftly that his feet do not touch the ground.

<sup>4</sup> Who has prepared and done this, calling forth *and* guiding the destinies of the generations [of the nations] from the beginning? I, Yah of Hosts—the first [existing before history began] and with the last [an ever-present, unchanging God]—I am He.

<sup>5</sup> The islands *and* coastlands have seen and fear; the ends of the earth tremble. They draw near and come;

<sup>6</sup> They help every one his neighbor and say to his brother [in his tiresome idol making], Be of good courage!

<sup>7</sup> So the carpenter encourages the goldsmith, *and* he who smooths [the metal] with the hammer [encourages] him who smites the anvil, saying of the soldering, That is good! And he fastens it with nails so that it cannot be moved.

<sup>8</sup> **But you, Israel, My servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham My friend,**

<sup>9</sup> You whom I [Yah of Hosts] have taken from the ends of the earth and have called from the corners of it, and said to you, **You are My servant**—**I have chosen you and not cast you off [even though you are exiled].**

#### [Isaiah 49:12 KJV](#)

Behold, these shall come from far: and, lo, these from the **north** and from the **west**; and these from the land of Sinim. [Land of Sinim scholars identify as China]

#### [Isaiah 41:25 KJV](#)

I have raised up one from the north, and he shall come: from the **rising** of the **sun** shall he call upon my name: and he shall come upon princes as upon mortar, and as the potter treadeth clay.

#### [LSB](#)

“I have awakened one from the north, and he has come; From the rising of the sun he will call on My name; And he will come upon officials as *upon* mortar, Even as the potter treads clay.”



Resuming [Isaiah 41 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition](#)

<sup>10</sup> Fear not [there is nothing to fear], for I am with you; do not look around you in terror *and* be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen *and* harden you to difficulties, yes, I will help you; yes, I will hold you up *and* retain you with My [**victorious**] **right hand of rightness** *and* justice.

A QUESTION, what is meant by the wording, “[**victorious**] **right hand**”?

[Isaiah 41:13](#)

For I Yah of Hosts your God will hold your **right hand**, saying unto you, Fear not; I will help you.

What is the meaning of victorious?

**Victorious** means:

- Having conquered in battle or contest; having overcome an enemy or antagonist; conquering; vanquishing; as a **victorious** general; **victorious** troops; a **victorious** admiral or navy. 2. That produces conquest; as a **victorious** day. 3. Emblematic of conquest; indicating victory; as brows bound with **victorious** wreaths. VICTO'RIOUSLY, an adverb (Describes something).

**Strong's Exhaustive Concordance:** Hand (3225) from 3221- to be (physically) right (i.e. firm); but used only as a denom. From (3225) and transitive. To be right handed or ***take the right-hand side***:- the right hand

(3225) to exchange; by implication to change places

[Psalm 16:8](#)KJV

I have set Yah of Hosts always before me: because he is at my **right hand**, I shall not be moved.

[Psalm 110:1](#)KJV

Yah of Hosts said unto my Lord, **Sit** you at my **right hand**, until I make your enemies your footstool.

[MSG](#)

The word of Yah to my Lord: “Sit alongside me here on my throne until I make your enemies a stool for your feet.” You were forged a strong scepter by Yah of Zion; now rule, though surrounded by enemies! Your people will freely join you, resplendent in holy armor on the great day of your conquest, Join you at the fresh break of day, join you with all the vigor of youth.

## [Psalms 2 The Clear Word](#)

**1 Why are the nations so agitated? Why do they plot together against Yah's people? 2 The kings of the earth are ready to fight. They refuse to acknowledge the Sovereignty of Yah or pledge fidelity to His Anointed. 3 They say, "Let us break free from the chains that bind us." 4 But Yah of Heaven is amused at their feeble attempts to escape His sovereignty. 5 He rebukes them by speaking; He frightens them by unleashing nature's power. 6 He says, I have appointed my own King! He [Yah] will set up his thrown in Jerusalem [[Zechariah 14:4](#)] and rule the earth from Mount Zion."**

Joshua means "Anointed" Strong's Concordance meaning (3091) "Yah saves"  
Moses Requests a Successor

[The past Joshua in Moses time was a sign of the Anointed one in the Book of [Daniel Chapter 9 verse 25](#)

[\(Deuteronomy 3:23–29\)](#)

**12** Then Yah of Hosts said to Moses, "Go up this mountain of the Abarim range ([A](#)) and see the land that I have given the Israelites. **13** After you have seen it, you too will be gathered to your people, as your brother Aaron was; **14** for when the congregation contended in the Wilderness of Zin, both of you rebelled against My command to show My holiness in their sight regarding the waters." Those were the waters of Meribah ([B](#)) in Kadesh, in the Wilderness of Zin.

**15** So Moses appealed to Yah of Hosts, **16** "May Yah of Hosts, the God of the spirits of all flesh, appoint a man over the congregation **17** who will go out and come in before them, and who will lead them out and bring them in, so that the congregation of Yah of Hosts will not be like sheep without a shepherd."

Joshua to Succeed Moses

[\(Deuteronomy 31:1–8\)](#)

**18** And Yah of Hosts replied to Moses, "Take Joshua son of Nun, a man with the Spirit in him, and lay your hands on him.

**19** Have him stand before Eleazar the priest and the whole congregation, and commission him in their sight.

**20** Confer on him some of your authority, so that the whole congregation of Israel will obey him.

**21** He shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who will seek counsel for him before Yah of Hosts by the judgment of the Urim. **c** At his command, he and all the Israelites with him—the entire congregation—will go out and come in.”

**22** Moses did as Yah of Hosts had commanded him. He took Joshua, had him stand before Eleazar the priest and the whole congregation, **23** and laid his hands on him and commissioned/appointed him, as Yah of Hosts had instructed through Moses.

### [Zechariah 3:1](#) KJV

And he shewed me **Joshua** the high priest standing before the angel of Yah of Hosts, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him.

<sup>6</sup> And the angel of Yah of Hosts protested unto Joshua, saying,

<sup>7</sup> This says Yah of Hosts of hosts; If you will walk in my ways, and if you wilt keep my charge, then you shall also judge my house, and shall also keep my courts, and I will give you places to walk among these that stand by.

<sup>8</sup> Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you, and your fellows that sit before you: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.

### [Zechariah 3 Living Bible](#)

Then the Angel showed me (in my vision) Joshua the High Priest standing before the Angel of Yah of Hosts; and Satan was there too, at the Angel’s right hand, accusing Joshua of many things.

<sup>2</sup> And Yah of Hosts said to Satan, “I reject your accusations, Satan; <sup>[a]</sup> yes, I, Yah of Hosts, for I have decided to be merciful to Jerusalem—I rebuke you. I have decreed mercy to Joshua and his nation; they are like a burning stick pulled out of the fire.”

<sup>3</sup> Joshua’s clothing was filthy as he stood before the Angel of Yah of Hosts.

<sup>4</sup> Then the Angel said to the others standing there, “Remove his filthy clothing.” And turning to Joshua he said, “See, I have taken away your sins, and now I am giving you these fine new clothes.”

<sup>5-6</sup> Then I said, “Please, could he also have a clean turban on his head?” So they gave him one.

Then the Angel of Yah of Hosts spoke very solemnly to Joshua and said, <sup>7</sup> “Yah of Hosts Almighty declares: **‘If you will follow the paths I set for you and do all I tell you to,**

**then I will put you in charge of my Temple**, to keep it holy; **and I will let you walk in and out of my presence with these angels.**

\***Note:** Joshua in Moses's time represents the [Deuteronomy 18:18](#) end time Moses who is the "Anointed one, after the order of **Melchizedek**; [[Psalms 110:4](#)] both offices of a human King and Priest"

<sup>8</sup> Listen to me, O Joshua the High Priest, and all you other priests, you **are illustrations of the good things to come.** **Don't you see/understand?**—**Joshua represents my servant the Branch**<sup>[b]</sup> **whom I will send.** [Past example; and future example!]

<sup>9</sup> He will be the Foundation Stone of the Temple that Joshua is standing beside, and I will engrave this inscription on it seven times:<sup>[c]</sup> *I will remove the sins of this land in a single day.* [Single year; **a day for a year** [Ezekiel 4:6](#)] <sup>10</sup> And after that, 'Yah of Hosts Almighty declares, 'you will all live in peace and prosperity, and each of you will own a home of your own where you can invite your neighbors.'"

#### **Footnotes**

1. [Zechariah 3:2](#) *I reject your accusations, Satan*, literally, "Yah of Hosts rebuke you, O Satan."
2. [Zechariah 3:8](#) *the Branch*, i.e., the Messiah. [[Daniel 9:25](#) Strong's Concordance (4899)]
3. [Zechariah 3:9](#) *I will engrave this inscription on it seven times*, literally, "See the stone with seven facets I have set before Joshua, and I will engrave its inscription."

**Strong's Concordance (4899)** mashiyach (Means "Anointed One.") from (4886); anointed usually a consecrated person (as a king, priest)

**Strong's Concordance (4886)** to anoint, be anointed

**Strong's Concordance**, - Michael (4317); "Michael "Who is like God? [EL]" 4316; Mica, "Who is like Yahweh? 21<sup>st</sup> Century Strong's Concordance page 4320

#### **Good News Translation**

At that time he will stand on the Mount of Olives, to the east of Jerusalem. Then the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west by a large valley. Half of the mountain will move northward, and half of it southward. [**Yahweh splits the Mount of Olives to park His thrown in the middle of the split mountain to live on earth with His people!**]

#### **Psalm 22 Good News Translation**

<sup>27</sup> All nations will remember Yah of Hosts.

**From every part of the world they will turn to him;**  
**all races will worship him.**

<sup>28</sup> Yah of Hosts is king,  
and he rules the nations.

\*\*\*\*\*

Resuming [Isaiah 41 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition verse 11](#)

<sup>11</sup> Behold, all they who are enraged *and* inflamed against you shall be put to shame and confounded; they who strive against you shall be as nothing and shall perish.

<sup>12</sup> You shall seek those who contend with you but shall not find them; they who war against you shall be as nothing, as nothing at all.

<sup>13</sup> For I Yah of Hosts your God hold **your right hand**; I am Yah of Hosts, Who says to you, Fear not; I will help you!

<sup>14</sup> Fear not, you worm Jacob, you men of Israel! I will help you, says Yah of Hosts; your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>15</sup> Behold, I will make you to be a new, sharp, threshing instrument which has teeth; you shall thresh the mountains and beat them small, and shall make the hills like chaff.

<sup>16</sup> You shall winnow them, and the wind shall carry them away, and the tempest *or* whirlwind shall scatter them. And you shall rejoice in Yah of Hosts, you shall glory in the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>17</sup> The poor and needy are seeking water when there is none; their tongues are parched with thirst. I Yah of Hosts will answer them; I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them.

<sup>18</sup> I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.

<sup>19</sup> I will plant in the wilderness the cedar, the acacia, the myrtle, and the wild olive; I will set the cypress in the desert, the plane [tree] and the pine [tree] together,

<sup>20</sup> That men may see and know and consider and understand together that the hand of Yah of Hosts has done this, that the Holy One of Israel has created it.

<sup>21</sup> [You idols made by men's hands, prove your divinity!] Produce your cause [set forth your case], says Yah of Hosts. Bring forth your strong proofs, says the King of Jacob.

<sup>22</sup> Let them bring them forth and tell us what is to happen. Let them tell us the former things, what they are, that we may consider them and know the outcome of them; **or declare to us the things to come.**

<sup>23</sup> Tell us the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that you are gods; yes, do good or do evil [something or other], that we may stare in astonishment *and* be dismayed as we behold [the miracle] together!

<sup>24</sup> Behold, you [idols] are nothing, and your work is nothing! The worshiper who chooses you is an abomination [extremely disgusting and shamefully vile in Yah's sight].

<sup>25</sup> I have raised up *and* impelled to action one from the north <sup>[a]</sup>[Cyrus], and he comes; from the rising of the sun he calls upon My name [recognizing that his victories have been granted to him by Me]. And he shall tread upon rulers *and* deputies as upon mortar and as the potter treads clay. [He comes with the suddenness of a comet, but none of the idol oracles of the nations has anticipated it.]

<sup>26</sup> [What idol] has declared this from the beginning, that we could know? And beforetime, that we could say that he is [unquestionably] right? Yes, there is none who declares it, yes, there is none who proclaims it; yes, [for the truth is, O you dumb idols] there is none who hears you speak!

<sup>27</sup> I [Yah of Hosts] first gave to Zion the announcement, Behold, [the Hebrews will be restored to their own land, and the man Cyrus shall be raised up who will deliver them] behold them! And to Jerusalem I gave a herald [Isaiah] bringing the good news.

<sup>28</sup> For I look [upon the heathen prophets and the priests of pagan practices] and there is no man among them [who could predict these events], and among these [idols] there is no counselor who, when I ask of him, can answer a word.

<sup>29</sup> Behold, these [pagan prophets and priests] are all emptiness (falseness and futility)! Their works are worthless; their molten images are empty wind (confusion and waste).

#### **Footnotes**

1. [Isaiah 41:25](#) Cyrus came from the east ([Isa. 41:2](#)), but defeated a number of kingdoms north of Babylon early in his reign. Palestinian authors frequently perceived invasions as coming primarily from the north.

**Have a wonderful 2023 Passover Memorial April 5<sup>th</sup> 2023**

**All Praise is unto Yah of Hosts our God!**