

Greetings, today our manna is 2Sam. 24; Gal. 4; Ezekiel 31; Psalms 79.

September 28 - Melchizedek Devotional Perspective

[Note: **For teaching purposes only**, underlines, bold font, and highlight emphasis have been used in PDFs.]

Scripture Source: e-Sword TS2009 unless otherwise noted: <https://www.e-sword.net/>

2Sam. 24

David's Census

2Sa 24:1 And again the displeasure of יהוה' burned against Yisra'ël, and moved Dawid against them to say, **"Go, number Yisra'ël and Yehudah."**

2Sa 24:2 And the sovereign said to Yo'ab the commander of the army who was with him, "Go please, throughout all the tribes of Yisra'ël, from Dan to Be'ërsheba, and register the people, so that I know the number of the people."

2Sa 24:3 And Yo'ab said to the sovereign, "Even if יהוה' your Elohim does add to the people a hundredfold more than there are, and the eyes of my master the sovereign see it, but why does my master the sovereign delight in this matter?"

Yo'ab questions David's motive for taking the census. David responds to him strongly. This census was initiated by David's desire driven by whatever influence and was not commanded by YHWH.

2Sa 24:4 **However, the sovereign's word was strong towards Yo'ab and against the commanders of the army.** And Yo'ab and the commanders of the army went out from the presence of the sovereign to register the people of Yisra'ël.

2Sa 24:5 And they passed over the Yardën and camped in Aro'ër, on the right side of the town which is in the midst of the wadi of Gađ, and toward Ya'zër.

2Sa 24:6 Then they came to Gil'ađ and to the land of Tahtim Hodshi, and they came to Dan Ya'an and around to Tsidon.

2Sa 24:7 And they came to the stronghold of Tsor and to all the cities of the Hiwwites and the Kena'anites, and went out to South Yehudah as far as Be'ërsheba.

2Sa 24:8 **And when they had gone through all the land, they came to Yerushalayim at the end of nine new moons and twenty days.**

2Sa 24:9 And Yo'ab gave the number of the registration of the people to the sovereign, and there were in Yisra'ël eight hundred thousand brave men who drew the sword, and the men of Yehudah were five hundred thousand men.

The Census is completed, and the numbers are reported to King David:
Israel – 800,000 brave men who drew the sword
Judah – 500,000 men

YHWH's Judgment of David's Sin

2Sa 24:10 **And the heart of Dawid struck him after he had numbered the people. And Dawid said to יהוה, "I have sinned greatly in what I have done. But now, I pray, O יהוה, take away the crookedness of Your servant, for I have done very foolishly."**

2Sa 24:11 And Dawid rose up in the morning, and the word of יהוה came to the prophet Gad, Dawid's seer, saying,

2Sa 24:12 "Go, and you shall speak to Dawid, 'Thus said יהוה,'

- "I hold three options before you. Choose one of them, and I do it to you." ' ' "

Gad shares the three options:

2Sa 24:13 **Gad then came to Dawid and informed him. And he said to him,**

- ❖ "Should seven years of scarcity of food come to you in your land?
- ❖ Or would you flee three new moons before your enemies, while they pursue you?
- ❖ Or should there be three days' plague in your land?

Now know and see what answer I take back to Him who sent me."

2Sa 24:14 And Dawid said to Gad, "I am in great trouble. Please let us fall into the hand of יהוה, for His compassion is great, but do not let me fall into the hand of man."

David defers to let YHWH choose knowing His compassion is great.

2Sa 24:15 And יהוה sent a plague upon Yisra'el from the morning till the appointed time, and from Dan to Be'ersheba **seventy thousand men of the people died.**

2Sa 24:16 And the messenger stretched out His hand over Yerushalayim to destroy it, and יהוה relented concerning the evil, and said to the messenger who was destroying the people, "It is enough, now stop Your hand." And the messenger of יהוה was by the threshing-floor of Arawnah the Yebusite.

David intercedes for the people knowing that it was his sin causing the death and suffering. David stands accountable for his sin.

2Sa 24:17 And Dawid spoke to יהוה when he saw the messenger who was striking the people, and said, "See, I have sinned, and I have done perversely. But these sheep, what have they done? Let Your hand, I pray, be against me and against my father's house."

David Builds an Altar

2Sa 24:18 And Gad came that day to Dawid and said to him, "Go up, raise a slaughter-place to יהוה on the threshing-floor of Arawnah the Yebusite."

2Sa 24:19 **And Dawid, according to the word of Gad, went up as יהוה commanded.**

2Sa 24:20 And Arawnah looked and saw the sovereign and his servants coming toward him. And Arawnah went out and bowed before the sovereign with his face to the ground.

2Sa 24:21 And Arawnah said, "Why has my master the sovereign come to his servant?" And Dawid said, "To buy the threshing-floor from you, to build a slaughter-place to יהוה, so that the plague be withdrawn from the people."

2Sa 24:22 And Arawnah said to Dawid, "Let my master the sovereign take and offer that which seems good to him. Here are cattle for ascending offering, and threshing implements and the yokes of the cattle for wood.

2Sa 24:23 "All these, O sovereign, Arawnah has given to the sovereign." And Arawnah said to the sovereign, "יהוה your Elohim accept you!"

2Sa 24:24 And the sovereign said to Arawnah, "No, let me buy it from you for a price, for certain. I am not offering ascending offerings to יהוה my Elohim without cost." So Dawid bought the threshing-floor and the cattle for fifty sheqels of silver.

2Sa 24:25 And Dawid built a slaughter-place to יהוה there, and offered ascending offerings and peace offerings. **And יהוה answered the prayers for the land, and the plague was withdrawn from Yisra'el.**

Galatians 4

The people were enslaved under the Book of the Law that was a 'guardian'. It was imposed on the people after the sin of the golden calf to spare their very lives; UNTIL their Father would send His Son to make legal provisions for adoption as heirs and sons of Elohim.

Sons and Heirs

Gal 4:1 And I say, for as long as the heir is a child, he is no different from a slave, though he is master of all,

Gal 4:2 **but is under guardians and trustees till the time prearranged by the**

father.

Gal 4:3 **So we also**, when we were children, were under the elementary matters of the world, being enslaved.

Gal 4:4 But when **the completion of the time came**, Elohim sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under Torah [Book of the Law],

Gal 4:5 **to redeem those who were under Torah** [Book of the Law], in order to receive the adoption as sons.

Gal 4:6 And because you are sons, Elohim has sent forth **the Spirit of His Son into your hearts**, crying, "Abba, Father!"

Gal 4:7 So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, also an heir of Elohim through Messiah.

Paul shares concern for the Galatians, as to us in our day, not to turn back and enslave themselves under the Book of the Law; but to live by the blood ratified Covenant. NONE OF HIS WORD is 'done away with'. We do not walk in lawlessness but in Covenant! All His Word is valuable, but His Word must be rightly divided and followed; knowing clearly that there has been a change in priesthood thus also a change in law (Hebrews 7:12). A change indicates a shift, a transition. All should be very cautious and study His Word closely and accurately.

Heb 10:29 **How much worse punishment** do you think shall he deserve who has trampled the Son of Elohim underfoot, counted the **blood of the covenant** by which he was set apart as common, and insulted the Spirit of favor?

Paul's Concern for the Galatians

Gal 4:8 But then, indeed, not knowing Elohim, you served those which by nature are not mighty ones.

Gal 4:9 **But now after you have known Elohim, or rather are known by Elohim, how do you turn again to the weak and poor elementary matters,^a to which you wish to be enslaved again?** Footnote: ^aSee Gal 4:3, Col 2:8 and Col 2:20.

Gal 4:10 You closely observe days and months and seasons and years.

Paul feared they were slipping back into Pharisaical Legalism, a mechanical ritualistic approach rather than a spiritual approach through faith in Yahusha HaMashiac. Paul is not stating that we shouldn't keep YHWH's feasts for Paul himself kept several feasts that are mentioned in the Book of Acts.

YHWH's feasts are His wedding rehearsals with His bride. We walk in sanctification daily but we set-apart His feasts to commune as one body in Him. Yahusha fulfilled the spring feasts yet He is coming again to receive His bride. YHWH moves according to His calendar based on His appointed times. To know Yahusha is to know His feasts and their significance. All of His feasts have future fulfillment yet to come!

If a person doesn't recognize that the Lamb of YHWH came as our Passover Lamb once and for all; yet continues in observance of the feasts according to the Book of the Law with animal sacrifices, they are actually trampling on the blood of Yahusha.

Gal 4:11 I fear for you, lest by any means I have labored for you in vain.

Gal 4:12 Brothers, I beg you to become as I am, because I am as you are. You did not wrong me at all.

Gal 4:13 But you know that through weakness of the flesh I brought the Good News to you before.

Gal 4:14 And my trial which was in my flesh you did not despise or reject, but you received me as a messenger of Elohim, as Messiah **יהושע**.

Gal 4:15 What then was your blessedness? For I bear you witness, that if possible, you would have plucked out your own eyes and given them to me.

Gal 4:16 **So then, have I become your enemy, speaking truth to you?**

Gal 4:17 **They are ardent towards you, for no good, but they wish to shut you out, that you might be ardent towards them.**

Those that cling to the Book of the Law and the Aaronic Levitical Priesthood AFTER Yahusha has already come, are simply wanting their own glory and man-made rules followed; or they are under a strong delusion; or both. They want to prevent people from receiving life through Yahusha HaMashiach; and they want power, control, and want to bask in the esteem of mankind. In other words, they want to usurp the glory and power that only belongs to YHWH.

Gal 4:18 And it is good always to be ardent in what is good, and not only when I am present with you.

Gal 4:19 My little children, for whom I am again in birth pains until Messiah is formed in you,

Gal 4:20 even now I wish to be present with you now and to change my voice, for I have doubts about you.

Paul goes on to paint a picture for everyone by using the dichotomy between Sarah and Hagar; the free woman and the bond woman.

Example of Hagar and Sarah

Gal 4:21 Say to me, **you who wish to be under Torah** [Book of the Law], do you not hear the Torah?

Gal 4:22 For it has been written that **Abraham had two sons**, one by a female servant, the other by a free woman.

Gal 4:23 But he who was of the female servant was born according to the flesh, and he of the free woman through promise.

He who was of the female servant was born according to **the flesh**.

He who was of the free woman through **promise**.

Gal 4:24 **This is allegorical, for these are the two covenants**: one indeed from Mount Sinai which brings forth slavery, which is Haḡar,

Gal 4:25 for this Haḡar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Yerushalayim which now is, and is in slavery with her children.

Gal 4:26 But the Yerushalayim above is free, which is the mother of us all.

Gal 4:27 For it has been written, **“Rejoice, O barren, you who do not bear! Break forth and shout, you who do not have birth pains! For the deserted one has many more children than she who has a husband.”** [Isa 54:1](#).

Gal 4:28 **And we, brothers, as Yitṣḥaq was, are children of promise.**

Gal 4:29 But, as he who was *born* according to the flesh then persecuted him born according to the Spirit, so also now.

Gal 4:30 But what does the Scripture say? **“Cast out the female servant and her son, for the son of the female servant shall by no means be heir with the son of the free woman.”** [Gen 21:10](#).

Gal 4:31 **Therefore, brothers, we are not children of the female servant but of the free woman.**

Rev 3:6 “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies.” ’

Ezekiel 31

The content of Ezekiel 31 makes up Scroll 7 in its entirety – Egypt will fall like Assyria.

EZEKIEL 13 SCROLLS REFERENCE CHART		
PROB	Text in Chronological Order (Chapter & Verse)	Date Given in Text (M/D/Y) (of King Jehoiachin's captivity)
7	31:1-18 (Egypt cut down like a tree)	03/01/11

Pharaoh to Be Slain

Eze 31:1 And it came to be in the eleventh year, in the third *month*, on the first of the new *moon*, that the word of יהוה came to me, saying,

- **Eze 31:2** “Son of man, say to Pharaoh sovereign of Mitsrayim and to his crowd, ‘To whom are you to be compared in your greatness?’
- **Eze 31:3** See, Ashshur was a cedar in Lebanon, beautiful branches and forest shade, and of high stature. And its top was among the thick foliage.

Adam Clarke: **Behold, the Assyrian was a cedar** - Why is the Assyrian introduced here, when the whole chapter concerns Egypt? Bp. Lowth has shown that אשור ארז ashshur erez should be translated the tall cedar, the very stately cedar; hence there is reference to his lofty top; and all the following description belongs to Egypt, not to Assyria. But see on [Eze 31:11](#) (note).

- **Eze 31:4** The waters made him great, the deep gave it height with its rivers running around its planting, and sent their channels to all the trees of the field.

Adam Clarke: **The waters made him great** - Alluding to the fertility of Egypt by the overflowing of the Nile. But waters often mean peoples. By means of the different nations under the Egyptians, that government became very opulent. These nations are represented as fowls and beasts, taking shelter under the protection of this great political Egyptian tree, [Eze 31:6](#).

- **Eze 31:5** Therefore its height was lifted up above all the trees of the field, and its boughs were increased, and its branches became long because of the many waters, as it sent them out.
- **Eze 31:6** All the birds of the heavens made their nests in its boughs, and under its branches all the beasts of the field gave birth. And in its shadow all great nations dwelt.
- **Eze 31:7** And it was beautiful in greatness and in the length of its branches, for its roots reached to many waters.
- **Eze 31:8** Cedars in the garden of Elohim did not hide it, fir trees were not like its boughs, and the chestnut trees were not like its branches. No tree in the garden of Elohim was as pretty as it.
- **Eze 31:9** I made it beautiful by its many branches, so that all the trees of Eden

which were in the garden of Elohim were jealous of it.'

Eze 31:10 **"Therefore thus said the Master יהוה,**

- 'Because you have increased in height, and it set its top among the thick foliage, and its heart was lifted up in its height,
- **Eze 31:11** I give it into the hand of the mighty one of the nations, and he shall certainly deal with it. I have driven it out for its wrong.

Adam Clarke: The mighty one of the heathen - Nebuchadnezzar. It is worthy of notice, that Nebuchadnezzar, in the first year of his reign, rendered himself master of Nineveh, the capital of the Assyrian empire. See Sedar Olam. This happened about twenty years before Ezekiel delivered this prophecy; on this account, Ashshur, [Eze 31:3](#), may relate to the Assyrians, to whom it is possible the prophet here compares the Egyptians. But see the note on [Eze 31:3](#).

- **Eze 31:12** And foreigners, the most ruthless of the nations, shall cut it down and leave it. Its branches shall fall on the mountains and in all the valleys, its boughs lie broken by all the rivers of the land. And all the peoples of the earth shall come out from under its shadow and leave it.
- **Eze 31:13** On its ruin shall dwell all the birds of the heavens, and all the beasts of the field shall be on its *fallen* branches,
 - **Eze 31:14** so that none of the trees by the waters would exalt themselves because of their height, nor set their tops among the thick foliage, and that no tree which drinks water would ever be high enough to reach up to them. 'For all of them shall be given up to death, to the depths of the earth, among the children of men who go down to the pit.'

Egypt was to serve as an example to the other nations as 'what not to do.'

Pro 16:18 Before destruction *comes* pride, And before a fall a haughty spirit!

Adam Clarke: Upon his ruin shall all the fowls - The fall of Egypt is likened to the fall of a great tree; and as the fowls and beasts sheltered under its branches before, [Eze 31:6](#), so they now feed upon its ruins.

Eze 31:15 **"Thus said the Master יהוה,**

- ❖ 'In the day when it is brought down to She'ol I shall cause mourning. I shall cover the deep because of it and hold back its streams, and many waters shall be confined. And I shall make Lebanon mourn for it, and all the trees of the field shall wither away because of it.
- ❖ **Eze 31:16** I shall make the nations shake at the sound of its fall, when I bring it down to She'ol together with those who descend into the pit. And all the trees of Eden, the choice and best of Lebanon, all that drink water, shall be comforted in the depths of the earth.

- ❖ **Eze 31:17** They too shall go down to She'ol with it, with those slain by the sword. And those who were its strength shall dwell in its shadows among the nations.
- ❖ **Eze 31:18** To whom are you to be compared in esteem and greatness among the trees in Ēden? But you shall be brought down with the trees of Ēden to the depths of the earth, lie in the midst of the uncircumcised, with those slain by the sword. This is Pharaoh and all his crowd,' declares the Master יהוה'."

Adam Clarke: This is Pharaoh - All that I have spoken in this allegory of the lofty cedar refers to Pharaoh, king of Egypt, his princes, confederates, and people. Calmet understands the whole chapter of the king of Assyria, under which he allows that Egypt is adumbrated; and hence on this verse he quotes: -

Mutato nomine, de te fabula narratur.

What is said of Assyria belongs to thee, O Egypt.

Psalms 79 YHWH is the Avenger of Blood for His people. Vengeance is His. The psalmist is pleading with YHWH for deliverance for YHWH's Name sake. There have been many injustices done to YHWH's people and innocent lives throughout history, and YHWH has made note of account. He will repay. He will rightly rule and judge.

How Long, O YHWH?

Psa 79:1 O Elohim, the nations^a have come into Your inheritance; They have defiled Your set-apart Hēkal; They turned Yerushalayim into ruins. **Footnote: ^aSee also Psa 79:6-7, Psa 74:1-23, Isa 63:18, Jer 51:51, Lam 1:10, Dan 8:13, Dan 11:31, Mat 24:15.**

Psa 79:2 They have given the dead bodies of Your servants As food for the birds of the heavens, The flesh of Your lovingly-committed ones to the wild beast of the earth.

Psa 79:3 They have poured out their blood Like water all around Yerushalayim, With no one to bury them.

Psa 79:4 We have become a reproach to our neighbors, A scorn and a mockery to those who are around us.

Psa 79:5 How long, O יהוה', Would You be enraged forever? Would Your jealousy burn like fire?

Psa 79:6 Pour out Your wrath on the nations Who have not known You, And on reigns that have not called on Your Name.

Psa 79:7 For they have devoured Ya'aqob, And laid waste his pasture.

Psa 79:8 Do not remember against us The crookednesses of the fathers! Let Your compassion speedily meet us, For we have been greatly weakened.

Psa 79:9 Help us, O Elohim of our deliverance, For the sake of the esteem of Your Name. And deliver us, and cover over our sins, For Your Name's sake!

Psa 79:10 **Why should the nations say,** “Where is their Elohim?” **Let the vengeance** of the outpoured blood of Your servants Be known among the nations, Before our eyes.

Psa 79:11 Let the groaning of the prisoner come before You. According to the greatness of Your arm Preserve those appointed to death.

Psa 79:12 **And repay to our neighbors sevenfold** Their reproach, into their bosom, With which they have reproached You, O יהוה.

Psa 79:13 **And we, Your people and the sheep of Your pasture, We give thanks to You forever; From generation to generation we show forth Your praise.**

~ Shalom ~ Libby

Devotional Reading Plan Link: <http://www.mcheyne.info/calendar.pdf>