

Greetings, today our manna is 1Sam. 23; 1Cor. 4; Ezekiel 2; Psalms 38.

August 30 – 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/>

1Sam. 23

David Saves the City of Keilah

1Sa 23:1 And they informed Dawid, saying, “See, the Philistines are fighting against Qe’ilah, and they are plundering the threshing-floors.”

BDB Definition: Keilah = “fortress” 1) a city in the lowlands of Judah northwest of Hebron

1Sa 23:2 So Dawid inquired of יהוה, saying, “Shall I go and strike these Philistines?” And יהוה said to Dawid, **“Go and smite the Philistines, and save Qe’ilah.”**

1Sa 23:3 And Dawid’s men said to him, “See, we here in Yehudah are afraid. How much more, then, if we go to Qe’ilah against the armies of the Philistines?”

1Sa 23:4 And Dawid inquired of יהוה once again. And יהוה answered him and said, **“Arise, go down to Qe’ilah, for I am giving the Philistines into your hand.”**

David and his men were in a precarious wilderness situation. They had newly banded together and were still adjusting as a team. Many had come out of oppressive situations and were ‘beat down.’

David listened to his men; and was willing to once again inquire of YHWH. David felt a huge responsibility to those under his authority; as we saw yesterday by him taking the responsibility of the deaths of the priests, women, and children by Do’ēg, the Edomite.

By listening to his men, David showed that their input was valued. So, David inquires of YHWH again, proving and reassuring his small band of fearful men that YHWH responded saying ‘go down’; and apparently this was what they needed to go against the Philistines.

David carrying Goliath's sword would also serve as a reminder of how YHWH was with David when he slew Goliath; and would be with him as he led the men forward to attack the Philistines!

1Sa 23:5 So Dawid and his men went to Qe'ilah and fought with the Philistines, and he led away their livestock and struck them, a great smiting. Thus Dawid saved the inhabitants of Qe'ilah.

The inhabitants of Qe'ilah were saved; victory was given by YHWH; and David and his men did 'a great smiting'! At this point, all of them must have stood in awe of the awesomeness and faithfulness of YHWH. No doubt, YHWH was with David.

Saul hears that David had gone to Qe'ilah and brings his army to pursue him.

1Sa 23:6 And it came to be, when Ebyathar son of Ahimelek fled to Dawid at Qe'ilah, that **he went down with a shoulder garment** in his hand.

1Sa 23:7 And Sha'ul was informed that Dawid had gone to Qe'ilah. Then Sha'ul said, **"Elohim has estranged him into my hand,** for he has shut himself in by entering a town that has gates and bars."

Obviously, Saul believes Elohim is still with him; but that is not the case.

1Sa 23:8 And Sha'ul summoned all the people to battle, to go down to Qe'ilah to besiege Dawid and his men.

1Sa 23:9 And Dawid knew that Sha'ul was plotting evil against him, and said to Ebyathar the priest, **"Bring the shoulder garment here."**

David inquires to YHWH, Elohim of Israel. David may have very well put on the priestly shoulder garment, but that is not clearly stated. It is stated that the shoulder garment was brought to him.

1Sa 23:10 And Dawid said, "O יהוה Elohim of Yisra'el, Your servant has heard for certain that Sha'ul seeks to come to Qe'ilah to destroy the city for my sake.

1Sa 23:11 "Are the landowners of Qe'ilah going to surrender me into his hand? Is Sha'ul coming down, as Your servant has heard? O יהוה Elohim of Yisra'el, I pray, let Your servant know."

And יהוה said, **"He is coming down."**

1Sa 23:12 And Dawid said, “Are the landowners of Qe’ilah going to surrender me and my men into the hand of Sha’ul?”

And יהוה said, “They are going to surrender you.”

With the revelation from YHWH given to David, that the landowners of Qe’ilah were going to surrender him to Saul; David takes his 600 men or so and flees into the hill country in the Wilderness of Ziph. We see David is growing a larger following of troops and scripture states that Saul sought him every day; BUT Elohim did not give him into his hand.

1Sa 23:13 Then Dawid and his men, about six hundred, arose and left Qe’ilah and went wherever they could go. And Sha’ul was informed that Dawid had escaped from Qe’ilah, and he ceased to go out.

1Sa 23:14 And Dawid remained in the wilderness, in strongholds, and remained in the hill country in the Wilderness of Ziph. And Sha’ul sought him every day, but Elohim did not give him into his hand.

Saul Pursues David

1Sa 23:15 And Dawid saw that Sha’ul had come out to seek his life while Dawid was in the Wilderness of Ziph at Horesh.

1Sa 23:16 And Yehonathan, Sha’ul’s son, arose and went to Dawid at Horesh and strengthened his hand in Elohim,

1Sa 23:17 and said to him,

“Do not fear, for the hand of Sha’ul my father is not going to find you, and you are to reign over Yisra’el, and I am to be next to you. Even my father Sha’ul knows that.”

1Sa 23:18 And they made a covenant before יהוה. And Dawid remained at Horesh while Yehonathan went to his own house.

1Sa 23:19 And the Ziphites came up to Sha’ul at Gib’ah, saying, “Is Dawid not hiding with us in strongholds Horesh, in the hill of Hakiilah, which is on the south of the wasteland?”

It was during these trying times that David wrote many Psalms.

Psa 54:1 O Elohim, save me by Your Name, And rightly rule me by Your might.

Psa 54:3 For strangers have risen up against me, And cruel men have sought after my life; They have not set Elohim before them. Selah.

Psa 54:4 See, Elohim is my helper; יהוה is with those who sustain my life.

1Sa 23:20 “And now, O sovereign, by all the desire of your being, come down, come down, and our part is to surrender him into the sovereign’s hand.”

1Sa 23:21 And Sha’ul said, “Blessed are you of יהוה, for you have sympathy with me.

Not everyone that bestows blessings of YHWH, are of YHWH; even if so stated!

1Sa 23:22 “Please go, prepare yet further and find out and see the place where his hide-out is, who has seen him there. For I am told that he is very cunning.

1Sa 23:23 “So look, and learn all about the hiding places where he hides. And you shall come back to me with certainty, then I shall go with you. And it shall be, if he is in the land, that I shall search for him throughout all the clans of Yehudah.”

Satan works through the flesh of men to kill, steal, and destroy the righteous; and in this case, the aim was at the righteous line of the Melchizedek Order of which Yahusha would arise as High Priest. The exchange of the Ziphites with Saul; is eerily similar to the exchange between Herod and the wise men when Herod sought to kill the baby that was to be King of the Jews, Yahusha.

1Sa 23:24 And they rose up and went to Ziph before Sha’ul, **while Dawid and his men were in the Wilderness of Ma’on, in the desert plain on the south of the wasteland.**

1Sa 23:25 And Sha’ul and his men went to seek him, and they informed Dawid, so he went down to the rock, and remained in the Wilderness of Ma’on. And when Sha’ul heard this, he pursued Dawid in the Wilderness of Ma’on.

1Sa 23:26 And Sha’ul went on one side of the mountain, and Dawid and his men on the other side of the mountain. And Dawid was hurrying to get away from Sha’ul, for Sha’ul and his men were surrounding Dawid and his men to take them.

This was a close call; David’s troops and Saul’s troops all on one mountain! Then divinely, Saul has to return to address the Philistines invaded the land.

Therefore, the place was named Sela Hammaḥleqoth, in remembrance of YHWH’s faithfulness to provide a way of escape.

1Sa 23:27 Then a messenger came to Sha’ul, saying, “Hurry and come, for the Philistines have invaded the land!”

1Sa 23:28 So Sha'ul turned back from pursuing Dawid, and went against the Philistines. Therefore they called that place Sela Hammaḥleqoth.

BDB Definition: Sela-hammahlekoth = “the cliff of escapes” or “the cliff of divisions”

1) a rock or cliff in the wilderness of Maon, southeast of Hebron, the scene of an escape of David from Saul

1Sa 23:29 And Dawid went up from there and remained in strongholds at Ĕn Gedi.

1Corinthians 4

The Ministry of Apostles

1Co 4:1 Let a man regard us as servants of Messiah and trustees of the secrets of Elohim.

1Co 4:2 For the rest, it is sought in trustees, that those should be found trustworthy.

1Co 4:3 But with me it is a small matter that I should be judged by you or by a man's court. But not even myself I judge.

1Co 4:4 For I am not conscious of any *matter* against myself, yet I am not declared right by this, but He who judges me is יהוה.

YHWH is the only righteous judge; the One that rightly rules to perfection. We are not to judge one another by man's standards; but are to discern one another's walk according to YHWH's standards. The only One we should exalt is Yahusha's finished work on the tree. In Him we are made right before the Father, YHWH! Praise Yah!

1Co 4:5 So do not judge any at all before the time, until the Master comes, who shall bring to light what is hidden in darkness and reveal the thoughts of the hearts. And then each one's praise shall come from Elohim.

1Co 4:6 And these *matters*, brothers, I have applied in a figure to myself and Apollos for your sakes, so that in us you might learn not to think beyond what is written, so that none of you be puffed up on behalf of one against the other.

There is no need to vie for any 'position' in His service. We should only vie to walk in the fullness of the gifts He has given us. We should rejoice in completing our own mission that He has divinely given to each individual making up the 'one new man.' There is one body with many parts and functions; and each part is of utmost importance! We each must run the race of faith and endurance so that we are not ashamed to appear before our Savior when our works of service assigned to us are tested by fire.

1Co 4:7 For who makes you to differ? And what do you have that you did not receive? And if you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?

1Co 4:8 You are already satisfied! You are already enriched! You have reigned as sovereigns, apart from us! And I wish, indeed, you did reign, that we also might reign with you!

1Co 4:9 For I think that Elohim has exhibited us, the emissaries, last, as appointed to death, because we became a spectacle to the world, both to messengers and to men.

1Co 4:10 We are fools for the sake of Messiah, but you are wise in Messiah! We are weak, but you are strong! You are in esteem, **but we are not appreciated!**

The Corinthian leaders/believers were slipping into fleshly boasting and positioning; instead of bringing glory to the Messiah and His rule and reign over their lives. YHWH is strongest in our lives; when we choose His ways and not our carnal ways.

1Co 4:11 **Until the present hour**

- we both hunger and thirst,
- and we are scantily clad,
- and beaten,
- and homeless,
- **1Co 4:12** and labor, working with our own hands.
- Being cursed, we bless;
- being persecuted, we suffer;
- **1Co 4:13** being insulted, we help.
- We have been made as the filth of the world – dirt wiped off by all until now.

Paul and his fellow workers had set the example for others to follow. They had faced good and bad times; and represented Yahusha in either setting. Though worthy of financial support; they chose to labor with their own hands. For this reason, he appeals to them to become imitators of himself.

1Co 4:14 **I do not write this to shame you, but to warn you as my beloved children.**

1Co 4:15 For if you should have ten thousand instructors in Messiah, yet not many fathers, **for in Messiah יהושע I have brought you forth through the Good News.**

1Co 4:16 **Therefore I appeal to you, to become imitators of me.**

Timothy was very familiar in how to walk as a believer for he had been at Paul's side as he taught from city to city. Therefore, Timothy could aid the Corinthians in helping them know how to reflect the character of Yahusha in various situations.

1Co 4:17 **For this reason I have sent Timotiyos to you, who is my beloved and trustworthy son in the Master, who shall remind you of my ways in Messiah, as I teach everywhere in every assembly.**

1Co 4:18 Now some are puffed up, as though I were not coming to you.

1Co 4:19 But I shall come to you shortly, if the Master desires, and I shall know, not the word of those who are puffed up, but the power.

1Co 4:20 For the reign of Elohim is not in speech, but in power.

1Co 4:21 What do you wish? Shall I come to you with a rod, or in love and a spirit of meekness?

Paul showed the Corinthians respectful correction. It would be best that they accept his grace and insights; rather than ignite a harsh rebuke.

Ezekiel 2 Ezekiel 2 falls within the 13th Scroll based on the T4 chart below.

EZEKIEL 13 SCROLLS REFERENCE CHART		
PROPHET	Text in Chronological Order (Chapter & Verse)	Date Given in Text (M/D/Y) <small>(of King Jehoiachin's captivity)</small>
13	1:1-2 - 7:27 (Priestly Commission of judgment discharged as rebellious Israel has rejected the constitution set forth)	04/05/30

Please note I am using the revised 'scroll' chart by Torah to the Tribes that I included in yesterday's devotional. The numbering varies from T. H. Whitehouse's chart. I apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

Eze 2:1 And He said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, so that I speak to you."

Eze 2:2 And the Spirit entered into me when He spoke to me, and set me on my feet. And I heard Him who was speaking to me.

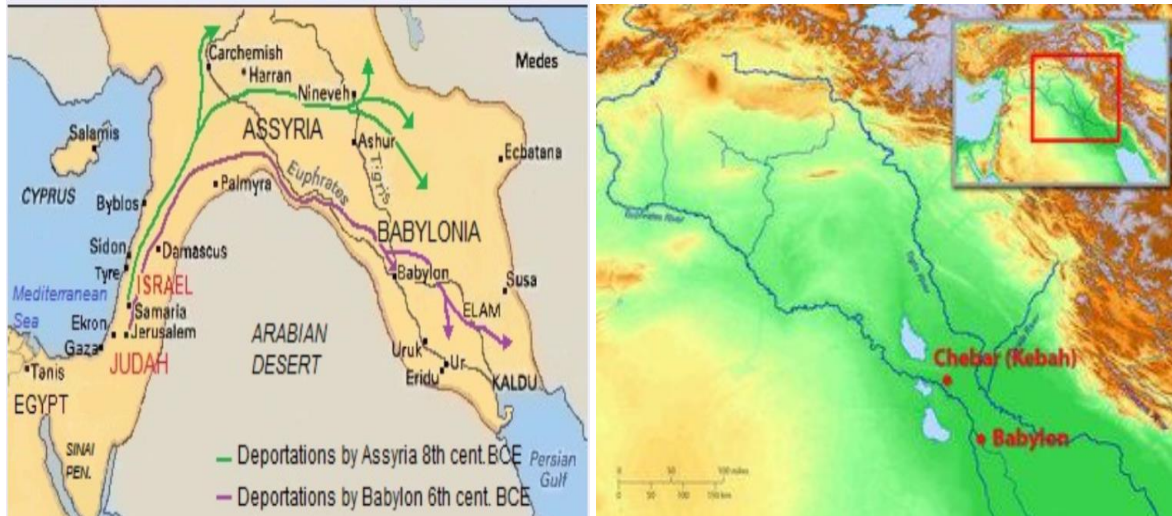
Eze 2:3 And He said to me,

- "Son of man, I am sending you to the children of Yisra'el,
- to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against Me. They and their fathers have transgressed against Me, until this day.
- **Eze 2:4** "And the children are stiff of face and hard of heart to whom I am sending you, and you shall say to them, 'Thus said the Master יהוה.'

Eze 2:5 "And they – whether they hear or whether they refuse, for they are a rebellious house – shall know that a prophet has been in their midst.

YHWH is forewarning Ezekiel of the difficult assignment that he was about to undertake. It would be very rough, but YHWH tells him not to fear; even though it would be as if he was dwelling among scorpions. If anyone would know this, YHWH would.

YHWH had observed their ebb and flow between obedience and rebelliousness since rescuing Israel out of Egypt. We know Ezekiel was positioned close to Assyria where YHWH had exiled Israel; and he was also a prophet to the house of Judah whom he had been exiled with to Babylon.



[Limited maps showing the river Chebar but these will give a general idea.]

F. B. Meyer offers a brief synopsis on Ezekiel: Ezekiel's name means, "God will strengthen." Like Jeremiah **he was a priest as well as a prophet**. He lived among the Jews who were carried away captive by Nebuchadnezzar and settled **on the river Chebar, in the north of Mesopotamia**. He began to prophesy about six years before Jerusalem was destroyed; and was therefore contemporary with Jeremiah, prophesying partly before and partly after the destruction of Jerusalem.

Eze 2:6 "And you, son of man, do not be afraid of them, nor be afraid of their words, though thistles and thorns are with you and you dwell among scorpions. Do not be afraid of their words or discouraged by their looks, **for they are a rebellious house**."

Eze 2:7 "And you shall speak My words to them, whether they hear or whether they refuse, for they are rebellious."

Eze 2:8 "And you, son of man, hear what I am speaking to you. Do not be rebellious like that rebellious house, **open your mouth and eat what I am giving you.**"

Eze 2:9 And I looked and saw a hand stretched out to me. And see, **a scroll of a book was in it,**

Heb 10:7 "**Then I said, 'See, I come – in the roll of the book it has been written**

concerning Me – to do Your desire, O Elohim.’ ” [Psa 40:6-8](#).

Eze 2:10 and He spread it before me, and **it was written on the inside and on the outside. And written on it were lamentations and mourning and woe.**

John, the Revelator, was also told to eat a book:

Rev 10:8 And the voice which I heard out of the heaven spoke to me again and said, “Go, take the little book which is opened in the hand of the messenger standing on the sea and on the earth.”

Rev 10:9 And I went to the messenger and said to him, “Give me the little book.” And he said to me, “**Take and eat it,^b** and it shall make your stomach bitter, but it shall be as sweet as honey in your mouth.” **Footnote: ^b [Eze 2:1-10](#) and [Eze 3:1-27](#). This is a Hebraism which means to receive knowledge.**

Rev 10:10 And I took the little book out of the messenger’s hand and ate it, and **it was as sweet as honey in my mouth, [Eze 3:3](#)** but when I had eaten it, my stomach was made bitter.

Rev 10:11 And he said to me, “You have to prophesy again concerning many peoples and nations and tongues and sovereigns.”

Note: That the eating of the book in Rev. 10:9 is identified as a Hebraism which means to receive knowledge.

T. H. Whitehouse notes: [Excerpt]

The kind of document with which we have to deal is described in chapter 2, verses 9 and 10, and chapter 3, verse 1:

‘Behold, an hand was sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book was therein; and he spread it before me; and it was written within and without.’

‘Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll.’

This roll consisted of a length of parchment, written in columns on both sides, attached to rollers, the turning of which would unfold the part desired to be read, or enable the whole to be closely rolled up, or, if necessary, sealed for security. **Revelation 5:1** shows such a book:

‘I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals.’

When a number of such documents had been collected a receptacle had to be used to keep them all together; each roll with its tag or docket appended to indicate its contents and its position in the collection. In such a receptacle **they could not, of course, be placed in ordered arraylike volumes on a bookshelf**, and it is easy to see how some scribe, probably impeccably devout and learned, but indifferent as to exactitude of order, arranged them loosely when transcribing them into the earliest volume form: hence the rather confused positions of the dated documents.

All the dates given in the text except that in chapter 1, verses 2 and 3, were affixed by Ezekiel himself, writing in the first person; that one exception was added 'editorially' by some unknown hand, writing in the third person, and was probably an explanatory docket note affixed to the collection of documents, but, unfortunately, later incorporated into the text without anything to mark it as a parenthetical note — with very misleading results, for it seems to confuse, or even, on the face of it, contradict the date of the first placed documental set dated in **chapter 1, verse 1, 'the thirtieth year'**.

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So then actually the *last* dated set of prophecies and visions is that which is placed at the beginning of the Book, chapters 1 to 7, which bears in chapter 1, verse 1, the very latest date of all, 'the thirtieth year', that is to say, five years after those in chapters 40-48.

It cannot be too emphatically stressed that the closing chapters of the Book antedate the opening chapters by five years! This, indeed, is the key to the puzzle of the last nine chapters with their seemingly flat negation of some chief Christian fundamentals, and it opens the way to a reasonable, consistent and wonderfully illuminating interpretation of one of the most difficult parts of this great Book.

Psalm 38

Though David was a man after YHWH's own heart, he still went through times of discipline and chastising by YHWH. We also see David go through times of persecution by others without cause.

Do Not Forsake Me, O YHWH

Psa 38:1 O יהוה, do not rebuke me in Your wrath, Nor chastise me in Your hot displeasure!

Psa 38:2 For Your arrows have pierced me, And Your hand comes down on me.

Psa 38:3 There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your rage, Nor peace in my bones because of my sin.

Psa 38:4 For my crookednesses have passed over my head; Like a heavy burden, too heavy for me.

Psa 38:5 My wounds have become stinky, festering Because of my folly.

Psa 38:6 I have been bent down; I have been bowed down very much; All day long I have gone mourning.

Psa 38:7 For my loins have become filled with burning, And there is no soundness in my flesh.

Psa 38:8 I have become weak and greatly crushed; I howled from the groaning of my heart.

Psa 38:9 יהוה, all my desire is before You; And my sighing has not been hid from You.

Psa 38:10 My heart is throbbing, my strength has forsaken me; And the light of my eyes also is not with me.

Psa 38:11 My loved ones and my friends stand back from my plague, And my neighbors stand far away.

Psa 38:12 And those seeking my life lay a snare; And those seeking my evil have spoken of destruction, And utter deceit all day long.

Psa 38:13 But I, as one deaf, do not hear; And as a dumb one who does not open his mouth.

Psa 38:14 I am like a man who does not hear, And who has no rebukes in his mouth.

Psa 38:15 For on You, O **יהוה**, I have waited; You do answer, O **יהוה** my Elohim.

Psa 38:16 For I said, “Otherwise they would rejoice over me, When my foot slips they would exalt themselves over me.”

Psa 38:17 For I am ready to fall, And my pain is always with me.

Psa 38:18 For I confess my crookedness; I am sorry over my sin.

Psa 38:19 But my enemies are alive; They have become strong; And those hating me falsely are many.

Psa 38:20 And those who repay evil for good, They oppose me, because I follow what is good.

Psa 38:21 Do not forsake me, O **יהוה**; O my Elohim, be not far from me!

Psa 38:22 Hasten to help me, O **יהוה**, my deliverance!

~ Shalom ~ Libby

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

See Next Page for:

Books of the Old Testament Word Scramble – Fun for the whole family!



BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

WORD SCRAMBLE

- 1. XOEUDS: _____
- 2. EINEGSS: _____
- 3. TICLEVUIS: _____
- 4. EAEHNIMH: _____
- 5. HTSREE: _____
- 6. CTSESEECLIAS: _____
- 7. ASIIASH: _____
- 8. SUOHJA: _____
- 9. ICAMH: _____
- 10. IODBAAH: _____
- 11. EPIZNHAA: _____
- 12. GAGAH: _____
- 13. ZEAR: _____
- 14. BUMRNES: _____
- 15. OUMENOETDRY: _____
- 16. HUTR: _____



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