

Greetings, today our manna is 2Kings 16; Titus 2; Hosea 9; Psalm 126, 127, 128.

November 3 – Melchizedek Devotional Perspective

[Note: I have added emphasis with underlines, highlights, and bold text to Scripture for teaching purposes only.]

2Kings 16

Ahaz Reigns in Judah

2Ki 16:1 In the seventeenth year of Peqah son of Remalyahu, Aḥaz son of Yotham, sovereign of Yehudāh, began to reign.

2Ki 16:2 Aḥaz was **twenty years old** when he began to reign, and **he reigned sixteen years in Yerushalayim**. And **he did not** do what was right in the eyes of **יהוה** his Elohim, as his father Dawid had done.

2Ki 16:3 But

- he walked in the way of the sovereigns of Yisra'ël, and he also made his son pass through the fire, according to the abominations of the nations whom **יהוה** had dispossessed from before the children of Yisra'ël.
- **2Ki 16:4** And he slaughtered and burned incense on the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.

Ellicott's Commentary on 2Kings 3: But he walked in the way.—See Notes on [2Chronicles 28:2](#).

Made his son to pass through the fire.—The chronicler rightly explains this as a sacrifice by fire. That such an appalling rite is really intended may be seen by reference to [2Kings 17:31](#); [Jeremiah 19:5](#); [Ezekiel 16:20](#); [Ezekiel 23:37](#); [Jeremiah 32:35](#). The expression, “To make-to pass through the fire to Moloch” ([Leviticus 18:21](#)) may have originated, as Movers suggests, in the idea that the burning was a kind of passage to union with the deity, after the dross of the flesh had been purged away; or it may be a mere euphemism. Ahaz appears to have been the first Israelite king who offered such a sacrifice. He, no doubt, regarded it as a last desperate resource against the oppression of his northern enemies. It is absurd to suppose that the king intended it in love to his child, as Thenius suggests. (See [Judges 11:31](#).) Such dreadful sacrifices were only made in cases of dire extremity. (Comp. [2Kings 3:27](#).)

The heathen.—More particularly the Ammonites, who made such sacrifices to Molech or Milcom.

Retsin, king of Aram [Syria], and Peqah, king of Israel, come against king Ahaz of Judah.

2Ki 16:5 Then Retsin sovereign of Aram and Peqah son of Remalyahu, sovereign of Yisra'ël, came up to Yerushalayim, to battle. And they besieged Aḥaz but were unable to overcome him.

Ellicott's Background Commentary on 2Kings 16:5:

Then Rezin king of Syria . . . to war.—This verse agrees almost word for word with [Isaiah 7:1](#). The time is soon after the accession of Ahaz. “Jotham, the last of a series of strong and generally successful princes, had died at a critical moment, when Pekah and Rezin were maturing their plans against his kingdom. The opposing parties in northern Israel suspended their feuds to make common cause against Judah ([Isaiah 9:21](#)), and the proud inhabitants of Samaria hoped by this policy to more than restore the prestige forfeited in previous years of calamity ([Isaiah 9:9-10](#)). At the same time the Syrians began to operate in the eastern dependencies of Judah, their aim being to possess themselves of the harbour of Elath on the Red Sea, while the Philistines attacked the Judeans in the rear, and ravaged the fertile lowlands ([Isaiah 9:12](#), [2Kings 16:6](#)). A heavy and sudden disaster had already fallen on the Judean arms, a defeat in which ‘head and tail, palm-branch and rush’ had been mown down in indiscriminate slaughter ([Isaiah 9:14](#)). Ahaz was no fit leader in so critical a time; his character was petulant and childish, his policy was dictated in the harem ([Isaiah 3:12](#)). Nor was the internal order of the state calculated to inspire confidence. Wealth, indeed, had greatly accumulated in the preceding time of prosperity, but its distribution had been such that it weakened rather than added strength to the nation. The rich nobles were steeped in sensual luxury, the court was full of gallantry, feminine extravagance and vanity gave the tone to aristocratic society ([Isaiah 5:11](#); [Isaiah 3:16](#); comp. [Isaiah 3:12](#); [Isaiah 4:4](#)), which, like the noblesse of France on the eve of the Revolution, was absorbed in gaiety and pleasure, while the masses were ground down by oppression, and the cry of their distress filled the land ([Isaiah 3:15](#); [Isaiah 5:7](#)).”—Prof. Robertson Smith.

They besieged Ahaz.—The allies wanted to compel Judah to join them in their attempt to throw off the burdensome yoke of Assyria, imposed in 738 B.C. ([2Kings 15:19](#)); and thought the best way to secure this was **to dethrone the dynasty of David, and set up a creature of their own—“the son of Tabeal”** ([Isaiah 7:6](#)).

Could not overcome him.—Literally, they were not able to war, as in [Isaiah 7:2](#). The allies could not storm the city, which had been strongly fortified by Uzziah and Jotham ([2Chronicles 26:9](#); [2Chronicles 27:3](#)).

- [2Ki 16:6](#) At that time Rezin sovereign of Aram recovered Ĕylath for Aram,
- and drove the men of Yehudah from Ĕylath.
- And the Edomites went to Ĕylath, and have dwelt there to this day.

King Ahaz makes an unholy alliance [at great expense spiritually and monetarily] with Tiglath-Pileser king of Ashshur [Assyria]. King Ahaz doesn't call upon YHWH; he calls upon man and pagan gods.

[2Ki 16:7](#) And Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglath-Pileser sovereign of Ashshur, saying,

- ❖ “I am your servant and your son.
- ❖ Come up and save me from the hand of the sovereign of Aram and from the hand of the sovereign of Yisra'el, who are rising up against me.”

[2Ki 16:8](#) And Ahaz took the silver and gold that was found in the House of יהוה, and in the treasuries of the house of the sovereign, and sent it as a present to the sovereign of Ashshur.

[2Ki 16:9](#) And the sovereign of Ashshur listened to him. And the sovereign of Ashshur went up against Dammeseq and captured it, and exiled it to Qir, and he killed Rezin.

[2Ki 16:10](#) And Sovereign Ahaz went to meet Tiglath-Pileser sovereign of Ashshur at

Dammeseq, and saw a slaughter-place that was at Dammeseq. And Sovereign Aḥaz sent to Uriyah the priest a sketch of the slaughter-place and its pattern, according to all its workmanship.

F. B. Meyer Concisely Summarizes: 2 Kings 16:10-20 HIGH-HANDED IDOLATRY

The calling in of the king of Assyria was fraught with disastrous consequences. "He distressed him and strengthened him not." Well may the Apostle warn us not to be yoked with unbelievers. Such alliances always result in the undoing of God's children. We cannot serve two masters. Thus in the hour of distress, notwithstanding the increasing and noble remonstrances of Isaiah, this same king Ahaz trespassed yet more against Jehovah.

It is remarkable, as showing the folly of the human heart, that in the lowest hour of his degradation before his conqueror Ahaz imitated the altar which he saw at Damascus. For this, the ancient brazen altar in Jehovah's Temple was displaced; and upon it in the sacred fane sacrifices were offered to the gods of the heathen. Alas, there is too much of this in the present day! Men are going back from the simplicity and spirituality of Christ to exploded philosophies and systems, which have failed in the past to satisfy soul hunger. Let us beware of the vacuum of the soul into which such evil things intrude. It is only as we are filled by the indwelling Spirit that we are immune against these temptations.

2Ki 16:11 And Uriyah the priest built a slaughter-place according to all that Sovereign Aḥaz had sent from Dammeseq. And Uriyah the priest made it before Sovereign Aḥaz came from Dammeseq.

Jer 23:11 "For both prophet and priest have become defiled. Even in My house I have found their evil," declares יהוה.

1Co 6:9 Do you not know that the unrighteous shall not inherit the reign of Elohim? Do not be deceived. Neither those who whore, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

1Co 6:10 nor thieves, nor greedy of gain, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers shall inherit the reign of Elohim.^a Footnote: ^aSee [Gal 5:19-21](#), [Eph 5:3-5](#).

2Ki 16:12 And when the sovereign came from Dammeseq, the sovereign saw the slaughter-place, and the sovereign approached the slaughter-place and made offerings on it.

Brenton Septuagint: 2Ch 28:23 I will seek after the gods of Damascus that smite me. And he said, Forasmuch as the gods of the king of Syria themselves strengthen them, therefore will I sacrifice to them, and they will help me. **But they became a stumbling-block to him, and to all Israel.**

2Ki 16:13 And he burned his ascending offering and his grain offering. And he poured his drink offering and sprinkled the blood of his peace offerings on the slaughter-place.

2Ki 16:14 And the bronze slaughter-place which was before יהוה he brought from the front of the House, from between the new slaughter-place and the House of יהוה, and

put it on the north side of *his* slaughter-place.

Repeatedly, Uriyah, the priest, follows king Ahaz and not YHWH. YHWH Yahusha is the head of the assembly of His people; and no other god or man.

2Ki 16:15 And Sovereign Aḥaz commanded Uriyah the priest, saying, “On the great slaughter-place burn the morning ascending offering, and the evening grain offering, and the sovereign’s ascending offering, and his grain offering, with the ascending offering of all the people of the land, and their grain offering, and their drink offerings. And sprinkle on it all the blood of the ascending offering and all the blood of the slaughtering. And the bronze slaughter-place is for me to inquire by.”

2Ki 16:16 And Uriyah the priest did according to all that Sovereign Aḥaz commanded.

2Ki 16:17 And Sovereign Aḥaz cut off the side panels of the stands, and removed the basins from them. And he took down the Sea from the bronze oxen that were under it, and put it on a pavement of stones.

2Ki 16:18 And the covered way which they had built in the House for the Sabbath, and the sovereign’s outer entrance, he took from the House of יהוה, because of the sovereign of Ashshur.

2Ki 16:19 And the rest of the acts of Aḥaz which he did, are they not written in the book of the annals of the sovereigns of Yehuḏah?

2Ki 16:20 So Aḥaz slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the City of Dawid. And Hizqiyahu his son reigned in his place.

Titus 2

Establishing the setting of the assembly is no easy assignment. If anyone knew this Paul did. Ministry is hard work, yet very rewarding. YHWH brings people into His kingdom from all different walks and backgrounds of life. Some have more rough edges than others.

The gathering of the assemblies consists of people that are being sanctified. This means we are all ‘a work in progress.’ We have not yet arrived at the ‘glorification’ process. There is a battle, a struggle, in everyone; between their old fleshly ways which rise up and rage against walking in the Spirit of YHWH.

How believers should act and behave is paramount in forming a healthy environment for all of YHWH’s assembly in bringing esteem to His Name.

This is what Paul is pouring into Titus; wisdom of assembling the assembly.

Teach Sound Doctrine

Tit 2:1 But you, speak what is fitting for sound teaching:

Tit 2:2 the older men are to be sober, serious, sensible, sound in belief, in love, in endurance,

Tit 2:3 the older women likewise are to be set-apart in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of what is good,

Tit 2:4 in order for them to train the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,

Tit 2:5 to be sensible, blameless, workers at home, good, subject to their own husbands, in order that the word of Elohim is not evil spoken of.

Tit 2:6 Likewise urge the young men to be sensible.

Tit 2:7 Show yourself *to them* an **example of good works^a** in all *matters*. In teaching *show* uncorruptness, seriousness, **Footnote: ^a [Mat 16:27](#).**

Tit 2:8 soundness of speech beyond reproach, in order that the opponent is put to shame, having no evil *word* to say about you.

Tit 2:9 Servants should be subject to their own masters, to be well-pleasing in every way, not back-talking,

Tit 2:10 not stealing, but showing all good trustworthiness, so that they adorn the teaching of Elohim our Savior in every way.

Tit 2:11 For the saving Gift of Elohim has appeared to all men,

Tit 2:12 instructing us to renounce wickedness and worldly lusts, and to live sensibly, righteously, and reverently in the present age,

Tit 2:13 looking for the blessed expectation and esteemed appearance of the great Elohim and our Savior **יהושע** Messiah,

Tit 2:14 who gave Himself for us, **to redeem us from all lawlessness^b** and to cleanse for Himself a people, *His* own possession, **ardent for good works.^c** **Footnotes: ^bSee also [1Jn 3:4](#), [Mat 1:21](#), [Act 3:19](#) and [Act 3:26](#), [Act 26:18](#), [Rom 6:1-22](#), [Eph 2:1-10](#), [1Jn 3:8](#), [Tit 3:5](#). ^c [Mat 16:27](#).**

Tit 2:15 Speak these *matters*, urge, and **convict^d** with all authority. Let no one despise you. **Footnote: ^dOr *confute*.**

Hosea 9

YHWH Will Punish Israel

Hos 9:1 O Yisra'el, do not rejoice with exultation like the peoples, for **you have whored from your Elohim. You have loved a harlot-fee at all threshing-floors.**

Hos 9:2 Threshing floor and winepress shall not feed them, and new wine shall fail in her.

Hos 9:3 They shall not dwell in the land of יהוה, but Ephrayim shall return to Mitsrayim, and eat unclean food in Ashshur.

Hos 9:4 They do not pour wine *offerings* to יהוה, nor are they pleasing to Him. Their slaughterings are like bread of mourners to them, all who eat it are defiled. For their bread is for their beings, it does not come into the House of יהוה.

Hos 9:5 What do you do for the Day of Appointment, and in the day of the Festival of יהוה?

F. B. Meyer states: Hosea 9:1-9 “THE DAYS OF RECOMPENSE ARE COME”

The subject of this chapter is the **bitterness of the captivity which was awaiting Israel as the result of their unfaithfulness**. Their exile would put an effectual end to their idolatrous and sensual feasts. Every pleasure would be removed and every taste would be offended. The contrasts here are very significant. If men choose unclean things when they might have clean, a situation will be created in which only unclean things shall be attainable, [Hos 9:3](#). If they withhold God’s offerings when they have plenty, they will presently be reduced to such straits as not to have wherewith to sacrifice or even to sustain life, [Hos 9:4-5](#). If we go down to Egypt for help, in Egypt we shall die, [Hos 9:6-7](#). In other words, every sin carries within itself the seed of its own avenging. If allowed to work itself out, its harvest is unutterable and irretrievable.

What a privilege Ephraim had within his grasp, as a watchman with God, [Hos 9:8](#)! It is to this privilege, also, that our Savior calls all of us. He says to us, as He said to His disciples, *Tarry ye here and watch with me*. But too often we refuse to heed the gracious challenge, and allow ourselves to be seduced by the tempter, or by the sloth and corruption of our own hearts, [Hos 9:8-9](#).

They shall go because of destruction...

Hos 9:6 For look, they shall go because of destruction –

- ❖ **Mitsrayim gathers them up,**
- ❖ **Moph buries them,**
- ❖ nettles possess their valuables of silver,
- ❖ thorns are in their tents.

Hos 9:7 **The days of punishment have come, the days of retribution have come.**

- ❖ Yisra’el knows!
- ❖ The prophet is a fool,
- ❖ the ‘man of the Spirit’ is mad, because of the greatness of your crookedness, and great is the enmity.

Enmity is in the House of his Elohim!

Hos 9:8 **Elohim’s watchman over you, Ephrayim, is the prophet, but a trapper’s snare is in all his ways. Enmity is in the House of his Elohim.**

- ❖ **Hos 9:9** They have deeply corrupted themselves, as in the days of Gib’ah.
- ❖ He remembers their crookedness,
- ❖ He punishes their sins.

From the beginning as the first fruits on the fig tree to grapes in the wilderness.

Hos 9:10 "I found Yisra'el like grapes in the wilderness. I saw your fathers as the first-fruits on the fig tree in its beginning.

- ❖ They themselves have gone to Ba'al Pe'or,
- ❖ and separated themselves to shame,
- ❖ and became as abominable as that which they loved.
- ❖ Hos 9:11 "Ephrayim is like a bird, their esteem has flown away – no birth, and none with child, and no conception!
- ❖ Hos 9:12 "Though they bring up their children, I shall make them childless, without man. **For it is woe to them when I turn away from them!**

Hos 9:13 "I have seen Ephrayim, like Tsor, planted in a pleasant place. But Ephrayim shall bring out his children to the killer."

Hos 9:14 Give them, O יהוה – give what? Give them a miscarrying womb and dry breasts.

Hos 9:15 "All their evil is in Gilgal, for there I have hated them. Because of the evil of their deeds I drive them from My house, no more do I love them. All their rulers are rebels.

Wanderer's Among the Nations

Hos 9:16 "Ephrayim has been stricken, their root has dried up, they yield no fruit. Even if they bear children, I shall put to death the precious ones of their womb."

Hos 9:17 My Elohim rejects them, because they have not obeyed Him, so that they become **wanderers among the nations!**^a Footnote: ^aRefer [Deu 28:36](#).

Psalm 126; 127; 128

Restore Our Fortunes, O YHWH

Psa 126:1 When יהוה **turns back the captivity of Tsiyon**, We shall be like dreamers.

Psa 126:2 Then our mouth shall be filled with laughter, And our tongue with singing, Then shall they say among the nations, "יהוה has done great *deeds* for them."

Psa 126:3 יהוה shall do great *deeds* for us, We shall be glad.

Psa 126:4 **Turn back our captivity, O יהוה, Like the streams in the South.**

Psa 126:5 Those sowing in tears, shall reap with songs of joy.

Psa 126:6 He who goes on and weeps, Bearing seed for sowing, Shall indeed come in with rejoicing, Bearing his sheaves.

Only through Yahusha are we set free from our captivity to sin. Only by making our garments white by the washing of the blood of the Lamb can we enter His sheepfold. Like the rolling back of the Sea of Reeds or the Jordan; he washes our sins away as far as the east is from the west. Yahusha told Peter, unless He washed him, he would have not part of Him.

Joh 13:8 Kēpha said to Him, “By no means shall You wash my feet, ever!” יהושע answered him, “If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.”

Unless YHWH Builds the House

Psa 127:1 If יהוה **does not build the house**, Its builders have labored in vain. If יהוה does not guard the city, The watchman has stayed awake in vain.

Psa 127:2 In vain do you rise up early, To sit up late, to eat the bread of toil; So He gives His beloved sleep.

Psa 127:3 Look, **children are an inheritance from יהוה, The fruit of the womb is the reward.**

Psa 127:4 As arrows in the hand of a mighty man, So are the children of one’s youth.

Psa 127:5 Blessed is the man Who has filled his quiver with them. They are not ashamed, When they speak with their enemies in the gate.

Blessings come from YHWH. We can work hard, or we can work smart. The smart way is to build our lives and homes on the Rock. The hard-headed and hard-hearted way is to build our house by our own strength and in our own way; thus, leading to a foundation on sinking sand.

When we build our lives around YHWH, we have nothing to be ashamed of. We have no part of any under-handed deals, transactions, or covenants with the world.

Blessed Is Everyone Who Fears YHWH

Psa 128:1 **Blessed are all who fear יהוה, Who walk in His ways.**

Psa 128:2 **You shall eat the labor of your hands. Be blessed, and let it be well with you.**

Psa 128:3 Let your wife be As a **fruit-bearing vine within your house**, Your **sons like olive plants** all around your table.

Psa 128:4 Look, **so shall the man be blessed Who fears יהוה.**

Psa 128:5 יהוה shall bless you out of Tsiyon, And let you see the good of Yerushalayim All the days of your life,

Psa 128:6 **And let you see your children’s children! Peace be upon Yisra’ël!**

Joh 13:15 **“For I gave you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.**

Joh 13:16 “Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is an

emissary greater than he who sent him.

Joh 13:17 "If you know these *teachings*, **blessed are you if you do them.**

Wisdom of Assembling the Assembly

~ Shalom ~ Libby

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