

Pesach II Haftarah, April 17, 2022

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II Kings 23:1-9

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At the king's summons, all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem assembled before him.

The king went up to the House of the LORD, together with all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the priests and prophets—all the people, young and old. And he read to them the entire text of the covenant scroll which had been found in the House of the LORD. The king stood by the pillar and solemnized the covenant before the LORD: that they would follow the LORD and observe His commandments, His injunctions, and His laws with all their heart and soul; that they would fulfill all

מלכים ב כ"ג:א'-ט'

וַיִּשְׁלַח הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיֹּאסְפוּ אֵלָיו

כָּל־זִקְנֵי יְהוּדָה וִירוּשָׁלַם:

וַיַּעַל הַמֶּלֶךְ בֵּית־יְהוָה וְכָל־אִישׁ

יְהוּדָה וְכָל־יִשְׂבֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם אִתּוֹ

וְהַכֹּהֲנִים וְהַנְּבִיאִים וְכָל־הָעָם

לְמִקְטָן וְעַד־גָּדוֹל וַיִּקְרָא בְּאָזְנוֹתָם

אֶת־כָּל־דְּבַר־סֵפֶר הַבְּרִית הַנִּמְצָא

בְּבֵית יְהוָה:

וַיַּעֲמֵד הַמֶּלֶךְ עַל־הָעַמּוּד וַיִּכְרַת

אֶת־הַבְּרִית | לְפָנָי יְהוָה לְלַכֵּת

אַחַר יְהוָה וְלִשְׁמֹר מִצְוֹתָיו

וְאֶת־עֲדוּתָיו וְאֶת־חֻקֹּתָיו בְּכָל־לֵב

וּבְכָל־נֶפֶשׁ לְהִקְיָם אֶת־דְּבַר־יְהוָה

הַבְּרִית הַזֹּאת הַכְּתוּבִים עַל־הַסֵּפֶר

הַזֶּה וַיַּעֲמֵד כָּל־הָעָם בְּבְרִית:

the terms of this covenant as inscribed upon the scroll. And all the people entered into the covenant.

Then the king ordered the high priest Hilkiah, the priests of the second rank, and the guards of the threshold to bring out of the Temple of the LORD all the objects made for Baal and Asherah and all the host of heaven. He burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of Kidron, and he removed the ashes to Bethel.

He suppressed the idolatrous priests whom the kings of Judah had appointed to make offerings at the shrines in the towns of Judah and in the environs of Jerusalem, and those who made offerings to Baal, to the sun and moon and constellations—all the host of heaven.

He brought out the [image of] Asherah from the House of the LORD to the Kidron Valley outside

וַיִּצְוֵהוּ הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת־חִלְקִיָּהוּ הַכֹּהֵן
הַגָּדוֹל וְאֶת־כֹּהֲנֵי הַמִּשְׁנָה
וְאֶת־שֹׁמְרֵי הַסֶּף לְהוֹצִיא מֵהֵיכַל
יְהוָה אֵת כָּל־הַכֵּלִים הָעֲשׂוּיִם
לְבַעַל וְלְאַשְׁרָה וְלִכְל צָבָא
הַשָּׁמַיִם וַיִּשְׂרְפֵם מִחוּץ לְיְרוּשָׁלַם
בְּשַׂדְּמֹת קִדְרוֹן וַנִּשְׂא אֶת־עֲפָרָם
בְּיַת־אֵל:

וְהַשְׁבִּית אֶת־הַכֹּמָרִים אֲשֶׁר נָתַנוּ
מֶלְכֵי יְהוּדָה וַיִּקְטֹר בַּבָּמֹת בְּעָרֵי
יְהוּדָה וּמִסָּבֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם
וְאֶת־הַמִּקְטָרִים לְבַעַל לְשֶׁמֶשׁ
וְלַיָּרֵחַ וְלַמַּזְלוֹת וְלִכְל צָבָא
הַשָּׁמַיִם:

וַיִּצְא אֶת־הָאַשְׁרָה מִבַּיִת יְהוָה
מִחוּץ לְיְרוּשָׁלַם אֶל־גַּחַל קִדְרוֹן
וַיִּשְׂרַף אֹתָהּ בְּגַחַל קִדְרוֹן וַיִּדַק
לְעָפָר וַיִּשְׂלֹךְ אֶת־עֲפָרָהּ עַל־קִבְרֵ
בְּנֵי הָעָם:

וַיִּתֵּן אֶת־בִּתֵּי הַקִּדְשִׁים אֲשֶׁר
בְּבַיִת יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר הַנְּשִׂים אֲרָגוֹת

Jerusalem, and burned it in the Kidron Valley; he beat it to dust and scattered its dust over the burial ground of the common people.

He tore down the cubicles of the male prostitutes in the House of the LORD, at the place where the women wove coverings for Asherah.

He brought all the priests from the towns of Judah [to Jerusalem] and defiled the shrines where the priests had been making offerings—from Geba to Beer-sheba. He also demolished the shrines of the gates, which were at the entrance of the gate of Joshua, the city prefect—which were on a person's left [as he entered] the city gate.

The priests of the shrines, however, did not ascend the altar of the LORD in Jerusalem, but they ate unleavened bread along with their kinsmen.

שָׁם בָּתִּים לְאַשְׁרָה:
וַיָּבֵא אֶת־כָּל־הַכֹּהֲנִים מֵעָרֵי יְהוּדָה
וַיִּטְמָא אֶת־הַבָּמֹת אֲשֶׁר
קִטְרוּ־שָׁמָּה הַכֹּהֲנִים מִגִּבְעָה
עַד־בְּיָאֵר שֶׁבַע וְנָתַן אֶת־בָּמֹת
הַשָּׁעָרִים אֲשֶׁר־פָּתַח שַׁעַר יְהוֹשֻׁעַ
שַׁר־הָעִיר אֲשֶׁר־עַל־שְׂמֹאל אִישׁ
בְּשַׁעַר הָעִיר:
אֹךְ לֹא יָעִלוּ כַּהֲנֵי הַבָּמֹת
אֶל־מִזְבֵּחַ יְהוָה בִּירוּשָׁלַם כִּי
אִם־אָכְלוּ מִצֹּת בְּתוֹךְ אֲחֵיהֶם:

II Kings 23:21-25

The king commanded all the people, “Offer the passover sacrifice to the LORD your God as prescribed in this scroll of the covenant.”

Now the passover sacrifice had not been offered in that manner in the days of the chieftains who ruled Israel, or during the days of the kings of Israel and the kings of Judah.

Only in the eighteenth year of King Josiah was such a passover sacrifice offered in that manner to the LORD in Jerusalem.

Josiah also did away with the necromancers and the mediums, the idols and the fetishes—all the detestable things that were to be seen in the land of Judah and Jerusalem. Thus he fulfilled the terms of the Teaching recorded in the scroll that the priest Hilkiyah

מלכים ב כ"ג:כ"א-כ"ה

וַיִּצְוֶה הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-כָּל-הָעָם לְאמֹר
עֲשׂוּ פֶסַח לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם כַּכְּתוּב
עַל סֵפֶר הַבְּרִית הַזֶּה:
כִּי לֹא נַעֲשָׂה כַּפֶּסַח הַזֶּה מִימֵי
הַשְּׂפֹטִים אֲשֶׁר שָׁפְטוּ אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל
וְכָל יְמֵי מַלְכֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וּמַלְכֵי
יְהוּדָה:

כִּי אִם-בְּשִׁמְנֵה עֲשִׂיָה שָׁנָה לַמֶּלֶךְ
יֵאֱשִׁיחוּ נַעֲשִׂיָה הַפֶּסַח הַזֶּה לַיהוָה
בִּירוּשָׁלַם:

וְגַם אֶת-הָאֲבוֹת וְאֶת-הַיְדֻעָנִים
וְאֶת-הַתְּרָפִים וְאֶת-הַגְּלִלִים וְאֶת
כָּל-הַשִּׁקְצִים אֲשֶׁר נִרְאוּ בְּאֶרֶץ
יְהוּדָה וּבִירוּשָׁלַם בָּעֵר יֵאֱשִׁיחוּ
לְמַעַן הָקִים אֶת-דְּבַר יְהוָה
הַכְּתוּב עַל-הַסֵּפֶר אֲשֶׁר מָצָא
חִלְקִיָּהוּ הַכֹּהֵן בַּיַּת יְהוָה:
וְכַמֵּהוּ לֹא-הָיָה לְפָנָיו מֶלֶךְ
אֲשֶׁר-שָׁב אֶל-יְהוָה בְּכָל-לְבָבוֹ

had found in the House of the
LORD.

There was no king like him before
who turned back to the LORD with
all his heart and soul and might, in
full accord with the Teaching of
Moses; nor did any like him arise
after him.

וּבְכָל-נַפְשׁוֹ וּבְכָל-מְאֹדוֹ כָּכֵל
תּוֹרַת מֹשֶׁה וְאַחֲרָיו לֹא-קָם כָּמֹהוּ:

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