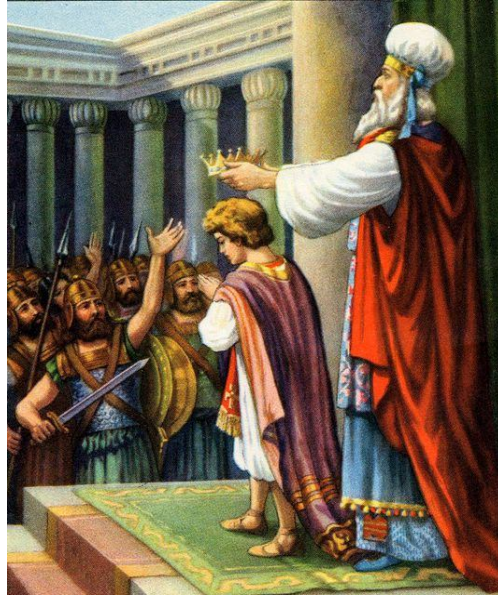


The Weekly Haftorah

By: Reuben Ebrahimoff - The Haftorahman

The Haftorah for the Second Day of Pesach

The Haftorah is read from Melachim Bet (Kings 2) 23:1-9 and 21-25



King Josiah being Coroneted by Chilkiyahu the Kohen Gadol

The connection of the Haftorah to Pesach: The Haftorah relates a very special Pesach season during the reign of King Yoshiyahu.

The storyline of this week's Haftorah: The Haftorah is only 14 pesukim long. The Haftorah describes how King Yoshiyahu who ruled over the Kingdom of Yehuda destroyed all the idols in Israel. It then describes the Pesach that followed these events. When the month of Nissan arrived, Yoshiyahu commanded that every Jew come to Yerushalayim to give their Pesach offering. This Pesach was unique as the Jews' sincerity was so much greater. Also special about this particular Pesach was the overwhelming number of Jews who were bringing their offerings. In the past, the kingdom had been split, and now, every Jew was participating. The royal family also donated sheep for people to use for their offerings.

Background: King Yoshiyahu's two predecessors were both reshaim, evil people. His grandfather, King Menashe, set up an idol in the Bais Hamikdash and also erased the name of Hashem in the Torah, replacing it with the name baal (an idol). King Menashe's son, Amon, placed an idol in the Holiest of Holies. After two years of reign, Amon was assassinated by his ministers, and his eight year old son, Yoshiyahu, succeeded him. Yoshiyahu had all of the idols destroyed outside of Yerushalaim in the valley of Kidron. He then ordered the ashes to be moved to Bais Ail. Yoshiyahu also got rid of all the wizards, and priests.



King Josiah cleaned out Jerusalem of its Idols

King Yoshiyahu's Biography: King Yoshiyahu was Bnai Yisroel's last gasp — the last good thing that happened to the Israelites before their kingdom was destroyed. Yoshiyahu became king as a child of only eight, and soon took an interest in Hashem, contrary to his father King Amon. Early in life he instituted reforms and took steps against idol worship. At 25 years of age, Yoshiyahu decided to rebuild the Temple, deteriorated with age. As the workers were cleaning, they found an obscure book that no one had ever heard of — the Torah, forgotten by previous generations. As the king listened to his secretary read the Torah, he was struck with grief and terror, certain that Hashem was furious with him and his people for their disobedience. Immediately, Yoshiyahu set upon a system to eliminate idol worship and renew the worship to Hashem. He toured the land, destroying idol shrines, and celebrated the Passover for the first time in decades. The revival was wonderful. But as soon as Yoshiyahu died, the people returned to their evil ways.



Famous Phrases: Kings 2, 23:25, "*V'chamohu lo hayah melech asher shav el Hashem b'chol livavo uv'chal nafsho, uv'chol m'odo*" " Before him there was no king like him (Yoshiyahu) who turned to Hashem with all his heart and all his soul and all his resources" Yoshiahu fulfilled the exhortation we say three times a day in Keri'at Shema, "*V'ahavta et Hashem Elokecha b'chal l'vavcha uv'chal nafshicha u'vchal m'odecha*" "And you shall love Hashem, with all your heart and all your soul and all your resources"



Josiah was killed by Pharaoh Necho in Megiddo

Timeline:

ERA OF THE PROPHETS

ERA OF FIRST TEMPLE - 410 YEARS

ERA OF THE KINGS

CENTURY 31

990 3000 3010 3020 3030 3040 3050 3060 3070 3080 3090
 770 -760 -750 -740 -730 -720 -710 -700 -690 -680 -670

THE FIRST BAIS HAMIKDASH

ERA OF FIRST TEMPLE - 410 YEARS

1000 YEARS PROPHECY FROM REVELATION AT SINAI TO END OF THE PROPHETS

ELIJAH THE PROPHET

YAH BEN ODED
NANI HARO'EH
BEN CHANANI

OVADIAH &
MICHAIHU
BEN YIMLAH

YACHAZIEL BEN
ZECHARIAH &
ELIEZER
BEN DODAVAHU

YONAH
BEN AMITAI

YEHOIADA
HAKOHEN

ZECHARIAH
BEN YEHOIADA

ELISHA BEN SHAFAT

ASA

THE KINGS OF JUDAH

ASA

ASA

YEHORAM
ACHAZIAH
BEN YEHORAM

YEHOASH BEN ACHAZIAH

YEHOSHAPHAT

ASALIAH

YEHOSHAPHAT TEACHES PEOPLE THE LAW
YEHOSHAPHAT MAKES A TREATY WITH ACHAV
AND JOINS IN BATTLE AGAINST KAM

ASA SUTRS AID FROM ARAM
ASA IMPRISONNS CHANANI FOR REBUNING HIM

YEHORAM MARRIES ACHAV'S DAUGHTER
STAYS FROM BARRON
ACHAZIAH IS KILLED BY YEHU
HIS MOTHER ASALIAH TAKES OVER RULE
YEHOSHAPHAT COOPERATES WITH ACHAZIAH IN BUILDING
A FLEET AND IS RESCUED BY ELIEZER BEN DODAVAHU

YEHOSHAPHAT TEACHES PEOPLE THE LAW
YEHOSHAPHAT MAKES A TREATY WITH ACHAV
AND JOINS IN BATTLE AGAINST KAM

YEHOSHAPHAT TEACHES PEOPLE THE LAW
YEHOSHAPHAT MAKES A TREATY WITH ACHAV
AND JOINS IN BATTLE AGAINST KAM

YEHOASH IS
KILLED BY HIS SON

BAASHA

THE KINGS OF ISRAEL

BAASHA

BAASHA

TIVNI
OMRI

ACHAV BEN OMRI

YEHORAM
BEN ACHAV

YEHOACHAZ BEN YEHORAM

ELAH

OMRI

YEHU BEN YEHOSHAPHAT

ZIMRI

ACHAZIAH
BEN ACHAV

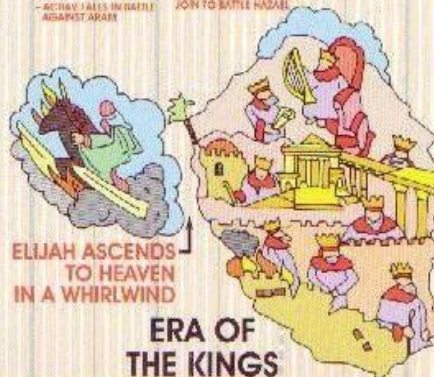
BAASHA DESTROYS THE ENTIRE
HOUSE OF JEHOASH

BAASHA ATTACKS JUDAH
ELAH IS KILLED
BY ZIMRI
ZIMRI DESTROYS
HOUSE OF BAASHA
OMRI REBELS
SAMARIA
AS HIS CAPITAL

ACHAV MARRIES JEZEBEL AND WORSHIPS BAAL
ACHAV AND JEZEBEL
KILL MANY OF THE PROPHETS
ELIJAH PROPHECIZES A DROUGHT
ELIJAH REFUTES PROPHETS OF BAAL ON
MOUNT CAMEL AND KILLS THEM
BEN-HADAD OF ARAM CONQUERS
SAMARIA BUT IS THEN DEFEATED
ACHAV SEALS VINEYARD FROM NABOTH
ACHAV FALLS IN BATTLE
AGAINST ARAM

ACHAZIAH INQUIRES OF THE GOD OF SKRON
ELIJAH FORETELLS ACHAV'S DEATH
YEHORAM JOINS WITH YEHOSHAPHAT
AND BODI AGAINST MOAB
NAAMAN IS CURED BY ELISHA IN SAMARIA
BEN-HADAD BESIEGES SAMARIA THEN FLEES
YEHORAM AND ACHAZIAH
JOIN TO BATTLE HAZAR

YEHU DESTROYS THE HOUSE OF ACHAV



ELIJAH ASCENDS
TO HEAVEN
IN A WHIRLWIND

ERA OF
THE KINGS

A NEW SYSTEM
OF TEMPLE
MAINTENANCE
BY YEHOASH

OF ZERAH
ETHIOPIAN

SOLAR CYCLE 108 SOLAR CYCLE 109 SOLAR CYCLE 110 SOLAR CYCLE 111
 LUNAR CYCLE 158 LUNAR CYCLE 159 LUNAR CYCLE 160 LUNAR CYCLE 161 LUNAR CYCLE 162 LUNAR CYCLE 163

WORLD EVENTS

Map:



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