

# Old Testament Readings for Ascension

WEDNESDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE FIVE	
<b>Deacon:</b> The evening prokeimenon.	الشماس: تَرْنِيمَةُ الْمَسَاءِ .
Choir: Save me, O God, by Thy Name, and judge me by Thy strength. (TWICE)	الجوقة: اللَّهُمَّ بِاسْمِكَ خَلِّصْنِي، وَبِقُوَّتِكَ احْكُمْ لِي. (مَرَّتَيْنِ)
<i>Verse. Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth!</i>	ستيخن: اِسْتَمِعْ يَا اللَّهُ صَلَاتِي، وَأَصْغِ إِلَى كَلَامِ شَفَتِي.
Choir: Save me, O God, by Thy Name, and judge me by Thy strength.	الجوقة: اللَّهُمَّ بِاسْمِكَ خَلِّصْنِي، وَبِقُوَّتِكَ احْكُمْ لِي.
The First Reading	
<b>Deacon:</b> Wisdom!	الشماس: حِكْمَةٌ!
<b>Reader:</b> The Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (2:2-3).	القارئ: قِرَاءَةٌ أُولَى مِنْ نُبُوءَةِ أَشْعِيَاءَ النَّبِيِّ.
<b>Deacon:</b> Let us attend!	الشماس: لِنُصْغِ.
<b>Reader:</b> Thus says the Lord: In the last days the mountain of the Lord shall be manifest, and the house of God shall be on the summits of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall come to it. And many peoples shall go and say: Come, let us ascend to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and He will tell us His way, and we will walk in it.	القارئ: هَكَذَا يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ: "وَيَكُونُ فِي آخِرِ الْأَيَّامِ، أَنْ جَبَلَ بَيْتِ الرَّبِّ يَكُونُ ثَابِتًا فِي رَأْسِ الْجِبَالِ، وَيَرْتَفِعُ فَوْقَ التَّلَالِ، وَتَجْرِي إِلَيْهِ كُلُّ الْأُمَمِ. وَتَسِيرُ شُعُوبٌ كَثِيرَةٌ، وَيَقُولُونَ: "هَلُمَّ نَصْعَدْ إِلَى جَبَلِ الرَّبِّ، إِلَى بَيْتِ إِلَهٍ يَعْقُوبَ، فَيُعَلِّمَنَا مِنْ طُرُقِهِ وَنَسْلُكَ فِي سُبُلِهِ."
The Second Reading	
<b>Deacon:</b> Wisdom!	الشماس: حِكْمَةٌ!
<b>Reader:</b> The Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (62:10-63:3, 7-9)	القارئ: قِرَاءَةٌ ثَانِيَةٌ مِنْ نُبُوءَةِ أَشْعِيَاءَ النَّبِيِّ.
<b>Deacon:</b> Let us attend!	الشماس: لِنُصْغِ.
<b>Reader:</b> Thus says the Lord: Go ye, pass through My gates, make ready My pathway and make a way for My people, and cast the stones out of the way; lift up a standard for the nations. For behold, the Lord hath proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say ye to the daughter of Zion: Behold, thy Savior is come, having His reward with Him and His work before His countenance. And He shall call them a holy people, redeemed of the Lord; and thou shalt be called a city sought out, and not forsaken. Who is this that is come from Edam, with red garments from Bosor, so fair in His apparel? He cries with mighty strength: I speak of righteousness and saving judgment. Wherefore are Thy garments red, and Thy raiment as if fresh from a trodden winepress? I am full of trodden grape, I have trodden the winepress utterly alone, and of the nations there is not a man with Me. I remembered the mercy of the Lord, I shall recall the virtues of the Lord, the praises of the Lord in all things wherein He recompenses us.	القارئ: هَكَذَا يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ: "اعْبُرُوا، اعْبُرُوا بِالْأَبْوَابِ، هَيِّئُوا طَرِيقَ الشَّعْبِ. اَعِدُّوا، اَعِدُّوا السَّبِيلَ، نَقُوهُ مِنَ الْحِجَارَةِ، اِرْفَعُوا الرَّايَةَ لِلشَّعْبِ. هُوَذَا الرَّبُّ قَدْ أَخْبَرَ إِلَى أَفْصَى الْأَرْضِ، قُولُوا لِابْنَةِ صِهْيُونَ: "هُوَذَا مَخْلُصُكِ آتٍ. هَا أُجْرَتْهُ مَعَهُ وَجِرَاؤُهُ أَمَامَهُ". وَيَسْمُونَهُمْ: "شَعْبًا مَقْدَسًا"، "مَقْدِيي الرَّبِّ". وَأَنْتِ تَسْمَيْنَ: "الْمَطْلُوبَةَ"، "الْمَدِينَةَ غَيْرَ الْمَهْجُورَةَ". مَنْ ذَا الْآتِي مِنْ أَدُومَ، بِثِيَابِ حُمْرٍ مِنْ بَصْرَةَ؟ هَذَا الْبَهِيُّ بِمَلَابِسِهِ، الْمَتَعَطِّمْ بِكَثْرَةِ قُوَّتِهِ. أَنَا الْمُنْكَلَّمُ بِالْبَيْرِ، الْعَظِيمُ لِلْخَلَّاصِ". مَا بَالُ لِبَاسِكَ مُحْمَرٌّ، وَثِيَابُكَ كَذَائِسِ الْمِعْصَرَةِ؟ قَدْ دُسْتُ الْمِعْصَرَةَ وَخِدي، وَمِنْ الشُّعُوبِ لَمْ يَكُنْ مَعِيَ أَحَدٌ.

# Old Testament Readings for Ascension

<p>The Lord is a good judge to the house of Israel; He deals with us according to His mercy, and according to the multitude of His righteousness. And He said: Are ye not My people? They are My children, and they shall not set Me at nothing; and He became for them salvation out of all their affliction. Not an ambassador, nor an Angel, but the Lord Himself saved them, because He loved them and spared them; He Himself redeemed them, and took them up, and lifted them up for all the days of eternity.</p>	<p>إِحْسَانَاتِ الرَّبِّ أَذْكَرُ، تَسَابِيحِ الرَّبِّ، حَسَبَ كُلِّ مَا كَافَأْنَا بِهِ الرَّبُّ، وَالْخَيْرِ الْعَظِيمِ لِبَيْتِ إِسْرَائِيلَ الَّذِي كَافَأَهُمْ بِهِ حَسَبَ مَرَاحِمِهِ، وَحَسَبَ كَثْرَةِ إِحْسَانَاتِهِ. وَقَدْ قَالَ حَقًّا: "إِنَّهُمْ شَعْبِي، بَنُونَ لَا يَخُونُونَ". فَصَارَ لَهُمْ مُخَلِّصًا. فِي كُلِّ ضَيْقِهِمْ تَضَاقِقَ، وَمَلَائِكَ حَضْرَتِهِ خَلَّصَهُمْ. بِمَحَبَّتِهِ وَرَأْفَتِهِ هُوَ فَكَّهُمْ وَرَفَعَهُمْ وَحَمَلَهُمْ كُلَّ الْأَيَّامِ الْقَدِيمَةِ.</p>
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## The Third Reading

<p><b>Deacon:</b> Wisdom! <b>Reader:</b> The Reading from the Prophecy of Zachariah. (14:1, 4, 8-11) <b>Deacon:</b> Let us attend!</p>	<p><b>الشماس:</b> حِكْمَةٌ! <b>القارئ:</b> قِرَاءَةٌ ثَالِثَةٌ مِنْ نُبُوَّةِ زَكَرِيَّا. <b>الشماس:</b> لِنُضْغِ.</p>
<p><b>Reader:</b> Thus says the Lord: Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, and His feet shall stand in that day on the Mount of Olives, which lies opposite Jerusalem on the side whence the dawning of the sun is. And in that day living water shall come forth out of Jerusalem; half of it toward the former sea, and half of it toward the latter sea; and so shall it be in summer and spring. And the Lord shall be king over all the earth; in that day there shall be one Lord, and His Name one, compassing all the earth, and the wilderness from Gabaah unto Remmon, to the south of Jerusalem. And He shall be exalted and shall remain in that place, from the gate of Benjamin to the place of the first gate, to the gate of Gomor, and to the tower of Anameel, and to the gate of the corners, as far as the king's winepresses. They shall dwell therein; and there shall be no more anything accursed, and Jerusalem shall dwell securely.</p>	<p><b>القارئ:</b> هَكَذَا يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ: "هُوَذَا يَوْمٌ لِلرَّبِّ يَأْتِي وَنَقِفُ قَدَمَاهُ فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ عَلَى جَبَلِ الزَّيْتُونِ الَّذِي قُدَّامَ أُورُشَلِيمَ مِنَ الشَّرْقِ، وَيَكُونُ فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ أَنَّ مِيَاهَا حَيَّةً تَخْرُجُ مِنْ أُورُشَلِيمَ نِصْفَهَا إِلَى الْبَحْرِ الشَّرْقِيِّ، وَنِصْفَهَا إِلَى الْبَحْرِ الْعَرَبِيِّ. فِي الصَّيْفِ وَفِي الْحَرِيفِ تَكُونُ. وَيَكُونُ الرَّبُّ مَلِكًا عَلَى كُلِّ الْأَرْضِ. فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ يَكُونُ الرَّبُّ وَحْدَهُ وَاسْمُهُ وَحْدَهُ. وَتَتَحَوَّلُ الْأَرْضُ كُلُّهَا كَالْعَرَبِيَّةِ مِنْ جَبَعِ إِلَى رَمُونَ جَنُوبَ أُورُشَلِيمَ. وَتَرْتَفِعُ وَتَعْمُرُ فِي مَكَانِهَا، مِنْ بَابِ بَنِيَامِينَ إِلَى مَكَانِ الْبَابِ الْأَوَّلِ، إِلَى بَابِ الرُّوَايَا، وَمِنْ بُرْجِ حَنْثَيْلَ إِلَى مَعَاصِرِ الْمَلِكِ. فَيَسْكُنُونَ فِيهَا وَلَا يَكُونُ بَعْدُ لَعْنٌ. فَتُعْمَرُ أُورُشَلِيمُ بِالْأَمْنِ."</p>