Ezekiel's Prophecy to the Exiles—Oracle against Tyre (September 18, 587 BC)

Ezekiel 26:1-28:19

The Announcement of Tyre's Demise

26:1 And it was in the eleventh year, on the first day of the month, the word of Yahweh came to me, saying,

- 2 "Son of man, because Tyre said concerning Jerusalem, 'Ah! The gates of the peoples are broken; it has swung *open* to me; I shall be filled, *for* it lies in ruins!'
- 3 Therefore thus says the Lord Yahweh: 'Look! I am against you, Tyre, and I will bring up against you many nations like the stirring up of the sea stirring up its waves.
- 4 And I will destroy the walls of Tyre, and they will demolish its towers, and I will scrape away its earthen dirt from it, and I will make it into a bare rock.
- 5 It will become a place for spreading out dragnets in the midst of the sea; for I have spoken,' declares the Lord Yahweh. 'And it will become as plunder for the nations,

6 and its daughters who are in the field with the sword, they will be killed; and they will know that I am Yahweh."

The Agent of God's Judgment

7 For thus says the Lord Yahweh: "Look! I am bringing to Tyre Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, from the north, the king of kings, with horse and with chariot and with horsemen and his assembly and many people.

8 Your daughters he will kill in the field with the sword, and he will place against you siege works, and he will build against you a siege ramp, and he will raise against you a shield,

9 and the thrust of his battering ram he will direct against your walls, and your towers he will break down with his weapons.

- 10 From the abundance of his horses he will cover you with their fine dust; at the sound of horseman and wheel and chariot your walls will shake, at his coming into your gates like the entrance of a city that is being broken through.
- 11 With the hooves of his horses he will trample all of your streets. He will kill your people with the sword, and your strong stone pillars will tumble down to the earth.
- 12 And they will plunder your wealth, and they will loot your merchandise, and they will break down your walls, and the houses of your delight they will break down, and your stones and your timbers and your earthen dirt they will cast into the midst of *the* water. 13 And, I will put an end to the noise of your songs, and the sound of your lyres will not be heard any longer.
- 14 And I will make you into a bare rock, a place for *the* spreading out of dragnets. You will not be built again, for I, Yahweh, I have spoken," declares the Lord Yahweh.

The International Impact of Tyre's Demise

15 Thus says the Lord Yahweh to Tyre, "Will not the coastlands shake from the sound of your downfall, at *the* groaning of the wounded, at people being killed in the midst of you?

16 And all the princes of the sea will go down from their thrones, and they will remove their robes, and their beautiful garments of finished cloth they will take off. With terror they will be clothed, and on the ground they will sit, and they will tremble continually, and they will be appalled over you.

17 And they will raise a lament over you, and they will say to you,

'How you have been lost *who was* inhabited from *the* seas; the city that was praised, that was strong.

It is located on the sea,

and its inhabitants imposed their terror on all of its inhabitants.

18 Now the coastlands will tremble

at the day of your downfall,

and the islands that are in the sea

will be horrified because of your departure."

The Role of Yahweh in Tyre's Demise

19 For thus says the Lord Yahweh: "When I make you a desolate city, like the cities that are not inhabited, when bringing up over you the deep, the great surging waters will cover you.

20 And I will bring you down with *those who are* going down to the grave, an ancient people, and I will cause you to dwell in the world of *the* depths, in the ruins from of old with *those who are* going down to *the* grave, so that you will not be inhabited and have a place in *the* land of *the* living.

21 Sudden terrors I will bring on you, and you shall no *longer exist*; and you will be sought, and you will not be found again forever," declares the Lord Yahweh.

Lament over the Shipwreck of Tyre

27:1 And the word of Yahweh came to me, saying,

- 2 "And you, son of man, raise a lament against Tyre.
- 3 And you must say to Tyre, the one who sits at *the* entrance of the sea *as* the merchant of the peoples to the many coastlands, 'Thus says the Lord Yahweh:

Tyre, you yourself said

"I am perfect in beauty!"

- 4 In *the* heart of *the* seas *are* your boundaries; your builders perfected your beauty.
- They built with pine trees from Senir all of your boards for you; they took cedars from Lebanon to make a sailing mast for you.
- 6 They made your oars with oaks from Bashan; your deck they made with inlaid ivory, with cypress trees from the coastlands of Cyprus.
- Your sail was fine linen with colorful weaving from Egypt to serve as a banner for you; blue and purple cloth from the coastlands of Cyprus was your awning.
- 8 The inhabitants of Sidon and Arvan were your rowers; your skilled men, O Tyre, were from your own people, and they were your seamen.
- 9 The elders of Gebal and its skilled men were among you as the repairers of the seam of your boat; all of the ships of the sea and their mariners were among you to barter your wares.
- 10 Persia and Lud and Put were among your soldiers; small shield and helmet hung among you and gave to you your adornment.
- 11 The people of Arvan and Helech were on your walls all around, and Gammadites were in your towers.
 They hung their quivers on your walls all around; they perfected your beauty.
- 12 " 'Tarshish was your trader; from the abundance of all of their wealth, with silver, iron, tin, and lead they exchanged for your merchandise.
- 13 Javan, Tubal, and Meshech were your traders; in exchange for people and an object of bronze they gave you your wares.
- 14 From Beth Togarmah they exchanged horses and war horses and mules for your wares.
- 15 The people of Dedan *were* trading *with* you, many coastlands *composed* the region of your influence; they brought back horns of ivory and ebony *as* your payment.
- 16 Edom *was* trading *with* you because of the abundance of your products, *trading* with malachite, purple wool yarn and colorful weaving, and fine white fabric and black corals and rubies; *all these* they exchange for your merchandise.
- 17 Judah and the land of Israel were trading with you with wheat from Minnith and millet and honey and olive oil and balm; all these they gave for your wares.
- 18 Damascus was trading with you because of the abundance of your products, because of the abundance of all of your wealth, trading with the wine of Helbon and white wool.
- 19 Vedan and Javan from Uzal, they exchanged wrought iron, cinnamon, and reed spice for your merchandise; *all this* was for your wares.
- 20 Dedan was trading with you, with garments of woven material for riding.
- 21 Arabia and all of the leaders of Kedar were your customers; with young rams and adult rams and goats they were trading with them with you.
- 22 The traders of Sheba and Raamah were trading with you, with the finest of every spice and with every precious stone and gold; they exchanged all these for your merchandise.

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23 Haran and Canneh and Eden, the traders of Sheba, Assyria, and Kilmad were trading with you.

24 They were trading with you in finery, in mantles of blue cloth and colorful embroidered work and with rugs of variegated cloth in twisted cords and knotted tightly; these were among your merchandise.

25 The ships of Tarshish were carrying for you your wares, and you were filled, and you became very heavy in the heart of the seas.

26 "Into many waters the rowers brought you; but the east wind wrecked you

in the heart of the seas.

- 27 Your wealth and your merchandise, your wares, your mariners, and your seamen, your shipwrights and the barterers of your wares and all of your soldiers who *are* in you, along with all of your crew who are in the midst of you, they will fall in *the* heart of *the* seas on the day of your downfall.
- At the sound of the shout of your seamen, the pasturelands will shake.
- 29 And they will go down from their ships, all of *those* holding an oar, mariners, all of the seamen of the sea will stand on the land,
- 30 and they will lament over you with their voice, and they will cry out bitterly, and they will throw dust on their heads, and they will roll in the dust.
- 31 They will shave themselves bald for your sake, and they will dress themselves *in* sackcloth, and they will weep over you with *a* bitterness of soul *and* with bitter wailing.
- And they will raise over you with their wailing a lament, and they will chant a lament over you:

'Who is like Tyre,

like this destruction in the midst of the sea?'

- When your merchandise went out from *the* seas, you satisfied many peoples with the abundance of your wealth, and *by* your wares you made rich *the* kings of *the* world.
- Now you are broken by seas in *the* depths of waters; your wares and all of your crew in the midst of you have sunk.
- 35 All of the inhabitants of the coastlands are appalled over you, and their kings shudder in horror; they distort their faces!
- 36 The traders among the peoples hiss over you; you have become *a* horror, and you shall be no more forever!"

Doom for the Prince of Tyre

28:1 And the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, 2 "Son of man, say to the leader of Tyre, 'Thus says the Lord Yahweh:

"Because your heart was haughty, and you said, 'I am a god; I sit in the seat of the gods, I sit in the heart of the seas!' But you are a human, not a god,

and you gave your heart to be like the heart of a god.

- 3 Look, are you wiser than Daniel,
 - so that no secret is hidden from you?
- By your wisdom and by your understanding you have gained for yourself wealth, and you have amassed gold and silver in your treasuries.
- 5 By the abundance of your wisdom in your trading you *have* increased your wealth and your heart was proud in your wealth." ""

6 Therefore thus says the Lord Yahweh:

"Because of your regarding your mind like *the* mind of a god,

- 7 therefore look! I am bringing strangers over you, the most ruthless of the peoples, and they will draw their swords against the beauty of your wisdom, and they will defile your splendor.
- 8 They will thrust you down to the pit, and you will die a violent death in *the* heart of *the* seas.
- 9 Will you indeed still say "I am a god!" before the face of your killers? And in fact you are a human and not a god in the hand of those who pierce you.
- 10 You will die *the* death of *the* uncircumcised by the hand of strangers,

for I myself have spoken!" declares the Lord Yahweh.

Lament for the King of Tyre (a type of Satan)

- 11 And the word of Yahweh came to me, saying,
- 12 "Son of man, raise a lament over the king of Tyre, and you must say to him, 'thus says the Lord Yahweh:

"You were a perfect model of an example, full of wisdom and perfect of beauty.

13 You were in Eden, the garden of God,

and every precious stone was your adornment:

carnelian, topaz and moonstone,

turquoise, onyx and jasper,

sapphire, malachite and emerald.

And gold was the craftsmanship of your settings

and your mountings in you;

on the day when you were created they were prepared.

- 14 You were *an* anointed guardian cherub, and I placed you on God's holy mountain;
 - you walked in the midst of stones of fire.
- 15 You were blameless in your ways
 - Tou were blattletess in your ways

from the day when you were created, until wickedness was found in you.

- 16 In the abundance of your trading,
 - they filled the midst of you with violence, and you sinned;
 - and I cast you as a profane thing from the mountain of God,
 - and I expelled you, the guardian cherub,
 - from the midst of the stones of fire.
- 17 Your heart was proud because of your beauty;
 - you ruined your wisdom because of your splendor.

I threw you on the ground before kings;

- I have exposed you for viewing.

 From the abundance of your iniquities in the dishonesty of your trading,
 I profaned your sanctuaries and I brought fire from your midst; it consumed you, and I have turned you to ashes on the earth
- before the eyes of everyone who sees you.

 All who know you among the peoples are appalled over you; you have become as horrors, and you shall cease to exist forever." ""

Ezekiel's Prophecy to the Exiles—Oracle against Sidon (September 18, 587 BC)

Ezekiel 28:20-26

20 And the word of Yahweh came to me, saying,

21 "Son of man, set your face toward Sidon and prophesy against it,

22 and you must say, 'Thus says the Lord Yahweh:

"Look! I am against you, Sidon, and I display my glory in the midst of you, and they will know that I am Yahweh when I execute my judgments, and I will show myself holy within it.

23 And I will send into it a plague, and blood will be in its streets.

And the dead will fall in the midst of her by the sword that is against it from all around; and they will know that I am Yahweh.

24 And there will not be any longer *a* painful thorn and a sharp thornbush for the house of Israel from anywhere around them *from those* who are despising them, and they will know that I *am* the Lord Yahweh." ""

25 Thus says the Lord Yahweh: "When I gather the house of Israel from the peoples to which they were scattered *about* in them, and I show myself holy in them before the eyes of the nations, then they will live on their soil, which I gave to my servant Jacob.
26 And they will live on it in safety, and they will build houses, and they will plant vineyards, and they will live in safety when I execute my judgments on all those who despise them from all around them, and *then* they will know that I *am* Yahweh their God."

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