

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 Now in the eleventh year, on the first of the month, the word of the LORD came to me saying,

2 "Son of man, because Tyre has said concerning Jerusalem, 'Aha, the gateway of the peoples is broken; it has opened to me. I shall be filled, *now that* she is laid waste,'

3 therefore thus says the Lord GOD, 'Behold, I am against you, O Tyre, and I will bring up many nations against you, as the sea brings up its waves.

4 They will destroy the walls of Tyre and break down her towers; and I will scrape her debris from her and make her a bare rock.

5 She will be a place for the spreading of nets in the midst of the sea, for I have spoken,' declares the Lord GOD, 'and she will become spoil for the nations.

6 Also her daughters who are on the mainland will be slain by the sword, and they will know that I am the LORD.'"

The Agent of God's Judgment

7 For thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I will bring upon Tyre from the north Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, king of kings, with horses, chariots, cavalry and a great army.

8 He will slay your daughters on the mainland with the sword; and he will make siege walls against you, cast up a ramp against you and raise up a large shield against you.

9 The blow of his battering rams he will direct against your walls, and with his axes he will break down your towers.

10 Because of the multitude of his horses, the dust *raised by* them will cover you; your walls will shake at the noise of cavalry and wagons and chariots when he enters your gates as men enter a city that is breached.

11 With the hoofs of his horses he will trample all your streets. He will slay your people with the sword; and your strong pillars will come down to the ground.

12 Also they will make a spoil of your riches and a prey of your merchandise, break down your walls and destroy your pleasant houses, and throw your stones and your timbers and your debris into the water.

13 So I will silence the sound of your songs, and the sound of your harps will be heard no more.

14 I will make you a bare rock; you will be a place for the spreading of nets. You will be built no more, for I the LORD have spoken," declares the Lord GOD.

The International Impact of Tyre's Demise

15 Thus says the Lord GOD to Tyre, "Shall not the coastlands shake at the sound of your fall when the wounded groan, when the slaughter occurs in your midst?

16 Then all the princes of the sea will go down from their thrones, remove their robes and strip off their embroidered garments. They will clothe themselves with trembling; they will sit on the ground, tremble every moment and be appalled at you.

17 They will take up a lamentation over you and say to you,

'How you have perished, O inhabited one,
From the seas, O renowned city,
Which was mighty on the sea,
She and her inhabitants,
Who imposed her terror
On all her inhabitants!

18 'Now the coastlands will tremble
On the day of your fall;
Yes, the coastlands which are by the sea
Will be terrified at your passing.'"

The Role of Yahweh in Tyre's Demise

19 For thus says the Lord GOD, "When I make you a desolate city, like the cities which are not inhabited, when I bring up the deep over you and the great waters cover you,

20 then I will bring you down with those who go down to the pit, to the people of old, and I will make you dwell in the lower parts of the earth, like the ancient waste places, with those who go down to the pit, so that you will not be inhabited; but I will set glory in the land of the living.

21 I will bring terrors on you and you will be no more; though you will be sought, you will never be found again," declares the Lord GOD.

Lament over the Shipwreck of Tyre

27:1 Moreover, the word of the LORD came to me saying,

- 2 “And you, son of man, take up a lamentation over Tyre;
3 and say to Tyre, who dwells at the entrance to the sea, merchant of the peoples to many coastlands, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD,
- ‘O Tyre, you have said, ‘I am perfect in beauty.’
4 “Your borders are in the heart of the seas;
Your builders have perfected your beauty.
5 “They have made all *your* planks of fir trees from Senir;
They have taken a cedar from Lebanon to make a mast for you.
6 “Of oaks from Bashan they have made your oars;
With ivory they have inlaid your deck of boxwood from the coastlands of Cyprus.
7 “Your sail was of fine embroidered linen from Egypt
So that it became your distinguishing mark;
Your awning was blue and purple from the coastlands of Elishah.
8 “The inhabitants of Sidon and Arvad were your rowers;
Your wise men, O Tyre, were aboard; they were your pilots.
9 “The elders of Gebal and her wise men were with you repairing your seams;
All the ships of the sea and their sailors were with you in order to deal in your merchandise.
- 10 “Persia and Lud and Put were in your army, your men of war. They hung shield and helmet in you; they set forth your splendor.
11 The sons of Arvad and your army were on your walls, *all* around, and the Gammadim were in your towers. They hung their shields on your walls *all* around; they perfected your beauty.
12 “Tarshish was your customer because of the abundance of all *kinds* of wealth; with silver, iron, tin and lead they paid for your wares.
13 Javan, Tubal and Meshech, they were your traders; with the lives of men and vessels of bronze they paid for your merchandise.
14 Those from Beth-togarmah gave horses and war horses and mules for your wares.
15 The sons of Dedan were your traders. Many coastlands were your market; ivory tusks and ebony they brought as your payment.
16 Aram was your customer because of the abundance of your goods; they paid for your wares with emeralds, purple, embroidered work, fine linen, coral and rubies.
17 Judah and the land of Israel, they were your traders; with the wheat of Minnith, cakes, honey, oil and balm they paid for your merchandise.
18 Damascus was your customer because of the abundance of your goods, because of the abundance of all *kinds* of wealth, because of the wine of Helbon and white wool.
19 Vedan and Javan paid for your wares from Uzal; wrought iron, cassia and sweet cane were among your merchandise.
20 Dedan traded with you in saddlecloths for riding.
21 Arabia and all the princes of Kedar, they were your customers for lambs, rams and goats; for these they were your customers.
22 The traders of Sheba and Raamah, they traded with you; they paid for your wares with the best of all *kinds* of spices, and with all *kinds* of precious stones and gold.
23 Haran, Canneh, Eden, the traders of Sheba, Asshur *and* Chilmad traded with you.
24 They traded with you in choice garments, in clothes of blue and embroidered work, and in carpets of many colors *and* tightly wound cords, *which were* among your merchandise.
25 The ships of Tarshish were the carriers for your merchandise.
- And you were filled and were very glorious
 In the heart of the seas.
26 “Your rowers have brought you
 Into great waters;
 The east wind has broken you
 In the heart of the seas.
27 “Your wealth, your wares, your merchandise,
 Your sailors and your pilots,
 Your repairers of seams, your dealers in merchandise
 And all your men of war who are in you,
 With all your company that is in your midst,
 Will fall into the heart of the seas
 On the day of your overthrow.
28 “At the sound of the cry of your pilots
 The pasture lands will shake.
29 “All who handle the oar,

- The sailors *and* all the pilots of the sea
 Will come down from their ships;
 They will stand on the land,
 30 And they will make their voice heard over you
 And will cry bitterly.
 They will cast dust on their heads,
 They will wallow in ashes.
 31 “Also they will make themselves bald for you
 And gird themselves with sackcloth;
 And they will weep for you in bitterness of soul
 With bitter mourning.
 32 “Moreover, in their wailing they will take up a lamentation for you
 And lament over you:
 ‘Who is like Tyre,
 Like her who is silent in the midst of the sea?
 33 ‘When your wares went out from the seas,
 You satisfied many peoples;
 With the abundance of your wealth and your merchandise
 You enriched the kings of earth.
 34 ‘Now that you are broken by the seas
 In the depths of the waters,
 Your merchandise and all your company
 Have fallen in the midst of you.
 35 ‘All the inhabitants of the coastlands
 Are appalled at you,
 And their kings are horribly afraid;
 They are troubled in countenance.
 36 ‘The merchants among the peoples hiss at you;
 You have become terrified
 And you will cease to be forever.’”

Doom for the Prince of Tyre

28:1 The word of the LORD came again to me, saying,
 2 “Son of man, say to the leader of Tyre, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD,

- “Because your heart is lifted up
 And you have said, ‘I am a god,
 I sit in the seat of gods
 In the heart of the seas’;
 Yet you are a man and not God,
 Although you make your heart like the heart of God—
 3 Behold, you are wiser than Daniel;
 There is no secret that is a match for you.
 4 “By your wisdom and understanding
 You have acquired riches for yourself
 And have acquired gold and silver for your treasures.
 5 “By your great wisdom, by your trade
 You have increased your riches
 And your heart is lifted up because of your riches—

6 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD,

- ‘Because you have made your heart
 Like the heart of God,
 7 Therefore, behold, I will bring strangers upon you,
 The most ruthless of the nations.
 And they will draw their swords
 Against the beauty of your wisdom

And defile your splendor.

- 8 'They will bring you down to the pit,
And you will die the death of those who are slain
In the heart of the seas.
- 9 'Will you still say, "I am a god,"
In the presence of your slayer,
Though you are a man and not God,
In the hands of those who wound you?
- 10 'You will die the death of the uncircumcised
By the hand of strangers,
For I have spoken!' declares the Lord God!'"

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

- 11 Again the word of the LORD came to me saying,
12 "Son of man, take up a lamentation over the king of Tyre and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord God,
- "You had the seal of perfection,
Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.
- 13 "You were in Eden, the garden of God;
Every precious stone was your covering:
The ruby, the topaz and the diamond;
The beryl, the onyx and the jasper;
The lapis lazuli, the turquoise and the emerald;
And the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets,
Was in you.
On the day that you were created
They were prepared.
- 14 "You were the anointed cherub who covers,
And I placed you *there*.
You were on the holy mountain of God;
You walked in the midst of the stones of fire.
- 15 "You were blameless in your ways
From the day you were created
Until unrighteousness was found in you.
- 16 "By the abundance of your trade
You were internally filled with violence,
And you sinned;
Therefore I have cast you as profane
From the mountain of God.
And I have destroyed you, O covering cherub,
From the midst of the stones of fire.
- 17 "Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty;
You corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor.
I cast you to the ground;
I put you before kings,
That they may see you.
- 18 "By the multitude of your iniquities,
In the unrighteousness of your trade
You profaned your sanctuaries.
Therefore I have brought fire from the midst of you;
It has consumed you,
And I have turned you to ashes on the earth
In the eyes of all who see you.
- 19 "All who know you among the peoples
Are appalled at you;
You have become terrified
And you will cease to be forever.'"

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

Ezekiel 28:20–26

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

21 “Son of man, set your face toward Sidon, prophesy against her

22 and say, ‘Thus says the Lord God,

“Behold, I am against you, O Sidon,

And I will be glorified in your midst.

Then they will know that I am the LORD when I execute judgments in her,

And I will manifest My holiness in her.

23 “For I will send pestilence to her

And blood to her streets,

And the wounded will fall in her midst

By the sword upon her on every side;

Then they will know that I am the LORD.

24 And there will be no more for the house of Israel a prickling brier or a painful thorn from any round about them who scorned them; then they will know that I am the Lord GOD.”

25 ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “When I gather the house of Israel from the peoples among whom they are scattered, and will manifest My holiness in them in the sight of the nations, then they will live in their land which I gave to My servant Jacob.

26 They will live in it securely; and they will build houses, plant vineyards and live securely when I execute judgments upon all who scorn them round about them. Then they will know that I am the LORD their God.””

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