**Ezekiel Chapters 25, 26 -28**

 This prophecy (Chapter 25) against several nations surrounding Israel, including the Ammonites, Moabites, Edomites, and Philistia. The Ammonites, the Moabites, and the Edomites lived on the mountain ranges stretching from the north to below the southwestern half of the Dead Sea.

**Ezekiel 25**

25 The word of the Lord came to me, saying, 2 “Son of man, set your face against the Ammonites, and prophesy against them. 3 Say to the Ammonites, ‘Hear the word of the Lord God! Thus says the Lord God: “Because you said, ‘Aha!’ against My sanctuary when it was profaned, and against the land of Israel when it was desolate, and against the house of Judah when they went into captivity, 4 indeed, therefore, I will deliver you as a possession to the men of the East, and they shall set their encampments among you and make their dwellings among you; they shall eat your fruit, and they shall drink your milk. 5 And I will make Rabbah a stable for camels and Ammon a resting place for flocks. Then you shall know that I am the Lord.”

6 ‘For thus says the Lord God: “Because you clapped your hands, stamped your feet, and rejoiced in heart with all your disdain for the land of Israel, 7 indeed, therefore, I will stretch out My hand against you, and give you as plunder to the nations; I will cut you off from the peoples, and I will cause you to perish from the countries; I will destroy you, and you shall know that I am the Lord.”

* Here, Ezekiel indicates that the Ammonites too would be brought into captivity by the “men of the East”, as the Ammonites had rejoiced by dancing (clapping their hands and stomping their feet) when they heard Israel was being invaded. They had also spoken against the sanctuary, Israel, and the house of Judah. God predicted that the nation of the Ammonites would no longer be remembered which is true to this day. The Ammonites eventually fell into the pages of history and have ceased to be a nation. The Chaldeans would also destroy Edom and the coastal area of the Philistines. . – Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible, footnote p. 1271

Proclamation Against Moab

8 ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Because Moab and Seir say, ‘Look! The house of Judah is like all the nations,’ 9 therefore, behold, I will clear the territory of Moab of cities, of the cities on its frontier, the glory of the country, Beth Jeshimoth, Baal Meon, and Kirjathaim. 10 To the men of the East I will give it as a possession, together with the Ammonites, that the Ammonites may not be remembered among the nations. 11 And I will execute judgments upon Moab, and they shall know that I am the Lord.”

Proclamation Against Edom

12 ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Because of what Edom did against the house of Judah by taking vengeance, and has greatly offended by avenging itself on them,” 13 therefore thus says the Lord God: “I will also stretch out My hand against Edom, cut off man and beast from it, and make it desolate from Teman; Dedan shall fall by the sword. 14 I will lay My vengeance on Edom by the hand of My people Israel, that they may do in Edom according to My anger and according to My fury; and they shall know My vengeance,” says the Lord God.

Proclamation Against Philistia

15 ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Because the Philistines dealt vengefully and took vengeance with a spiteful heart, to destroy because of the old hatred,” 16 therefore thus says the Lord God: “I will stretch out My hand against the Philistines, and I will cut off the Cherethites and destroy the remnant of the seacoast. 17 I will execute great vengeance on them with furious rebukes; and they shall know that I am the Lord, when I lay My vengeance upon them.” ’ ”

 Chapters 26-28 contain a detailed prophecy against the main city of Tyre. An additional prophetic warning is addressed to Tyre’s sister city, Sidon. The Old Testament prophets mention both cities, and Ezekiel gives one of the Bible’s strongest warnings against Tyre. Tyre and Sidon were both located in Lebanon, with Tyre being twenty miles south of Sidon in about 12 miles north of the Israel-Lebanon border. Sidon was named after Canaan‘s first born son (see Gen 10:15), whose descendants settled to the north of ancient Canaan. It would become the boundary of the tribe of Zebulon (see Gen 49:13). Sidon, was an early port city from its origin, became the inheritance of Asher (see Josh 19:28) but was never taken, perhaps because of its extreme northern location.

Ezekiel’s prophecy against Tyre is divided into four parts, which consist of the threat of destruction, a lamentation over Tyre’s destruction, the threat against the king of Tyre, and the final lamentation concerning the fall of the king of Tyre. – Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible, footnote p. 1273

**Ezekiel Chapters 26-28**

Proclamation Against Tyre

**26** And it came to pass in the eleventh year, on the first day of the month, that the word of the Lord came to me, saying, 2 “Son of man, because Tyre has said against Jerusalem, ‘Aha! She is broken who was the gateway of the peoples; now she is turned over to me; I shall be filled; she is laid waste.’

3 “Therefore thus says the Lord God: ‘Behold, I am against you, O Tyre, and will cause many nations to come up against you, as the sea causes its waves to come up. 4 And they shall destroy the walls of Tyre and break down her towers; I will also scrape her dust from her, and make her like the top of a rock. 5 It shall be a place for spreading nets in the midst of the sea, for I have spoken,’ says the Lord God; ‘it shall become plunder for the nations. 6 Also her daughter villages which are in the fields shall be slain by the sword. Then they shall know that I am the Lord.’

7 “For thus says the Lord God: ‘Behold, I will bring against Tyre from the north Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, king of kings, with horses, with chariots, and with horsemen, and an army with many people. 8 He will slay with the sword your daughter villages in the fields; he will heap up a siege mound against you, build a wall against you, and raise a defense against you. 9 He will direct his battering rams against your walls, and with his axes he will break down your towers. 10 Because of the abundance of his horses, their dust will cover you; your walls will shake at the noise of the horsemen, the wagons, and the chariots, when he enters your gates, as men enter a city that has been breached. 11 With the hooves of his horses he will trample all your streets; he will slay your people by the sword, and your strong pillars will fall to the ground. 12 They will plunder your riches and pillage your merchandise; they will break down your walls and destroy your pleasant houses; they will lay your stones, your timber, and your soil in the midst of the water. 13 I will put an end to the sound of your songs, and the sound of your harps shall be heard no more. 14 I will make you like the top of a rock; you shall be a place for spreading nets, and you shall never be rebuilt, for I the Lord have spoken,’ says the Lord God.

15 “Thus says the Lord God to Tyre: ‘Will the coastlands not shake at the sound of your fall, when the wounded cry, when slaughter is made in the midst of you? 16 Then all the princes of the sea will come down from their thrones, lay aside their robes, and take off their embroidered garments; they will clothe themselves with trembling; they will sit on the ground, tremble every moment, and be astonished at you. 17 And they will take up a lamentation for you, and say to you:

“How you have perished,

O one inhabited by seafaring men,

O renowned city,

Who was strong at sea,

She and her inhabitants,

Who caused their terror to be on all her inhabitants!

18 Now the coastlands tremble on the day of your fall;

Yes, the coastlands by the sea are troubled at your departure.” ’

19 “For thus says the Lord God: ‘When I make you a desolate city, like cities that are not inhabited, when I bring the deep upon you, and great waters cover you, 20 then I will bring you down with those who descend into the Pit, to the people of old, and I will make you dwell in the lowest part of the earth, in places desolate from antiquity, with those who go down to the Pit, so that you may never be inhabited; and I shall establish glory in the land of the living. 21 I will make you a terror, and you shall be no more; though you are sought for, you will never be found again,’ says the Lord God.”

**27** The word of the Lord came again to me, saying, 2 “Now, son of man, take up a lamentation for Tyre,

“Tyre, situated approximately 50 miles south of Beirut, was founded by Phoenician settlers in the third millennium B.C. From its foundation, the city functioned as a critical trading hub and commercial port and, consequently, was the frequent target of military campaigns from neighboring empires in the region. Egyptians, Babylonians, Greeks, Persians, Romans, Crusaders, and Turks all attempted to colonize the city, with varying degrees of success. For much of its early history, Tyre was split into two co-dependent centers: the principal settlement, a wealthy maritime hub, occupied a highly fortified island, while a satellite community on the mainland provided necessary water and timber. Tyrian traders founded colonies throughout the Mediterranean, reputedly venturing as far west as Cadiz, and settling areas of North Africa and Greece. The city weathered an occupation by the Mameluks in the thirteenth century and remained part of the Ottoman Empire until its dissolution following the First World War. When the modern nation of Lebanon was formed, Tyre fell within its borders.” https://www.wmf.org/project/ancient-tyre

 3 and say to Tyre, ‘You who are situated at the entrance of the sea, merchant of the peoples on many coastlands, thus says the Lord God:

“O Tyre, you have said,

‘I am perfect in beauty.’

4 Your borders are in the midst of the seas.

Your builders have perfected your beauty.

5 They made all your planks of fir trees from Senir;

They took a cedar from Lebanon to make you a mast.

6 Of oaks from Bashan they made your oars;

The company of Ashurites have inlaid your planks

With ivory from the coasts of Cyprus.

7 Fine embroidered linen from Egypt was what you spread for your sail;

Blue and purple from the coasts of Elishah was what covered you.

8 “Inhabitants of Sidon and Arvad were your oarsmen;

Your wise men, O Tyre, were in you;

They became your pilots.

9 Elders of Gebal and its wise men

Were in you to caulk your seams;

All the ships of the sea

And their oarsmen were in you

To market your merchandise.

10 “Those from Persia, Lydia, and Libya

Were in your army as men of war;

They hung shield and helmet in you;

They gave splendor to you.

11 Men of Arvad with your army were on your walls all around,

And the men of Gammad were in your towers;

They hung their shields on your walls all around;

They made your beauty perfect.

12 “Tarshish was your merchant because of your many luxury goods. They gave you silver, iron, tin, and lead for your goods. 13 Javan, Tubal, and Meshech were your traders. They bartered human lives and vessels of bronze for your merchandise. 14 Those from the house of Togarmah traded for your wares with horses, steeds, and mules. 15 The men of Dedan were your traders; many isles were the market of your hand. They brought you ivory tusks and ebony as payment. 16 Syria was your merchant because of the abundance of goods you made. They gave you for your wares emeralds, purple, embroidery, fine linen, corals, and rubies. 17 Judah and the land of Israel were your traders. They traded for your merchandise wheat of Minnith, millet, honey, oil, and balm. 18 Damascus was your merchant because of the abundance of goods you made, because of your many luxury items, with the wine of Helbon and with white wool. 19 Dan and Javan paid for your wares, traversing back and forth. Wrought iron, cassia, and cane were among your merchandise. 20 Dedan was your merchant in saddlecloths for riding. 21 Arabia and all the princes of Kedar were your regular merchants. They traded with you in lambs, rams, and goats. 22 The merchants of Sheba and Raamah were your merchants. They traded for your wares the choicest spices, all kinds of precious stones, and gold. 23 Haran, Canneh, Eden, the merchants of Sheba, Assyria, and Chilmad were your merchants. 24 These were your merchants in choice items—in purple clothes, in embroidered garments, in chests of multicolored apparel, in sturdy woven cords, which were in your marketplace.

25 “The ships of Tarshish were carriers of your merchandise.

You were filled and very glorious in the midst of the seas.

26 Your oarsmen brought you into many waters,

But the east wind broke you in the midst of the seas.

27 “Your riches, wares, and merchandise,

Your mariners and pilots,

Your caulkers and merchandisers,

All your men of war who are in you,

And the entire company which is in your midst,

Will fall into the midst of the seas on the day of your ruin.

28 The common-land will shake at the sound of the cry of your pilots.

29 “All who handle the oar,

The mariners,

All the pilots of the sea

Will come down from their ships and stand on the shore.

30 They will make their voice heard because of you;

They will cry bitterly and cast dust on their heads;

They will roll about in ashes;

31 They will shave themselves completely bald because of you,

Gird themselves with sackcloth,

And weep for you

With bitterness of heart and bitter wailing.

32 In their wailing for you

They will take up a lamentation,

And lament for you:

‘What city is like Tyre,

Destroyed in the midst of the sea?

33 ‘When your wares went out by sea,

You satisfied many people;

You enriched the kings of the earth

With your many luxury goods and your merchandise.

34 But you are broken by the seas in the depths of the waters;

Your merchandise and the entire company will fall in your midst.

35 All the inhabitants of the isles will be astonished at you;

Their kings will be greatly afraid,

And their countenance will be troubled.

36 The merchants among the peoples will hiss at you;

You will become a horror, and be no more forever.’ ” ’ ”

* Tyre was built on the coastal plain of a rock island that extended a few hundred yards into the Mediterranean Sea. Its original name comes from the word meaning “rock.” Because part of the city was at the base of the mountains and near water, it became an excellent source of food. In David’s and Solomon‘s day, Hiram, the king of Tyre, sent carpenters, cedars, and stonemasons for the construction of the house of David and the temple. As an additional note, wicked Jezebel‘s father, Ethbaal, was a king of Sidon. According to Josephus, Ethbaal was a priest of the goddess Astarte, who killed the king of Tyre and seized his throne. *(Against Apion* 1:121-24; Antiquities 8)
Another name for those living in Tyre and Sidon is “Phoenicians.” This was a Greek name meaning “purpose,” which referred to the purple dye extracted from the fluid of a Murex shell. This dye was highly prized in the ancient world. One of the Phoenicians coastal industries was to extract the infamous purple dye and ship it to other parts of the Mediterranean world.
According to Jeremiah 27:3–11 and Ezekiel 26:7–14, Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, ultimately besieged Tyre, causing the city to surrender to him after about thirteen years. Many of the people moved from the mainland to the island and thus survive the mainland’s destruction. Jewish captives returned from Babylon, Ezra and Zerubbabel sent representatives to Tyre and Sidon for cedar wood to reconstruct the Jewish temple in Jerusalem.
Ezekiel’s prediction is very strong and predicts a time when God we destroy Tyre, scraping dust from the city and leveling her smooth like the top of a rock, making a place to spread out nets, and also causing Tyre’s global trade commerce to cease. It is an interesting historical fact that Alexander the Great took the stones from the destroyed coastal city, forged a stone causeway out to the island, and took the island after about eight months. Later, he remove the stones in cast them into the sea. When Tyre was destroyed, a great shipping and commerce people were also removed from their land, causing great sorrow to the nations who had traded with the once wealthy Phoenicians. . – Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible, footnote p. 1273

**28** “1 The word of the Lord came to me again, saying, 2 “Son of man, say to the prince of Tyre, ‘Thus says the Lord God:

* This chapter is one of the most unique in Ezekiel, as the prophet addresses the pride of the king of Tyre, in verses 1-19. The arrogant prince of Tyre was self-exalted and considered himself a god. Daniel was alive during this prophesy, and Ezekiel is using irony to mock the so-called “secret” wisdom that the human prince of Tyre claimed to possess. Notice that the king attributes all his wealth his wealth to his own wisdom and ability. God reminds the king that he was simply a man – and an uncircumcised one, evoking the imagery in the Old Testament of a pagan worshipper. However, a strange and unusual shift takes place in the context and content of verses 11-15, and some people throughout the centuries have considered it an allusion to the supernatural prince of Tyre who motivated the arrogance of the earthly prince. Scholars have noted that these verses may apply to Satan, describing him prior to his fall from heaven and comparing Satan’s fall to the coming fall of the proud king of Tyre. (Isa 14:12-21) – Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible, footnote p. 1275

“Because your heart is lifted up,

And you say, ‘I am a god,

I sit in the seat of gods,

In the midst of the seas,’

Yet you are a man, and not a god,

Though you set your heart as the heart of a god

3 (Behold, you are wiser than Daniel!

There is no secret that can be hidden from you!

4 With your wisdom and your understanding

You have gained riches for yourself,

And gathered gold and silver into your treasuries;

5 By your great wisdom in 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 set your heart as the heart of a god,

7 Behold, therefore, I will bring strangers against you,

The most terrible of the nations;

And they shall draw their swords against the beauty of your wisdom,

And defile your splendor.

8 They shall throw you down into the Pit,

And you shall die the death of the slain

In the midst of the seas.

9 “Will you still say before him who slays you,

‘I am a god’?

But you shall be a man, and not a god,

In the hand of him who slays you.

10 You shall die the death of the uncircumcised

By the hand of aliens;

For I have spoken,” says the Lord God.’ ”

11 Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying, 12 “Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord God:

“You were 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 sardius, topaz, and diamond,

Beryl, onyx, and jasper,

Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold.

The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes

Was prepared for you on the day you were created.

14 “You were the anointed cherub who covers;

I established you;

You were on the holy mountain of God;

You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.

15 You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created,

Till iniquity was found in you.

16 “By the abundance of your trading

You became filled with violence within,

And you sinned;

Therefore I cast you as a profane thing

Out of the mountain of God;

And I destroyed you, O covering cherub,

From the midst of the fiery stones.

17 “Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty;

You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor;

I cast you to the ground,

I laid you before kings,

That they might gaze at you.

18 “You defiled your sanctuaries

By the multitude of your iniquities,

By the iniquity of your trading;

Therefore I brought fire from your midst;

It devoured you,

And I turned you to ashes upon the earth

In the sight of all who saw you.

19 All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at you;

You have become a horror,

And shall be no more forever.” ’ ”

* Note that v. 12 says the king of Tyre was the seal of perfection, “full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.” He was “in Eden the garden of God”, a direct reference to the garden where God placed Adam: “eastward in Eden”. In the Genesis account of chapter 3, only four entities are mentioned in the story of man’s fall; Adam, Eve, God, and the serpent, later identified in the New Testament as Satan (see Rev 12:9). The proof that Ezekiel’s “prince” is not an earthy prince is found in references where the prophet describes the individual as a cherub.
In Scripture, a cherub is a created angel with many faces. The first mention of a cherub is in Genesis where a cherub with a flaming sword is assigned as a guardian of the eastern entrance of Eden. This happened after Adam’s expulsion from the Garden and was intended to prevent Adam from reentering the Garden and eating from the Tree of Life in his sinful condition. Later, two cherubim, made from beaten gold, were placed on the mercy seat (the gold lid) of the Ark of the Covenant, symbolically guarding the “seat” to where God descended on the Day of Atonement every year. In 28:14, Ezekiel reveals that the person being addressed in this section is the “anointed cherub.” This Hebrew word for *anointed* is not the typical Hebrew word *anointed* or *anointing*, as in anointing with oil or the anointing with the Holy Spirit. The word here is *mimshach* and means “a sense of expansion or stretching out the wings.” Note that Ezekiel identifies a cherub that “covereth”, a word meaning “to fence in and protect.” Putting the two words together, the prophet appears to describe a very important angelic being that formed a protective covering with its outstretched wings.
This angel appears to be a guardian of the “light” of God’s presence and glory. Further study of this anointed cherub gives more insight into his activities in ages past. We have said that he was in Eden, the garden of God. No earthly king of Tyre, nor anyone else, was in the garden of God except this “cherub.” Note that Ezekiel says that “every precious stone” was his covering, then proceeds to list nine semi-precious and precious gemstones that formed some type of a breastplate or “covering” on the front of this angelic creature. Oddly, these nine precious stones are nine of the twelve same stones fashioned on the breastplate of the Old Testament high priest (see Exod. 28:17-20).
Ezekiel’s cherub was formed with both “tabrets” and “pipes. The word *tabrets* indicates timbrels used on a tambourine – small metal-like objects that, when beaten with the hand, create a rhythmic sound with this round percussion instrument. The *pipes* are not pipes such as flutes; the Hebrew word *nequb* refers to a bezel used to hold a gemstone. God prepared the outward design of the cherub at his creation. He was “set” upon the “holy mountain”. The idea of the “holy mountain” is found in two locations- the mountain of God in heaven called Mount Zion, and later the earthly Jerusalem. Certainly, this mountain refers to the temple of God in heaven, the sacred holy mountain of the Lord, where the holy angels continually worship God. This angelic being “walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire”, an unknown place perhaps somewhere in the heavenly Temple. He was created perfect until iniquity was found in him, and he was cast out of the holy mountain in heaven. He corrupted his wisdom and became proud of his own brightness or his beauty. Thus, just as the mighty anointed cherub was eventually cast out of the heavenly mountain, the proud and self-appointed, god-like prince of Tyre would also be removed from his high throne and brought down to ashes, to the astonishment of the merchants and people. . – Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible, footnote p. 1275

20 Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying, 21 “Son of man, set your face toward Sidon, and prophesy against her, 22 and say, ‘Thus says the Lord God:

“Behold, I am against you, O Sidon;

I will be glorified in your midst;

And they shall know that I am the Lord,

When I execute judgments in her and am hallowed in her.

23 For I will send pestilence upon her,

And blood in her streets;

The wounded shall be judged in her midst

By the sword against her on every side;

Then they shall know that I am the Lord.

* Sidon’s destruction was predicted to include blood in her streets and death by the sword. The Persian king Artaxerxes seized the city, bringing the inhabitants under his cruel dominion. This may be the event Ezekiel alluded to in his prediction. – Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible, footnote p. 1273

24 “And there shall no longer be a pricking brier or a painful thorn for the house of Israel from among all who are around them, who despise them. ***Then they shall know that I am the Lord God.”***

* …The destruction of Sidon would benefit Israel, as the idols of Sidon would not longer be a “brier” to the Israelites when the return from captivity. The idols of Canaan were thorns (briers) in the sides of the Jews living alongside the tribes. God concludes by comforting His people after He has executed judgement. – Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible, footnote p. 1276

25 ‘Thus says the Lord God: “When I have gathered the house of Israel from the peoples among whom they are scattered and am hallowed in them in the sight of the Gentiles, then they will dwell in their own land which I gave to My servant Jacob. 26 And they will dwell safely there, build houses, and plant vineyards; yes, they will dwell securely, when I execute judgments on all those around them who despise them***. Then they shall know that I am the Lord their God.” ’ ””***