

EZEKIEL 26:1-27:36 – “PROCLAMATION AGAINST TYRE, LAMENTATION FOR TYRE”

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:30pm, H 106 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell # 714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column.

THE DESTRUCTION OF TYRE: (VS. 1-14)

Eze 26:1 And it came to pass in the eleventh year– (587-586 BC), on the first day of the month, that the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

Eze 26:2 "Son of man, because Tyre (major seaport and leading city in Phoenicia) 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 (evidence of Tyre's greed and materialism—they had their own silver coins); she is laid waste.'

Revenge that God is bringing:

Eze 26:3 "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.

Eze 26:4 And they shall destroy the walls of Tyre (most impregnable according to Nebuchadnezzar) and break down her towers (literally fulfilled by Alexander the Great); I will also scrape her dust from her, and make her like the top of a rock.

Eze 26:5 It shall be a place for spreading nets (after destruction by Alexander the Great became only a fishing village) in the midst of the sea, for I have spoken,' says the Lord GOD; 'it shall become plunder for the nations. (When God says something He does it!!!)

Eze 26:6 Also her daughter villages which are in the fields shall be slain by the sword. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.' (no event shows the power of the Lord any more clearly!)

The Punishment will come from Babylon: - after the destruction of Jerusalem, Babylon came back and slaughtered many!

Eze 26:7 "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.

INTERPRETATION

1 **Eze 26:1** And it came to pass in the eleventh year (either of the captivity of Jeconiah or of the reign of Zedekiah), in the first day of the month, that the word of the LORD came to me, saying, -- Eleventh year – 587-586 BC. This was at or just after the fall of Jerusalem

2 **Eze 26:2** Son of man, because that Tyre hath said against Jerusalem, Aha, she is broken that was the gates of the people, that is, the famous city Jerusalem to which all people resorted. She is turned to me. I shall be replenished, now she is laid waste. My riches and fame will increase: thus the wicked rejoice at their fall by whom they may have any profit or advantage. Aha (**Ez., 25:3; 36:2**) **11X all bad results!**

3 **Eze 26:3** **Eze 26:3** Therefore thus says the Lord God,.... Who knew the thoughts of the inhabitants of Tyre, and what joy possessed their hearts, and which their lips expressed; and who informs the prophet of it, though at a great distance, and declares his resentment at it: **behold, I am against you, O Tyre**; and nothing can be more dreadful and formidable than to have God against a nation, city, or a particular person: Tyre was a type of antichrist, who will express a like joy at the death of the witnesses; thinking that the merchandise of Rome will be increased greatly, and there will be nothing to interrupt it, **Rev 11:10**, but God will show his displeasure, and bring sudden destruction on it:

Will cause many nations to come up against you - We have already seen that the empire of the Chaldeans was composed of many different provinces, and that Nebuchadnezzar's army was composed of soldiers from different nations: these may be the people meant; but I doubt whether this may not refer to the different nations which in successive ages fought against Tyre. It was at last finally destroyed in the sixteenth century of the Christian era.

Eze 26:3-4 - nations ... as the sea ... waves — In striking contrast to the boasting of Tyre, God threatens to bring against her Babylon's army levied from “many nations,” even as the Mediterranean waves that dashed against her rock-founded city on all sides. Finally in 332 BC, Alexander the Great conquered the city. He began with a blockade of the city for 7 months and built a causeway from the mainland to the island city and it walls. The town's 40,000 were massacred (about 10,000) and 30,000 sold into slavery **scrape her dust ... make her ... top of ... rock** — or, “a bare rock”. The soil which the Tyrians had brought together upon the rock on which they built their city, I will scrape so clean away as to leave no dust, but only the bare rock as it was. An awful contrast to her expectation of filling herself with *all* the wealth of the East now that Jerusalem has fallen.

5 **Eze 26:5 - A place for spreading nets** - A place for the habitation of some poor fishermen, who spent the fishing season there, and were accustomed to dry their nets upon the rocks.

6 **Eze 26:6 - Also her daughters** - The places dependent on Tyre. As there were two places called Tyre, one on the main land, and the other on a rock in the sea, opposite to that on the main land, sometimes the one seems to be spoken of, and sometimes the other. That on the land, Palaetyre, was soon taken; but that in the sea cost Nebuchadnezzar thirteen years of siege and blockade. The two formed only one city, and one state.

7 **Eze 26:7 - from the north** — the original locality of the Chaldeans; also, the direction by which they entered Palestine, taking the route of Riblah and Hamath on the Orontes, in preference to that across the desert between Babylon and Judea. **king of kings** — so called because of the many kings who owned allegiance to him (**2Ki 18:28**). God had delegated to him the universal earth-empire which is His (**Dan 2:47**). The Son of God alone has the right and title inherently, and shall assume it when the world kings shall have been fully proved as abusers of the trust (**1Ti 6:15; Rev 17:12-14; Rev 19:15, Rev 19:16**). Ezekiel's prophecy was not based on conjecture from the past, for Shalmaneser, with all the might of the Assyrian empire, had failed in his siege of Tyre. Yet Nebuchadnezzar was to succeed. Josephus tells us that Nebuchadnezzar began the siege in the seventh year of Ithobal's reign, king of Tyre. In the 6th century BC Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, laid siege to this walled city of Tyre for 13 years, but could not conquer it.

APPLICATION

Ezekiel may be divided into three sections, following the prophet's call in 1-3: (1) God's judgment on Jerusalem, 4-24; (2) God's judgment on the surrounding nations, 25-32; and (3) God's restoration of the Jews in the kingdom, 33-48. Chapters 1-24 were given before the siege of Jerusalem; chapters 25-32 during the siege; and chapters 33-48 after the siege. Though the prophet was in distant Babylon, he was able to see events in Jerusalem through the power of the Spirit of God. Ezekiel not only proclaimed God's message to the people, but he had to live the message before them. God commanded him to do a number of symbolic acts in order to get the attention of the people: play at war (**Eze 4:1-3**); lie on his side a certain number of days (**Eze 4:4-17**); shave his hair and beard (**Eze 5:1-4**); act like someone fleeing from war (**Eze 12:1-16**); sit and sigh (**Eze 21:1-7**); and, the most difficult of all, have his wife die (**Eze 24:15-27**). It was not easy to be a prophet. In chapters 25-28 we come to the judgment of the neighboring nations surrounding Israel. In chapter 26 we come to a judgment that is very similar to the position the United States has today!

Tyre was founded at the start of the 3rd millennium BC. It's beginnings was more than 5,000 years ago. It was thought that it would last forever! (**Judges 18:7**)

10 th century BC - King Hiram joined the island to land extending the size of the city.

King David (**2 Sam. 5:10-12**) and Solomon (**1 Kings 5:1-11**) were friendly with Hiram. The wicked King Ahab to Jezebel, the daughter of Ethbaal (later king of Tyre) as his wife (**1 Kings 16:29-33**);

In the 6th century BC Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, laid siege to this walled city of Tyre for 13 years, but could not conquer it.

Finally in 332 BC, Alexander the Great conquered the city. He began with a blockade of the city for 7 months and built a causeway from the mainland to the island city and it walls. The town's 40,000 were massacred (about 10,000) and 30,000 sold into slavery.

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Eze 26:8 He (Nebuchadnezzar) 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.

Eze 26:9 He will direct his battering rams against your walls, and with his axes he will break down your towers.

Eze 26:10 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.

Eze 26:11 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.

Eze 26:12 They (other nations!) 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.

Eze 26:13 I will put an end to the sound of your songs, and the sound of your harps shall be heard no more.

Eze 26:14 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.

INTERPRETATION

Eze 26:8 - your daughter villages in the fields - This seems to be spoken of Palaetyre, or Tyre on the main land; for forts, mounts, engines of war, horses, and chariots could not be brought to act against the other. **and he shall build a wall against you, and heap up a siege mound against you**; a wall built of wood, and a siege mound made of earth, from which stones might be cast out of their engines, and arrows shot from their bows into the city, to the damaging of the houses, and the hurt of the inhabitants: **and raise a defense against you**; to repel the arrows shot out from the city, and so defeat the design of them.

9 battering rams — literally, “an apparatus for striking.” “He shall apply the stroke of the battering-ram against thy walls.” **and with his axes he will break down your towers**; the word here used signifies anything made of iron, as swords, spears, hammers, and axes; the latter, being more proper to demolish towers, is here pitched on by our translators. The Targum renders it, “with stones of iron”; that is, with iron balls cast out of their engines.

Eze 26:10 Because of the abundance of his horses their dust will cover you,.... The dust raised by the feet of the horses so numerous, should rise in such quantities, and to such a height, as to be like a cloud, which should cover the city; an hyperbolical way of speaking, as Kimchi observes; as is also the following clause: **your walls shall shake at the noise of the horsemen, and of the wagons, and of the chariots**; at the shouts of the horsemen upon every attack, and the rattling of the chariot wheels running to and fro, in carrying on their designs: **when he enters your gates**; that is, then particularly shall such a shout be made by the horsemen, and such rattling of the chariots, as will even make the walls of the city to shake; an excess of expression, signifying the prodigious noise made at their entrance into it: as men enter into a city wherein is made a breach; or, “according to the entrance of a city broken up”

Eze 26:11 With the hoofs of his horses shall he tread down all thy streets: he shall slay thy people by the sword, and thy strong garrisons shall go down to the ground. For Tyre was built by art and by labor of men was won out of the sea. Some refer this to the image of the noble men which they had erected for their glory and renown.

Eze 26:12 - And they shall lay your stones and your timber and your soil in the midst of the water - This answers to the taking of Tyre by Alexander; he actually took the timbers, stones, rubbish, etc. of old Tyre, and filled up the space between it and new Tyre, and thus connected the latter with the main land; and this he was obliged to do before he could take it.

Eze 26:13 And I will put an end to the sound of your songs,.... As this city abounded with riches, so with carnal mirth and pleasure; it was a “joyous city”, Isa 23:7, the inhabitants lived merrily and jovially; were much given to music, which was very diverting and amusing to foreigners that traded with them; but now it would be all over with them; there would be no more songs, nor any to sing them: **and the sound of your harps shall be heard no more**; neither vocal nor instrumental music; and this will be one day the case of Rome, of which Tyre was a type. (Rev. 18:22)

Eze 26:14 And I will make you like the top of a rock: I will make you so bare that you will have nothing to cover you. You shall be a place for spreading nets; you shall never be rebuilt: **for I the LORD have spoken, says the Lord GOD.**

APPLICATION

EZEKIEL 26:1-27:36 – “PROCLAMATION AGAINST TYRE, LAMENTATION FOR TYRE”

OBSERVATION

The Disappearance of Tyre:

Eze 26:15 "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?'

Eze 26:16 Then all the princes of the sea (rulers of various settlements of the Phoenicians would would surrender and submit when they saw what would happen to Tyre) 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.

Eze 26:17 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!'

Eze 26:18 Now the coastlands tremble on the day of your fall; Yes, the coastlands by the sea are troubled at your departure.'"

The Removal of its Presence and its Power:

Eze 26:19 "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,

Eze 26:20 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.

Eze 26:21 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."

Ez. Chapter 27 is primarily a historical sketch of the city of Tyre and the lamentation of her economic partners at the death of Tyre's influence in the world.

What's happening to Tyre will one day happen to the globalists of the world!- Dubai???

Tyre is pictured as a ship. Merchant and merchandise used 21 times in this chapter. Their mariners were the best! Their military paid well. The word “Merchants” – they were doing business like you couldn't believe with all of the nations of that world.

Next week – the defeat of Tyre's real king – chapter 28!!!

INTERPRETATION

Eze 26:15 - The coastlands will shake at the sound of your fall - All those which had traded with this city, which was the grand mart, and on which they all depended. Her ruin involved them all, and caused general wailing.

Eze 26:16 Then all the princes of the sea, (The governors and rulers of other countries that dwell by the sea: by which he signifies that her destruction would be so horrible that all the world would hear of it and be afraid.) **will come down from their thrones,** and lay away their robes, and put off their embroidered garments: they shall clothe themselves with trembling; they shall sit upon the ground, and shall tremble at every moment, and be astonished at thee.

Eze 26:17 And they will take up a lamentation for you, and say to you, How you have perished, O one inhabited by seafaring men- meaning, merchants who by their traffic enriched her wonderfully and increased her power, the renowned city, which was strong in the sea, she and her inhabitants, who cause their terror to be on all that dwelt in it!

Eze 26:18 Now the coastlands tremble on the day of your fall,.... The coastlands near unto it, the coastlands of the Mediterranean sea; the inhabitants of them, the merchants who from thence traded with Tyre, the seafaring men of those places; partly on account of losses sustained hereby, and partly through fear of the same calamities coming upon themselves; Yes, the isles that are in the sea shall be troubled at thy departure; as at the cry of the wounded, and the number of the slain; so on account of those that should be carried away captive by the Babylonians; as well as at the departure of those that should be obliged to fly to other colonies, so that, upon one account or another, it shall be entirely stripped of its inhabitants. When they hear of the terrible slaughter of the people, the other coastlands will tremble!

Eze 26:19 For thus says the Lord God,.... Both to the terror of Tyre, and for the comfort of his people: **when I shall make thee a desolate city, like the cities that are not inhabited;** whose trade is ruined, whose inhabitants are destroyed, and whose walls are broken down, and become a mere waste and desert; where no person or anything of value are to be seen: **when I bring up the deep upon thee, and great waters cover you:** the waters of the sea shall rush in and overflow the city, the walls of it being broken down; just as the old world, and the cities of it, were overflowed with the deluge, to which the allusion may be; whether this was literally accomplished on Tyre is not certain; perhaps it is to be taken in a figurative sense, and to be understood of the large army of the Chaldeans that should come up against it, and overpower it.

Eze 26:20 When I shall bring you down with them that descend into the pit, with the people who were dead long ago, and shall set thee in the low parts of the earth, in places desolate of old, with them that go down to the pit, that thou be not inhabited; and I shall set glory in the land of the living, meaning in Judea when it will be restored.

Eze 26:21 I will make you a terror (I shall bring terrors on you),.... To all the isles round about, who shall shake and tremble at the ruin of Tyre, as before observed; or to herself, being brought into a most terrible and distressed condition: **and you shall be no more:** in the same place and situation, in the same happy state and condition: **though you are sought for, you will never be found again, says the Lord God:** this is true of the antitype, Babylon, or antichrist.

APPLICATION

A little less than two hundred years ago, there were a group of archeologists, over there in southern Lebanon. As they were just looking for archeological sites, and digging around, they saw these fishermen drying their nets on the rocks. So they went over to talk to them, and as they were talking to them, one of the archeologists noticed that the rocks upon which the fishermen were drying their nets, were not naturally in place. They were artificially in place. So as they looked closely, they realized that they were standing on the causeway that was built by Alexander the Great. It was a story of history that was doubted by some, because they could not find any proof, or remains. This particular area was always thought to be a peninsula. But they discovered that actually it was a, the causeway that Alexander the Great had built out to this island city of Tyrus. Thus, we now can go over there, and you can see the site of the ancient city of Tyrus. If you do, you'll see the fishermen to the present day, dry their nets upon the rocks there of the city or Tyre. That's exactly what the Lord said! He said, "I have spoken it, says the Lord God."

EZEKIEL 26:1-27:36 – “PROCLAMATION AGAINST TYRE, LAMENTATION FOR TYRE”

OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Questions:

1. The Biblical prophetic account of Tyre in chapters 26-28 is one of the most accurate in account in the history of man! T or F?
2. What does the change in pronoun from they to “he in verse 8 refer to? The change in verse 12 from he to “they” refer to?
3. About how many times does “says the Lord God” appear in the Bible? (50, 150, 250) In the Book of Ezekiel? (50, 100, 200)? In the 26th chapter? (1, 7, 25)
4. Why do you think God despises the term “aha”?
5. Can you think of any comparisons between Tyre and Revelation chapter 18? Present day Dubai?

*We’ve a story to tell to the nations,
That shall turn their hearts to the right,
A story of truth and mercy,
A story of peace and light,
A story of peace and light.
Refrain -
For the darkness shall turn to dawning,
And the dawning to noonday bright;
And Christ’s great kingdom shall come on earth,
The kingdom of love and light.*

*We’ve a song to be sung to the nations,
That shall lift their hearts to the Lord,
A song that shall conquer evil
And shatter the spear and sword,
And shatter the spear and sword.
Refrain*

*We’ve a message to give to the nations,
That the Lord who reigns up above
Has sent us His Son to save us,
And show us that God is love,
And show us that God is love.
Refrain*

*We’ve a Savior to show to the nations,
Who the path of sorrow has trod,
That all of the world’s great peoples
Might come to the truth of God,
Might come to the truth of God.
Refrain*