

# EZEKIEL 26 vs 1

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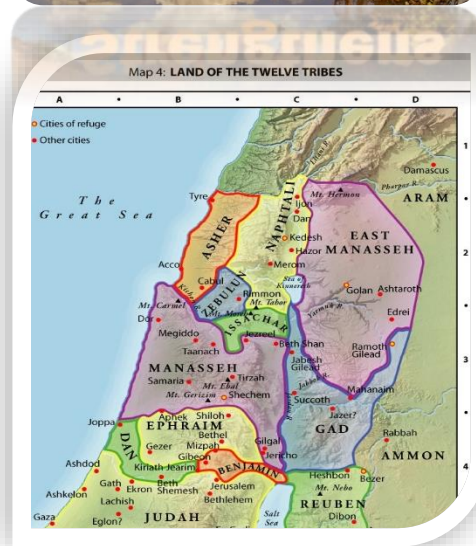
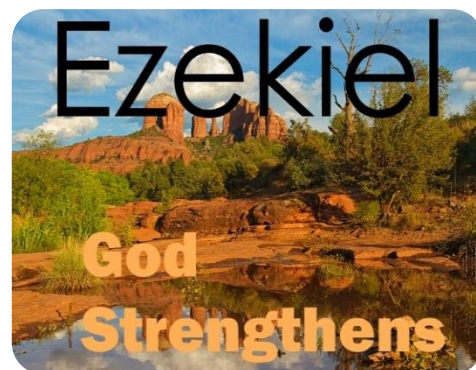
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Matthew Henry wrote: the prophet had soon done with those four nations that he set his face against in the foregoing chapters, for they were not at that time very considerable in the world, nor would their fall make any great noise among the nations, nor any figure in history.

But the city of Tyre is next set to the bar; being a place of vast trade, was known all the world over; and therefore, here are three whole chapters spent in the prediction of the destruction of Tyre.

An outline of Ezekiel: **Chapters 1 – 24**: The Lord's prophecies against **Israel** and **Judah**; **Chapter 25**: prophecies against 4 neighbors: Ammon, Moab, Edom – east of Jordan, Philistia – the western coastline; **Chapter 26 – 28**: judgment on Tyre in Lebanon, its overthrow; a funeral song; its leader's downfall, and a funeral song for its real king, lastly judgment on Sidon.

**Chapter 29 – 32**: judgment on Egypt; description of judgment; comparison to Assyria; a funeral song over Egypt. **Chapter 33**: appointing watchmen on the wall; **Chapter 34**: firing all the shepherds / the hired pastors; the LORD will do the job. **Chapter 35 - 36**: judgment begins at the household of God; but extends to the irksome neighbors; God always looks for love freely given. Much of this record – but not all was local history 2500 years ago. **And perhaps the father of lies is also being addressed.**



## Prophecy Against Tyre (Tyrus)

**<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the first day of the month, that the word of the LORD came to me saying,**

**<sup>2</sup> Son of man, because Tyre / the ancient Phoenician city-state on the Mediterranean...which enjoyed great prosperity under King Hiram, (980-947bc) providing men and materials for the construction of King David's palace and Solomon's Temple; but something happened...**

**Tyre said against Jerusalem, Aha, the gateway of the people is broken: it is opened to me.**

**I will be filled now that she is laid waste.**

**<sup>3</sup> So thus says the LORD God:**

**Behold, I am against you, O Tyre,**

**and will bring many nations against you, as the sea brings up its waves.**

**<sup>4</sup> They will destroy the walls of Tyre, and break down her towers.**

**I will also scrape her debris from her, and make her a bare rock.**

**<sup>5</sup> It will be a place for the spreading of nets in the midst of the sea: for I have spoken, says the LORD God: and it will become plunder for the nations** / both history and archeology confirm that is what happened to this once great city-state; whose alliance with Carthage in North Africa allowed its trade routes to reach to lands beyond Gibraltar; all the way to the Indians of North America.

**<sup>6</sup> And her daughters on the mainland will be slain by the sword. Then they will know:**

**I am the LORD.** They all seem to need this lesson; and the Lord God will gladly teach them.

**<sup>7</sup> For thus says the LORD God: Behold, I will bring from the north a king of kings, against Tyre, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, with horses and chariots and horsemen and companies, and many people** / lots of soldiers.

**<sup>8</sup> He will slay your daughters on the mainland with the sword. He will make siege walls against you, and cast up a mound against you, and raise up a large shield against you.**

**<sup>9</sup> And the blow of his battering rams he will direct against your walls, and with his axes he will break down your towers.**

**<sup>10</sup> Because of the abundance of his horses, their dust raised by them will cover you: your walls will shake at the noise of the horsemen and wagons and of the chariots, when he enters your gates, as men enter a city that is breached.**

**<sup>11</sup> With the hoofs of his horses he will trample down all your streets. He will slay your people with the sword, and your strong pillars will come down to the ground.**

**<sup>12</sup> They will plunder your riches, and loot your merchandise. They will break down your walls and destroy your pleasant houses. Your stones and timber and your debris they will throw into the water.**

**<sup>13</sup> So I will silence the sound of your songs;**

**and the sound of your harps will be heard no more** / the party is over.

**<sup>14</sup> And 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, says the LORD God.**

**<sup>15</sup> Thus says the LORD God to Tyre: Will not the coastlands shake at the sound of your fall, when the wounded groan, when slaughter is made in your midst?**

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

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

**How have you perished, O inhabited one, from the seas, O renowned city, which was mighty on the sea; She and her citizens, who imposed her terror on all her residents!**

**18 Now the islands will tremble on the day of your fall; yes, the isles in the sea will be terrified at your passing.**

**19 For thus says the Lord God: When I make you a desolate city, like the cities that are not inhabited; when I bring up the deep over you, and the great waters cover you;**

**20 then I will make you go down with those who descend 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 / in other words, you can go to hell, but My glorious Son will reign.**

**21 I will bring terrors on you, and you will be no more: though you will be sought, you will never be found again, says the LORD God. / and again, history tells us that is what happened.**

When reading these verses, we must remember, that in every nation, tribe and language, the people of the Lord have responded to Him through the ages. I am sure those who live in some of these places have a certain anxiety over these verses; our brothers and sisters in the Lord living in Lebanon must always remember 2 things:

1. that no matter where they live: in the world we will have tribulation, troubling times; but the people of God are not appointed **to wrath**, but to salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord – **1 Thessalonians 5**
2. 3 Days are still on the Lord's calendar; shadows of things to come... the **Day of Trumpets**; the **Day Afflicting of souls**; and the joyous **Day of Tabernacles** – **Zechariah 14**. Obviously, the Day of God's wrath is what we intend to avoid. And we will avoid it because we acknowledge that Jesus the Messiah came the first time, and substituted His life for ours. When we make Him our sacrifice for sin, and as we live to know Him better; He will see and be satisfied – **Isaiah 53**.

Doesn't it seem like lots of people still need to learn that simple lesson: The God of Israel and Judah... **He is the Lord**.