

EZEKIEL 28 vs 1

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Matthew Henry wrote: in this chapter we have a prediction of the fall and ruin of the king of Tyre, who, in the destruction of that city, is particularly set up as a target for God's arrows;

ver. 1-10 is a lamentation for the King of Tyre, when he has thus fallen, though he falls by his own iniquity. ver. 11-19, is a prophecy of the destruction of Sidon to the north of the neighborhood of Tyre. The chapter concludes with a promise to restore the Israel of God.

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.

Prophecy Against the Prince of Tyre
(Tyrus)

¹ **The word of the LORD came again to me saying,**

² **Son of man, say to the prince of Tyre** / the chapter starts with some royal guy living in northern Lebanon who advanced toward his kingship, but along the way became possessed by a spirit of evil; by verse 11 we see who the real ruler over Tyre is; we learn as Paul told the Ephesians: the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the children of disobedience; we wrestle not with flesh and blood, but with principalities and powers of evil. A parallel chapter to this one, is found in **Isaiah 14**,

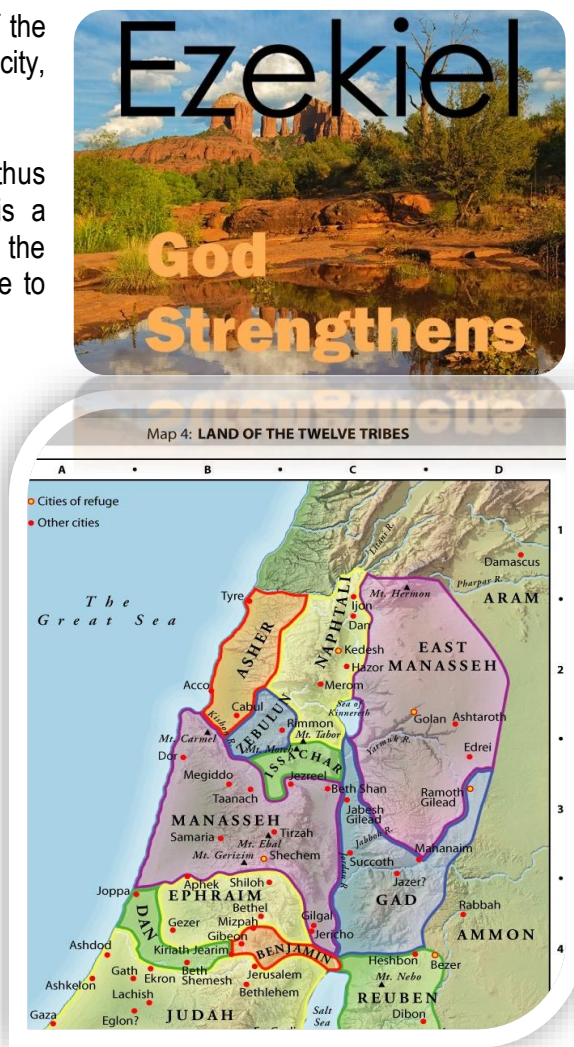
Thus says the LORD God:

Because your heart is lifted up / typical of royal jackasses, they quickly become prideful,

and you said,

I am a god, I sit in the seat of gods, in the heart of the seas of humanity;

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Yet you are a man, and not God / The Lord God corrects this earthly ruler... who is sadly mistaken; later in this chapter we discover he is probably demon possessed, but for now this goofball forgot he was no different than Adam, just another created being in the constellation of the Creator's creativity,

though you set your heart / though you twisted your thinking, and you fancied in your imagination... like the heart of God:

³ Indeed, you are wiser than Daniel / the Lord says that He would agree with the junior royal fool; he was cleverer... which means he is craftier and sneakier than Daniel:

there is no secret that they can hide from you / either the guy is a genius, or God is being very polite; I doubt Mr. Tyre knew much about astrophysics, atomic structures, or cellular mutations; notice it says **that they** can hide from you; God can daily hide Himself from ½ of the human race in broad daylight:

⁴ with your wisdom and understanding you have acquired riches, and have acquired gold and silver for your treasures:

⁵ by your great wisdom and trade, you increased your riches / you successfully piled up for yourself lots of dust collecting stuff,

and your heart is proud because of your riches:

⁶ So thus says the LORD God:

Because you have set your heart like the heart of God: / since you unwisely twisted your thinking, and fancied in your imagination... you had a heart like God; compassionate, longsuffering, full of concern for the stranger, the fatherless, the widow and the poor... daily providing for their need.

⁷ so indeed, I will bring foreigners on you, the terrible / the most ruthless... of the nations: they will draw their swords against the beauty of your wisdom, and defile your splendor.

⁸ They will throw you down to the pit, and you will die the death of the slain in the heart of the seas.

⁹ Will you yet say, I am God, in the presence of your slayer, although you are a man and not God, in the hands of those who kill you?

¹⁰ You will die the death of the uncircumcised by the hand of foreigners: for I have spoken, says the LORD God.

A Lament over the King of Tyre

¹¹ Moreover, the word of the LORD came to me saying,

¹² Son of man, raise a lamentation over the king of Tyre, and say to him,

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Thus says the LORD God:

You were the seal / the signet ring... the sum, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

¹³ You were in Eden the garden of God / past tense; once Eden was his playground, but when the chief musician messed up, and did God creatively started in that same place with a new race taken from the dust of the earth, who would one day repopulate the space in eternity; where 1/3 of heaven vacated their assignment and decided to follow this haggard vaudeville rebel; which is why I think the young age of the earth instead of being 6000 years, might include an additional thousand years or two;

every precious stone was your covering, the ruby, the topaz, and the diamond; the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper; the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle; and the gold:

the workmanship of your tambourines and your pipes / two instruments, which is why Satan the chief musician is pictured with horns; apparently, he was unique – as all God's creation are, but he was like a living, breathing musical instrument...

was prepared in you on the day that you were created.

¹⁴ You were the anointed cherub who covers; and I set you there: you were on the holy mountain of God; you walked among the stones of fire.

¹⁵ You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, until iniquity was found in you / and that spoiled it all, until something not right was found in him.

¹⁶ By the abundance of your trade, your heart was filled with violence / hamas, what filled mankind in the days of Noah, when God decided to destroy the world; of the Suffering Servant, we read: [He had done no violence, nor was any deceit found in His mouth](#) – **Isaiah 53**. So he is different than the second fiddler,

and you sinned:

so, I will throw you as profane from the mountain of God / as nothing special, like a tepid bowl of unsalted soup: **and I will destroy you, O covering cherub, from among the stones of fire.**

¹⁷ Your heart was proud because of your beauty, you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor / he became proud over some paper-thin veneer that he was given; the danger is to love our own singing, or the sound of our voice: so here we learn, heaven will not be populated with any tarnished trash; neither will it be populated with earth's trailer trash:

I throw you to the ground, I will put you before kings, that they may see you,

¹⁸ by the multitude of your iniquities, in the iniquity of your trade, you defiled your sanctuaries / because of his many blunders, he lost the benefit of all that is sacred;

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so I brought fire from the midst of you, it will devour you, and I will turn you to ashes on the **earth** in the sight of all who see you / one day all he will be is a smudge on the ground.

¹⁹ All who know you among the nations will be appalled at you: you became a terror, and you will be **no** more.

Prophecy Against Sidon

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

²¹ Son of man, set your face toward **Sidon** prophesy against it / along the coast north of Tyre; where Tyre was working deals; Sidon was busy practicing Baal worship and introduced it to Solomon,

²² and say, Thus says the LORD God: Indeed, I am against you, O Sidon; and I will be glorified in your midst; and they will know:

I am the LORD, when I execute judgments in her, and will be sanctified in her.

²³ For I will send pestilence to her, and blood to her streets; and the wounded will be judged in her midst, by the sword upon her on every side; then they will know:

I am the LORD.

²⁴ And for the **house of Israel** there will be no more a pricking brier, or a painful thorn from all round about them, who despised them; and they will know:

I am the LORD God.

Israel Gathered in Security

²⁵ Thus says the LORD God: When I gather the **house of Israel** from the nations among whom they are scattered, and by them be sanctified in the sight of the nations, then they will again dwell in the land I gave to My servant Jacob.

²⁶ And they will dwell in it safely, and will build houses, and plant vineyards; yes, they will dwell securely, when I execute judgments on all who despise them round about them; and they will know:

I am the LORD their God. / The God of Israel and Judah... **He is the Lord**.