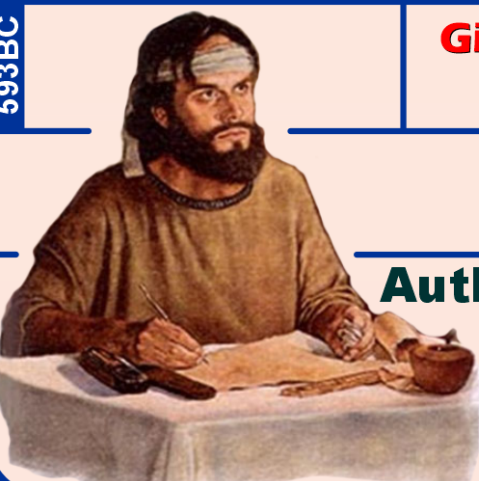


JUDGMENT ON GENTILE NATIONS

26

EZEKIEL

BOOK OF EZEKIEL – OUTLINE

INWARD → Personal		OUTWARD ↻ Peoples		ONWARD → Prophetic													
1 — 3		4 — 24		25 — 32		33 — 48											
Ezekiel's Call to Ministry - Ezekiel Birth (623BC) and Ministry Years (593-571BC) 597BC is the 2nd Deportation; Ezekiel taken at age 25 593BC Ezekiel begins Ministry at age 30		Sinfulness of Israel and Fall of Jerusalem - A Disobedient Nation (4-7) - A Departed Glory (8-11) - A Disciplined Nation (12-24) - The Futility of False Optimism (12-19) - The History of Judah's Corruption (20-24)		Judgment on Nations that Opposed Israel - Ammon (25:1-7) - Moab (25:8-11) - Edom (25:12-14) - Philistia (25:15-17) - Tyre (26:1—28:19) - Sidon (28:20-24) - Egypt (29-32)		Restoration of Israel in the Future - Return of Israel to the land (33-39) - Restoration of Israel in the Kingdom (40-48) - Promised Land; Millennial Temple, and the Glory of God											
593BC		Given BEFORE the siege of Jerusalem		587BC		Given DURING the siege of Jerusalem		586BC		Given AFTER the siege of Jerusalem		571BC					
						The City Destroyed 7 Years Prophesying JUDGMENT						The City Restored 15 Years Prophesying HOPE					
Author: Ezekiel (“God strengthens”) Place: Babylonia Time: About 22 years (593-571BC)																	
Events: 605BC — FIRST Siege upon Israel by Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel taken) Ezekiel 17 years old																	
597BC — SECOND assault upon Jerusalem (Ezekiel taken) Ezekiel 25 years old																	
593BC — Ezekiel at age 30 called by God to testify against Israel Ezekiel 30 years old																	
586BC — THIRD assault upon Jerusalem (City & Temple destroyed) Ezekiel 37 years old																	

INTRODUCTION: EZEKIEL 26

- **After Egypt's defeat in 605 B.C., Tyre was the main foe of Babylon in western Asia.**
- **According to Josephus the Babylonian siege of Tyre lasted thirteen years (c. 586-573 B.C.).**
- **Apparently the long siege ended with a treaty stipulating that the Tyrian royal house was to be deported to Babylon.**
- **Although the king of Tyre was allowed to stay, he was under the control of a Babylonian commissioner.**
- **Tyre's power was effectively exhausted by the long siege.**



INTRODUCTION: EZEKIEL 26

- **This section is actually four separate oracles, each beginning with “The word of the Lord came to me” (Ek.26:1; 27:1; 28:1; 28:11).**
 - **Direct prophecy of Tyre’s destruction (26:2-21)**
 - **Lament or Funeral dirge for the fallen city (27:1-36)**
 - **Message against the Ruler of Tyre (28:1-10)**
 - **Message against the King of Tyre (28:11-19)**



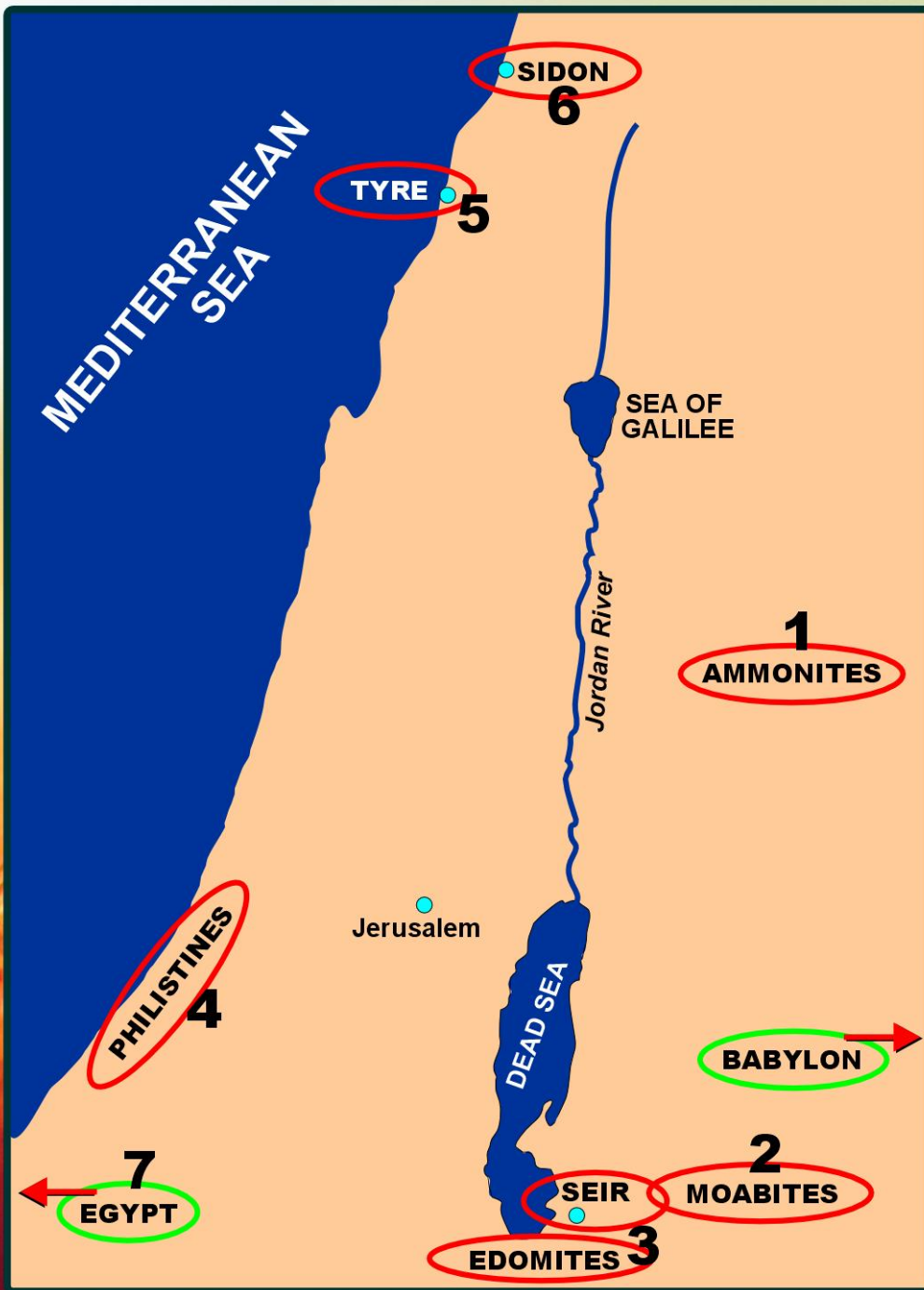
JUDGMENT ON GENTILE NATIONS THAT OPPOSED ISRAEL

Ezekiel 25-32



Judgment on Tyre

(Ezekiel 26:1—28:18)



FALL OF JERUSALEM AND SURROUNDING NATIONS

CHAPTER

24

Fall of Jerusalem PREDICTED

25

1. Ammon (25:1-7)
2. Moab and Seir (25:8-11)
3. Edom (25:12-14)
4. Philistia (25:15-17)

26-28

5. Tyre (26:1—28:19) [Satan]
6. Sidon (28:20-24)

29-32

7. Egypt (29:1—32:32)

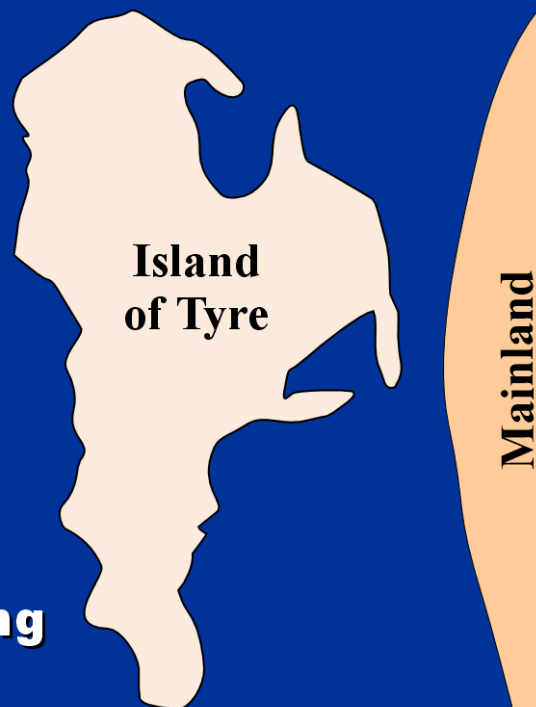
33

Fall of Jerusalem ACCOMPLISHED

Jerusalem Struck Down (33:21-33)

EZEKIEL 24-33

- Tyre is built on an island and on the neighboring mainland.
- It developed commercial relations with all parts of the Mediterranean world.
- The ruler then was Ethbaal III (591-572BC).
- The underlying sin of Tyre's king was his pride, which prompted him to view himself as a god.
- The king's claims to deity were false. God said, "You are a man and not a god."
- Babylon defeated Tyre's mainland, but not the island.



EZEKIEL 26-28

Ezekiel prophesied during the Babylonian captivity



**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,**

EZEKIEL 26:1



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, (Ek.26:1)

- **This prophecy was given in the 11th year, on the first day of the month of Jehoiachin's exile (587-586B.C.)**
- **Since Jerusalem fell to Babylon on July 18, 586 B.C., possibly Ezekiel's prophecy against Tyre was prompted by Jerusalem's imminent collapse.**
- **Nebuchadnezzar began the 13-year siege on Tyre on February 3, 585B.C (585-573B.C.). Many believe this is also when the news of the fall of Jerusalem reached the exiles.**



**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.'**

EZEKIEL 26:2



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.' (Ek.26:2)

- **Divine judgment would come on this city-state because its people rejoiced at Jerusalem's destruction (Ge.12:3).**
- **Tyre's sin was her greedy rejoicing over Jerusalem's fall, saying Aha!**
- **Both Tyre and Jerusalem had vied for the lucrative trade routes between Egypt and the rest of the Middle East.**



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.' (Ek.26:2)

- **Tyre dominated the sea routes, but Jerusalem controlled the caravan routes.**
- **Without Jerusalem being able to secure the overland caravan routes, more products would be shipped by sea.**
- **So Tyre saw Jerusalem's fall as an opportunity to "corner the market" for trade.**
- **Tyre had also sold Jews as slaves to the Greeks and Edomites (Jl.3:4-8; Am.1:9-10).**



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.' (Ek.26:2)

- **The prophetic perfect tense in Hebrew describes a future event as though it were past, as well as describing past events.**
- **Ezekiel gave this prophecy before the news of Jerusalem reached the exiles.**



**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.**

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.26:3)

- **God's judgment against Tyre fit her crime.**
- **God said, I will bring many nations against you, like the sea casting up its waves.**
- **Tyre's pride was her seagoing prowess. She knew the Mediterranean Sea better than most nations.**



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. (Ek.26:3)

- Ezekiel used the image of a violent ocean storm to picture God's punishment. One wave (nation) followed by another.**
- God would move "many nations" to invade Tyre. Babylon besieged Tyre from 585-573B.C. Later it would be Alexander's Grecian army (332B.C.)**



**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.**

EZEKIEL 26:4



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. (Ek.26:4)

- **Like ocean waves, invading nations would pound against Tyre's defenses, smashing her walls and towers.**
- **God said He would scrape away her rubble and make her a bare rock.**
- **The Grecian attackers "scraped" all the remaining "dust" and rubble and dumped it into the sea, building a causeway to the island nearly one-half mile out.**
- **In an interesting word-play Ezekiel described Tyre's fate. "Tyre" (*ṣōr*) means "rock" or a "hard pebble."**



**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.**

EZEKIEL 26:5



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. (Ek.26:5)

- No longer being the central city of commerce, she would become a place to spread fishnets.**
- Fishermen generally spread out their nets to dry on barren rocks, to keep them from becoming tangled in trees or bushes.**
- Tyre would be so decimated that the once-bustling city would be barren enough to use as a drying place for nets.**
- Tyre would become spoil for the nations. Formerly she had spoiled the nations by taking their money in exchange for the commodities that she had traded.**



**Also her daughter villages which
are in the fields shall be slain by
the sword. Then they shall know
that I am the LORD.**

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.26:6)

- **The city of Tyre included the mainland and an island about a half mile off the coast.**
- **The main city was supported by many satellite communities or suburbs around it.**
- **People in these daughter settlements on the mainland would be ravaged by the sword.**
- **Babylon is a byword for godless government, and Tyre is a byword for pride and self-sufficiency.**



Also her daughter villages which are in the fields shall be slain by the sword. Then they shall know that I am the LORD. (Ek.26:6)

- **Jesus ministered in Tyre (Mt.15:21; Mk.7:24-31; Lk.6:17), and the residents responded positively to Him (Mt.11:21-22; Lk.10:13-14).**



²¹"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. ²²But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for you. (**Mt.11:21-22**).



**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.**

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.26:7)

- **Tyre's gloating over Jerusalem's fall would be short-lived.**
- **The king who destroyed Jerusalem would also attack Tyre.**
- **In an explanatory prophecy about Tyre's destruction, the Lord promised to send Nebuchadnezzar as an invader from the north.**
- **He was a "king of kings" in that many rulers were subject to him (Da.2:37).**



**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.**

EZEKIEL 26:8



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. (Ek.26:8)

- **After defeating Jerusalem, Nebuchadnezzar moved his army north to Tyre in 585 B.C. and besieged the city for 13 years till all settlements on the mainland were destroyed.**
- **Tyre could hold out for all those years because her navy brought in supplies that would otherwise have been depleted.**
- **Nebuchadnezzar destroyed mainland Tyre (depicted graphically by Ezekiel, Ek.26:8-12), but not the island stronghold.**



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. (Ek.26:8)

MORE TYRE HISTORY

- **Other evidence indicates that the island surrendered to Nebuchadnezzar in 573-572 B.C.**
- **That year Baal II succeeded Ethbaal III to the throne of Tyre.**
- **Most likely this was a political move by Nebuchadnezzar to remove the rebellious king and install a loyal vassal king.**
- **Some think Ethbaal III was deported to Babylon, but Ek.28:8-9 seems to indicate that Nebuchadnezzar assassinated him.**



**He will direct his battering
rams against your walls, and
with his axes he will break
down your towers.**

EZEKIEL 26:9



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

- **Nebuchadnezzar would come against Tyre with a great army, besiege the city, break down its walls, and slay many of the Tyrians.**
- **After defeating Jerusalem in 586 B.C., Nebuchadnezzar proceeded north and attacked Tyre and its neighboring towns for thirteen years, beginning that same year.**
- **Ezekiel 26:8-9 describe the siege, and verses 10-14 describe the devastation.**



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.

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.26:10)

- **Nebuchadnezzar's many horses would raise much dust and cause a loud commotion as they breached the walls, entered the city, and trampled the streets of the mainland town.**
- **Nebuchadnezzar destroyed mainland Tyre, but not the island stronghold.**
- **However, other evidence indicates that the island surrendered to Nebuchadnezzar in 573-572 B.C.**



**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.**

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.26:11)

- **Many people would die, and Tyre's strong pillars would fall.**
- **The pillars may refer to the leading inhabitants of the town and or to the prominent pillars there in the temple of Melkart (1Ki.7:15).**



**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.**

EZEKIEL 26:12



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. (Ek.26:12)

- **Ezekiel switched from the singular he to the plural they (Ek.26:12).**
- **Probably this shift pointed to the “nations” (Ek.26:3) that followed Nebuchadnezzar in attacking Tyre, completing the destruction he began.**
- **Tyre's enemies (“they”) would take much spoil from the city and would push its physical remains into the sea (Zc.9:3-4).**



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. (Ek.26:12)

- **Alexander the Great devastated the city in 332 B.C. when it refused to submit to his advancing forces.**
- **Alexander destroyed the mainland city and then built a causeway (nearly one-half mile) out to the island fortress which he destroyed.**
- **In doing this, he threw stones, timber, and rubble into the sea.**
- **Though Tyre recovered from Nebuchadnezzar's and Alexander's onslaughts, she never regained the power she held before these attacks.**



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

EZEKIEL 26:13



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

- **The Lord would silence the singing and music in Tyre (Is.23:16; Rv.18:22).**
- **Tyre was famous for musicians (Is.23:16).**



"Take a harp, go about the city, You forgotten harlot;
Make sweet melody, sing many songs, That you may
be remembered." (Is.23:16).



**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.**

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.26:14)

- **The final destruction of Tyre would be complete, for God predicted the city will never be rebuilt.**
- **Today this once-great commercial center lies in ruins.**
- **Though the surrounding area has been rebuilt, the original site is a mute testimony to God's awesome judgment.**
- **This is the fate that Yahweh decreed for Tyre.**





Effect on Tyre's Allies

(Ezekiel 26:15-18)

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?

EZEKIEL 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? (Ek.26:15)

- **The third section of this prophecy discusses the response of Tyre's neighbors to her fall.**
- **These coastal powers, dependent on Tyre for their trade and commerce, would be dismayed at Tyre's fall.**
- **Tyre's fall would send shock waves throughout the maritime community (the coastlands would tremble).**



**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.**

EZEKIEL 26:16



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. (Ek.26:16)

- **The princes of the seacoast would remove their trappings of luxury (robes and garments) and sit in mourning, trembling and appalled at the unbelievable fate of their chief benefactor.**
- **Sitting in mourning was a common way to express grief for a loved one or friend (Job 2:11-13).**
- **Tyre had colonies in many Mediterranean coastal regions: Cyprus, Rhodes, Malta, Spain, Sicily, Sardinia, and Africa.**
- **According to customs of mourning, rulers would descend from their thrones and disrobe.**



**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!**

EZEKIEL 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! (Ek.26:17)

- **As Tyre's allies came to sit and mourn her passing, they also sang a funeral lament, contrasting her present condition with her former glory.**
- **Tyre had been a formidable power on the seas, reigning supremely on the eastern Mediterranean shores.**
- **Her fall sent terror rippling to every shore she had touched.**



**Now the coastlands tremble
on the day of your fall; Yes,
the coastlands by the sea
are troubled at your
departure.**

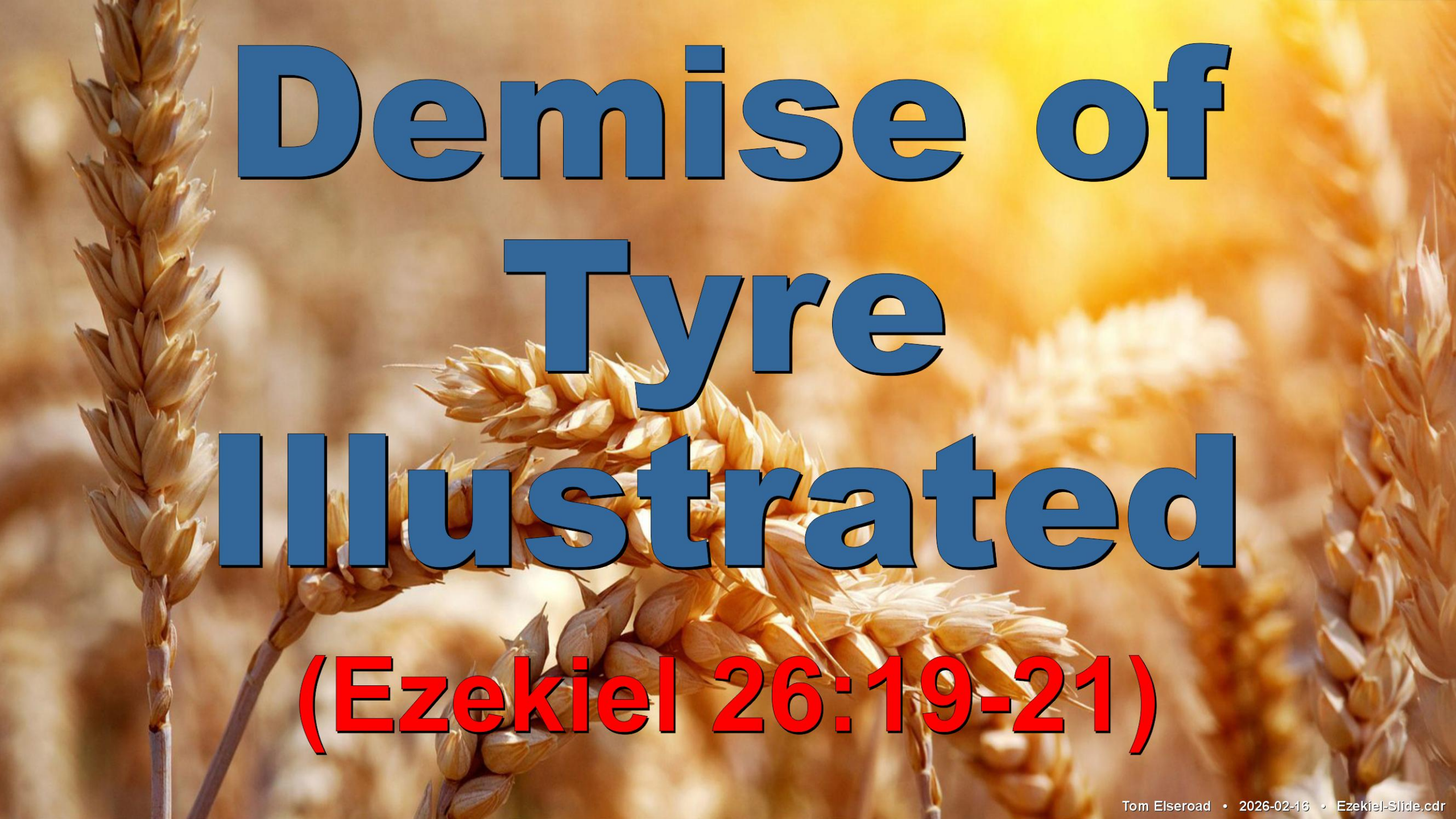
EZEKIEL 26:18



Now the coastlands tremble on the day of your fall; Yes, the coastlands by the sea are troubled at your departure. (Ek.26:18)

- **With their source of supplies gone, those nations would suffer great economic loss.**
- **They would lament Tyre's fate and bemoan the destruction of such a mighty sea power, and they would acknowledge their own fear at the fall of Tyre.**
- **The Tyrians had rejoiced over Jerusalem's fall (Ek.26:2), but these vassals demonstrated more wisdom by recognizing that the fall of Tyre meant judgment for them.**





Demise of Tyre Illustrated

(Ezekiel 26:19-21)

**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,**

EZEKIEL 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, (Ek.26:19)

- In Tyre's demise she would descend into the underworld never to rise again.**
- God said the ocean depths would sweep over Tyre.**
- The most fearful prospect facing ancient mariners was to be caught in a storm and be "lost at sea."**



**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.**

EZEKIEL 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.(Ek.26:20)

- **Ezekiel changed the imagery slightly. Instead of descending into the ocean depths, Tyre would go down to the pit a figurative way of expressing death.**
- **“Pit” is synonymous with “sheol” or “the grave” (Pr.1:12; Is.14:15, 19; 38:18).**
- **It would go down into Sheol, as it were, and so lose its glory.**
- **Tyre's destruction is compared to a dead person placed in the grave.**



**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.**

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.26:21)

- **In Old Testament times death was a fearful event. Though the saints had some idea of resurrection (He.11:17-19), most viewed the grave as a place of no return.**
- **Ezekiel expressed this thought about Tyre: she would enter the place of the departed dead and never be able to return to the land of the living.**
- **People would long for her, but she would never again be found.**



JUDGMENT ON GENTILE NATIONS

26

EZEKIEL