LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 01 June. Ezekiel 01-07. When Your World Crumbles
2) 08 June. Ezekiel 08-14. When Idols Tug at Your Heart
3) 15 June. Ezekiel 15-19. When You Want to Blame Others
4) 22 June. Ezekiel 20-24. When Tragedy Hits Home
5) 29 June. Ezekiel 25-32. When Pride Turns to Greed

INTRODUCTION

- God pronounces judgment on many Gentile nations for their anti-Semitic behavior.
- Israel is the nation most often mentioned in the Bible. The 2nd most frequently named nation is Iraq. However, the names used in the Bible for Iraq are Babylon, Land of Shinar, and Mesopotamia.
- Intrinsic to the covenant God made with Abraham was a divine promise that those who cursed God’s people would themselves be cursed by God (Genesis 12:1-3).
- The prophecies against foreign nations affirm God’s sovereignty over all lands and people groups.

Passage | Judgment for Pride | Comments
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Ezekiel 25:1-17 | Pride is a good quality when we show honor in who we are, who we belong to, or in our workmanship. However, Pride is deadly when it is turned inward, and we think we are invincible because of our intrinsic traits; & this pride can kill both individuals and nations.
 | vv1-7. Ammon – They laughed at Israel’s downfall and suffered a similar fate. Powerful principle to live by – NEVER rejoice over the fall of an enemy. Prov 24:17
 | vv8-11. Moab – Falsely accused Israel of being just like any other nation & were not God’s chosen people. They would learn that God is indeed The Lord. Recall that Ruth was a Moabite.

Judgment Against Tyre

26:1-21 | Tyre was a city consisting of a portion on the mainland, and a portion on an offshore island. Tyre was eventually destroyed by Alexander the Great.

Judgment Against Tyre & Sidon (continued)

27:1-36 | The earthly king of Tyre (possibly Ittohau II) was proud and sought to profit on Israel’s misfortune. Jesus once visited the area of Tyre & Sidon and healed the Sidonian widow’s daughter. Matthew 15:21

Judgment Against Tyre & Sidon (continued)

28:1-26 | The prophecies against the king of Tyre seems to have a dual purpose. vv1-11. The earthly king of Tyre seems to be the focus here; vv12-19. Satan now seems to be alluded to in this passage: v12. Seal of perfection and perfect in beauty. v13. He was in the Garden of Eden. v14. He was the anointed cherub residing on the holy mountain of God. v19. “You will cease to be” - maybe the earthly king of Tyre. vv20-23. Sidon. Judgment pronounced for some undeclared sins, but when God executes His wrath everyone will know that He is the sovereign Lord. vv24-26. Israel will one day be restored with all of her enemies lying in ruins (post-Armageddon).

Note: The table below reflects that the descendants of Lot (Ammonites and Moabites) along with Egypt (descendants of Ham) and the descendants of Ishmael (most Arabs) will survive the wrath of God, as prophesied. But the descendants of Esau (Edomites) along with several non-Semitic groups will be destroyed beyond repair.

Judged Nations | Pronounced Judgment(s) | Passage(s)
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Egypt | Will be destroyed/healed/saved and will eventually worship the God of Israel along with the Assyrians (Syria, Turkey, and portions of Iraq & Iran); Carried away for 40 years | Isaiah 19; Jer 46; Ezek 29-32
Elam | Destroyed then restored (Elam was one of the sons of Shem who settled in southern Iran) | Dan 11; Acts 2
Ammon | Destroyed then restored, & inhabited by Judah | Jer 49; Ezek 25; Zeph 2
Moab | Will be destroyed, humbled, but not totally annihilated; eventually inhabited by Judah | Is 15-16; Jer 48; Zeph 2
Damascus | Will be greatly reduced, then destroyed | Ezek 25; Dan 11-14;
Edom | Destroyed completely, laid waste, made desolate | Ezek 25, 35; Obadiah
Babylon | To be destroyed forever | Isaiah 13-14; Jer 50
Philistines | To be destroyed forever | Ezek 25; Obadiah
Tyre & Sidon | To be destroyed forever (Recall that Jezebel came from Sidon, a township near Tyre; also the first resurrection recorded in the Bible was of a Sidonian boy by Elijah; and Jesus healed the Sidonian widow’s demon-possessed daughter while visiting Tyre) | Is 23; Ezek 26-28

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- Pride comes before destruction, both on an individual level and on a national level.
- We should always have a humble perspective of our frailty before a mighty God.

NEXT WEEK: Ezekiel 33-35. Finally, some hope comes on the scene. Israel’s fortunes will one day be restored.