

“THEY SHALL KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD”

Ezekiel 25-32

Introduction

- 1) **Ezekiel** was a prophet of God to the Jews in Babylonian captivity (593-571 BC)
- 2) The section of chapters 25-32 are oracles of judgment against the nations surrounding Israel who delighted in and profited from her fall
 - a) Similar to other prophetic oracles against the nations (Isa. 13-23, Jer. 46-51, Amos 1-2; Zeph. 2:4-15)

I) Oracles Against the Nations (Ch. 25-32)

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| A) Ammon (25:1-7) | E) Tyre (26:1–28:19) |
| B) Moab (25:8-11) | F) Sidon (28:20-24) |
| C) Edom (25:12-14) | G) Egypt (29:1–32:32) |
| D) Philistia (25:15-17) | |

II) The Lord is God over all Nations (Psa. 47:7-8)

- A) While Israel was under a special covenant with God, all the Gentile nations of men were under the rule and judgment of the “Judge of all the earth” (Gen. 18:25)
 - 1) See the story of Jonah and book of Nahum (about Nineveh [Assyria]; Jer. 18:7-10)
- B) While God’s attention was on the sins of His own people, He would not forget or neglect the judgment of the pagan nations surrounding Judah and Jerusalem
 - 1) God’s punishment of the Jews was a warning to the Gentiles (cf. Deut. 29:24-25)
- C) “They shall know that I am the Lord” (25:7, 11, 14, 17; 26:6; 28:10, 24; 29:9, 16, 21; 30:19, 26); nations today need to understand that there is a God over all men (Psa. 22:28)

III) The Evils of Envy, Malice, and Pride

- A) Nations mocked with envy and took joy in the fall of God’s people (25:3, 6-7, 8; 26:2)
- B) Nations took advantage to bring vengeance on God’s people (25:12, 15)
 - 1) Such is not to be in the heart of the righteous (Prov. 17:5; Eph. 4:31; Titus 3:1-3)
- C) “Pride goes before destruction” (Prov. 16:18; 29:23)
 - 1) The king of Tyre was filled with pride – “heart is lifted up” – “I am a god!” (28:1-5)
 - 2) His evil pride would end in his destruction (28:6-10, 17)
 - 3) Pride is involved in rebellion against God (2 Thess. 2:3-4; 1 Tim. 3:6)
 - 4) The righteous will seek to be humble before God and man (Lk. 14:11; Jas. 4:6, 10)

IV) The Amazing Witness of Prophecy

- A) ***Destruction of Tyre*** (26:3-14)
 - 1) Babylon under Nebuchnezzar sieged city for 13 years (583-573 BC; cf. 29:18)
 - a) People of Tyre found refuge and safety on the island portion of city
 - 2) Alexander the Great built a causeway to the island with ruins of mainland city to conquer Tyre in 332 BC (fulfillment of 26:12)
- B) ***End of native Egyptian rulers*** (30:13)
 - 1) After the Babylonian and Persian conquests of the sixth century BC, Egypt was never again ruled by the native people of the land (instead ruled by Greeks, Romans, Arab Muslims)

Conclusion

Truly the nations would know that God is the Lord over all men. We are also given a glimpse of the promise of the future restoration of God’s people (28:25-26), which will eventually usher in the day of the Messiah. This promise will be the theme of the third and final section of Ezekiel (ch. 33-48).