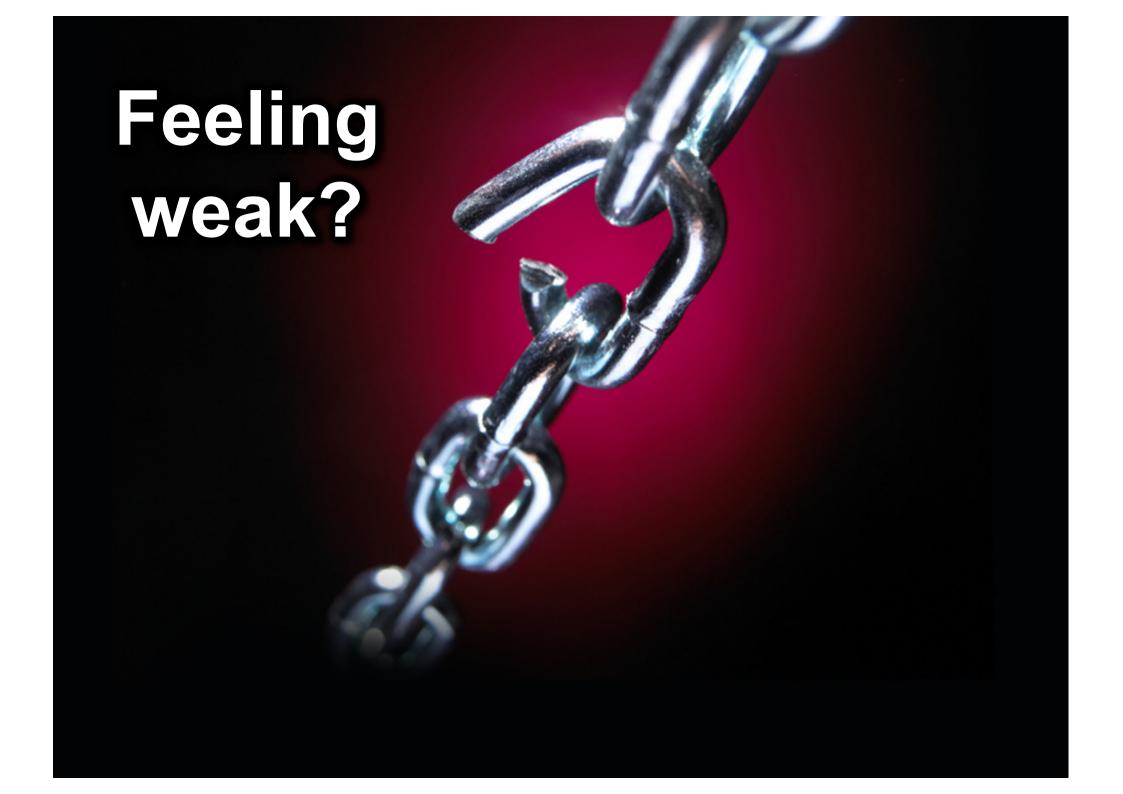
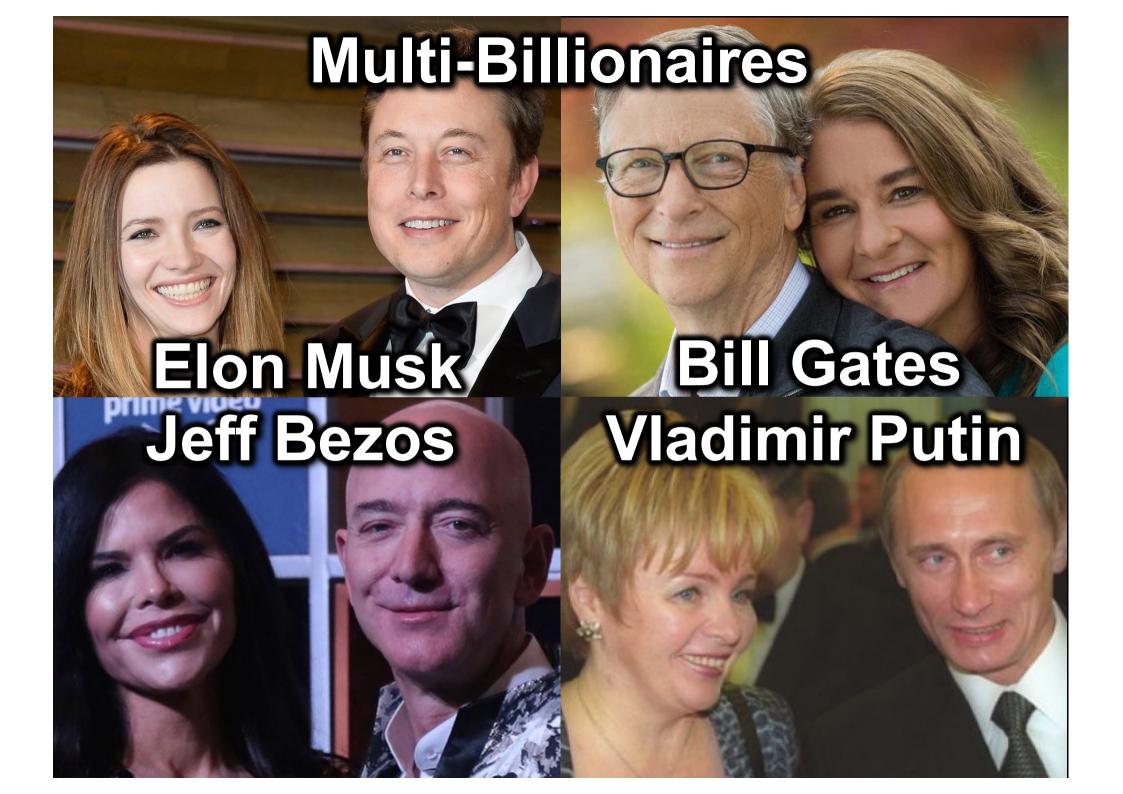
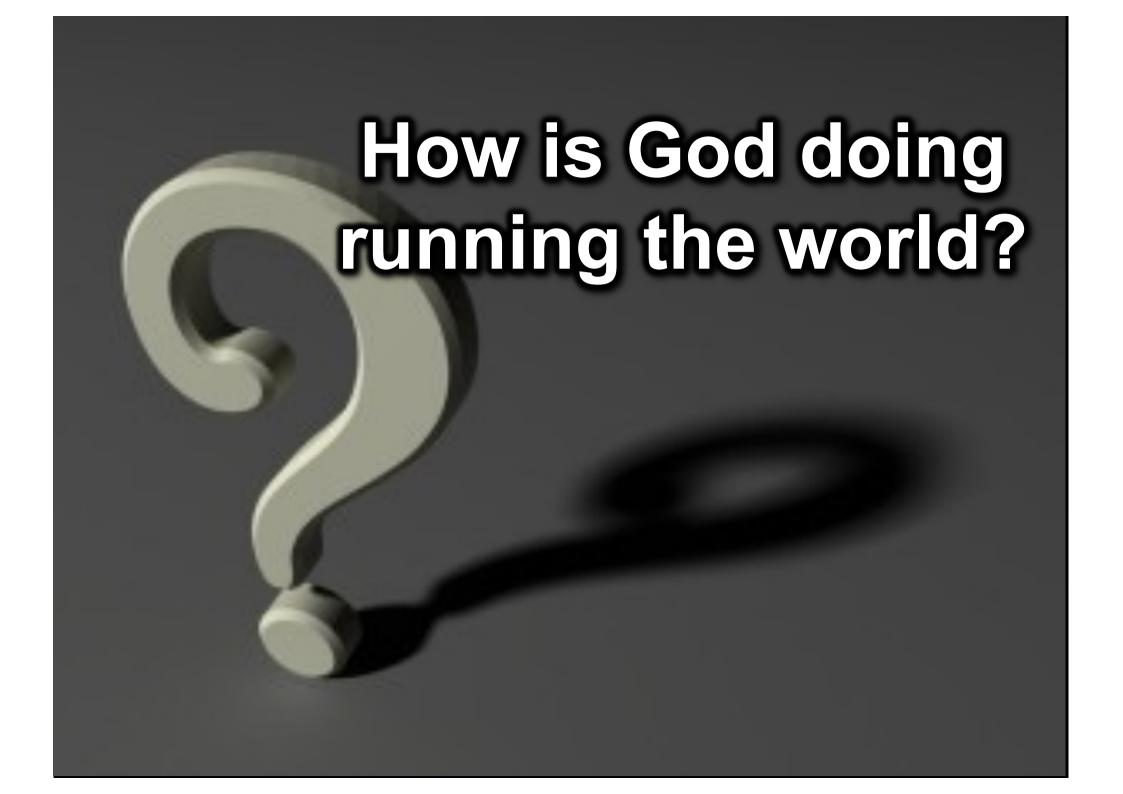


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4 Reasons God is a Bad Judge

—Jeremy Myers

"God is a terrible judge. Seriously. If He served in any court in our country, He would probably wind up in prison. I am not trying to malign God; I am just stating the way things are. Look at the facts."



4 Reasons God is a Bad Judge

—Jeremy Myers

- 1. God is the judge of the world, but the world is in quite a mess.
- 2. It takes God way too long to pass judgment.
- 3. When God does make a judgment, He is way too lenient.
- 4. God allows His judgments to be influenced by people.



How should we act when we feel we're on the losing side?



Share His Glory

Ezekiel 1–3

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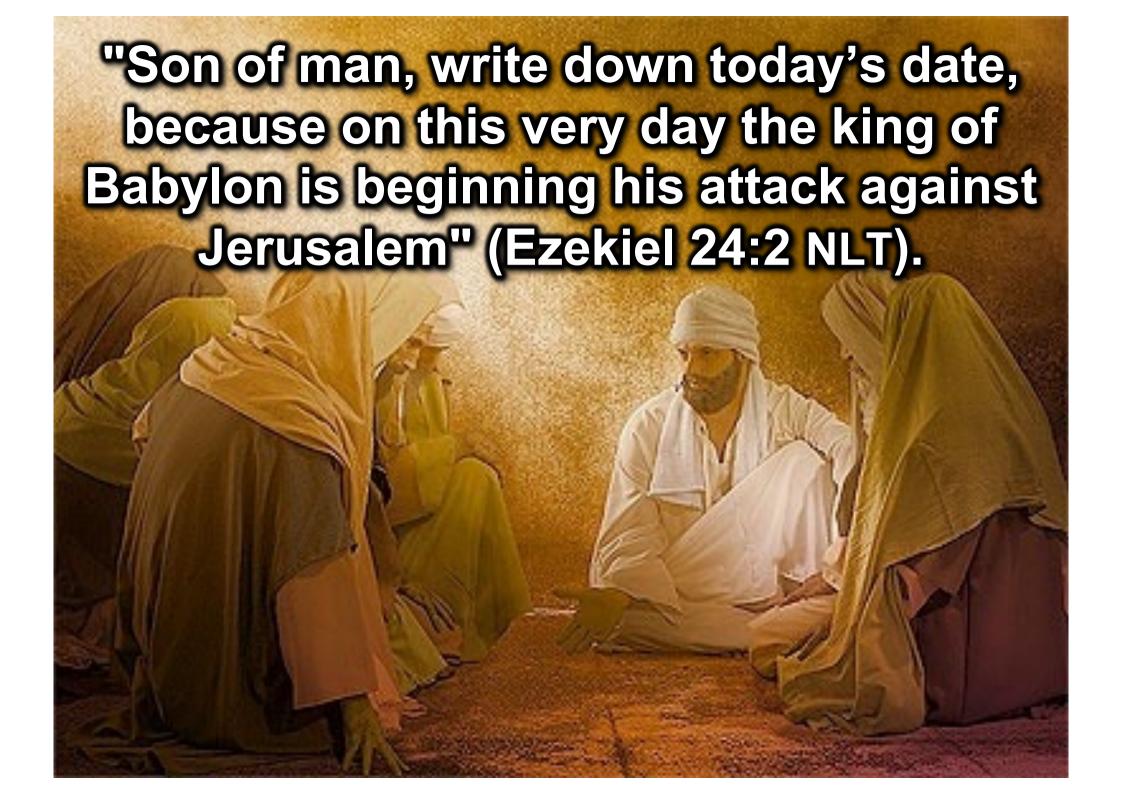


Chart of Ezekiel

Sovereign Departing and Return of Glory

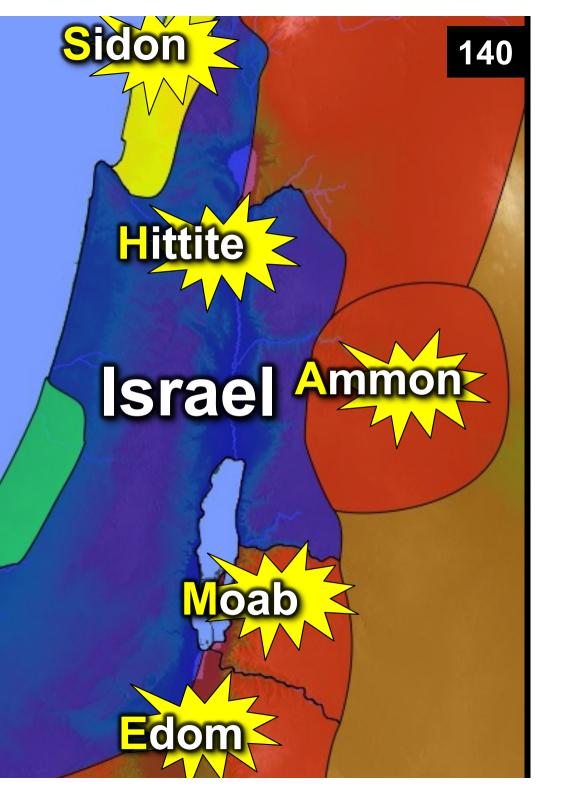
govorong and regarding and regarding									
Glory Departs 1–24			Nations Judged (No Glory) 25–32			Glory Returns 33–48			
Exile			Sovereignty Vindicated				Restoration		
Judgment of Jud		ah	Judgment of Nations			E	lessing of Israel		
Judah's Fall			Judah's Foes				Judah's Future		
Before the Sieg		7	During the Siege				After the Siege		
Call in glory 1–3	Pre-exi Hopele -ness 4–24	SS	Ammon, Moab, Edom, Philistia	Tyre and Sidon 26–28	Egypt 29–32		New Life 33–39	New Order 40–48	
Babylon (592-576 BC)									



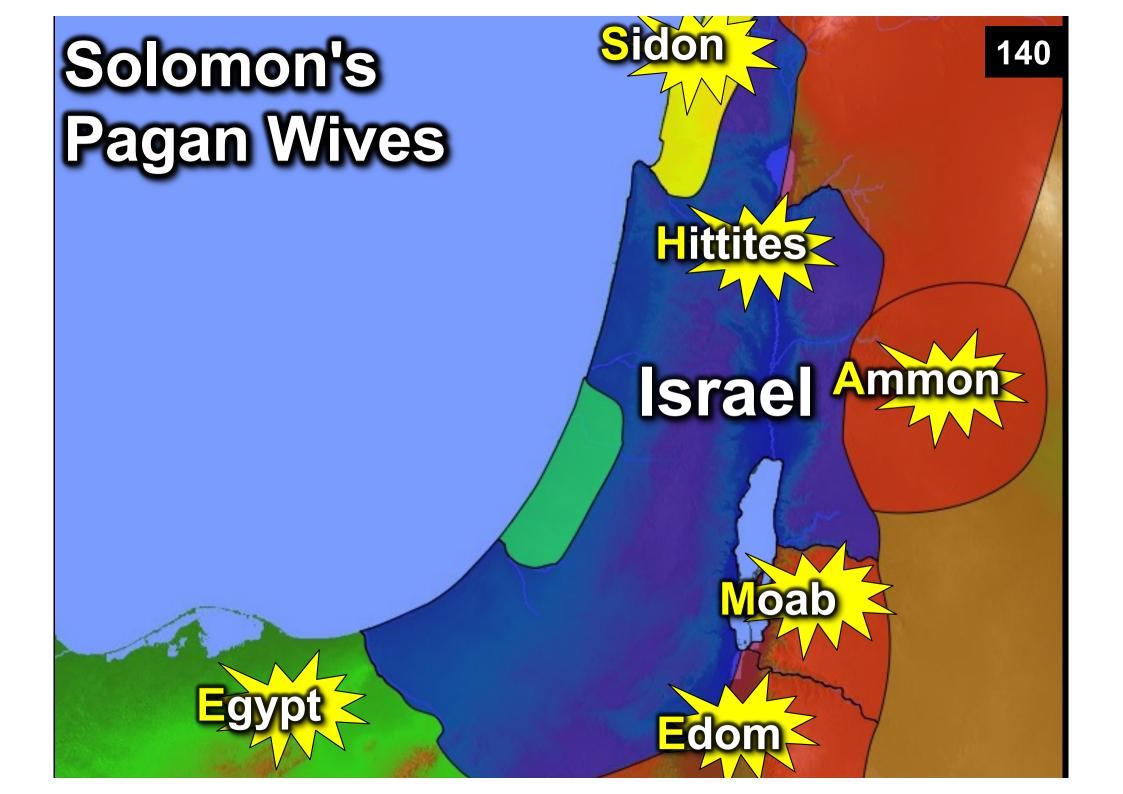
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Solomon's Pagan Wives

1 Kings 11:1 Now King Solomon loved many foreign women. Besides Pharaoh's daughter, he married women from Moab, Ammon, Edom, Sidon, and from among the Hittites.







False Gods Surrounding Israel

"Solomon has abandoned me and worshiped Ashtoreth, the goddess of the Sidonians; Chemosh, the god of Moab; and Molech, the god of the Ammonites" (1 Kings 11:33a NLT).

Ashtoreth Sidon Baal

Israel

Molech Ammon

140

Dagon Philistia

Chemosh Moab

Ra, Horus, Amon, etc.

Egypt

Qos, etc. Edom



How should we act when we feel we're on the losing side?

Ezekiel 25–32

Israel should see God's glory in his reasons for destroying their enemies.

Ezekiel 25

Nations to Be Judged (Ezekiel 25–32)

Sidon (28:20-26)

Tyre (26:1–28:19)

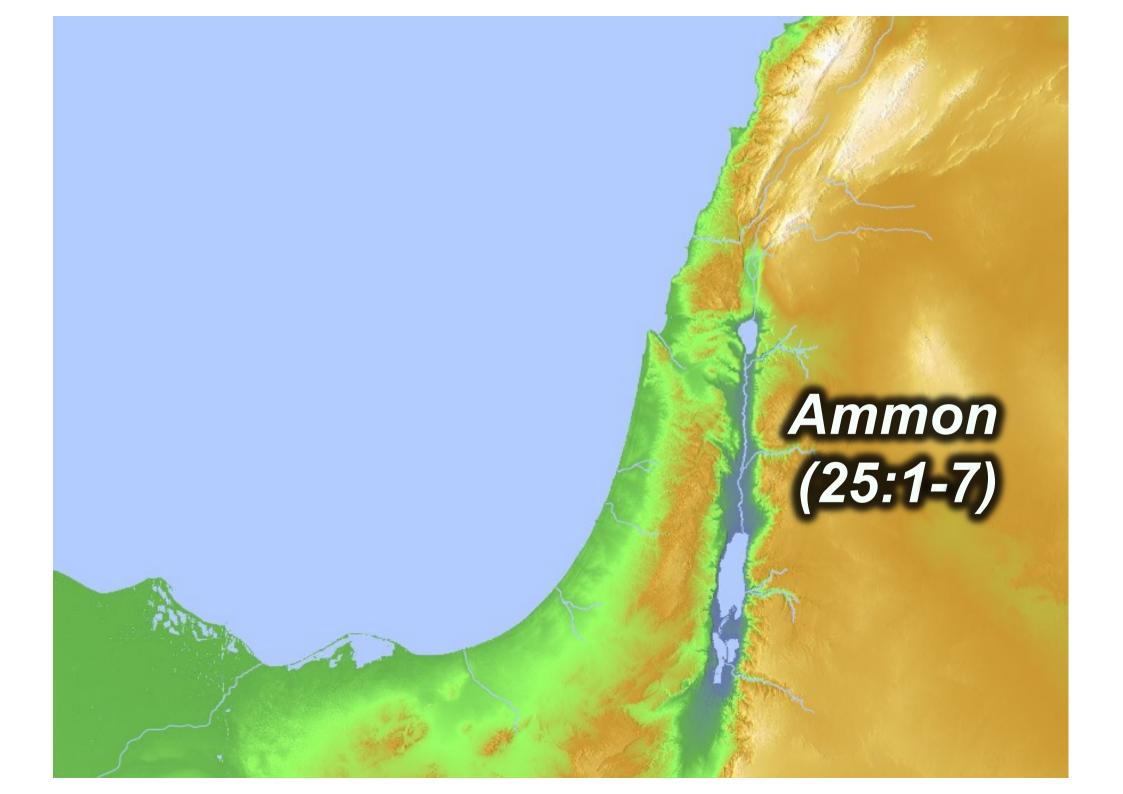
Philistia (25:15-17)

Ammon (25:1-7)

Moab (25:8-11)

Edom 25:12-14)

Egypt (29–32)





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Genesis 19:36-38

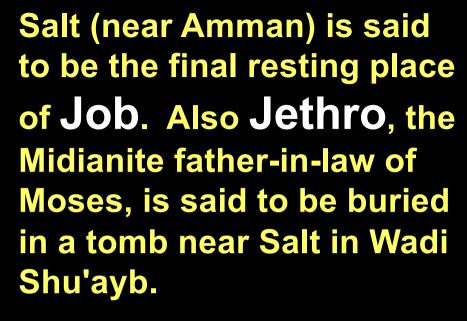
- ³⁶ So both of Lot's daughters became pregnant by their father.
- ³⁷ The older daughter had a son, and she named him Moab, he is the father of the Moabites today.
- The younger daughter also had a son, and she named him Ben-Ammi; he is the father of the Ammonites of today.

Amman



- -Built on seven hills
- -One of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities
- -Became Ammonite capital of Rabbath-Ammon by 1200 BC
- -Renamed Philadelphia in 400 BC
- -Philadelphia taken by Roman vassal King Herod in 30 BC
- -Arabian armies of Islam took over around the year AD 635



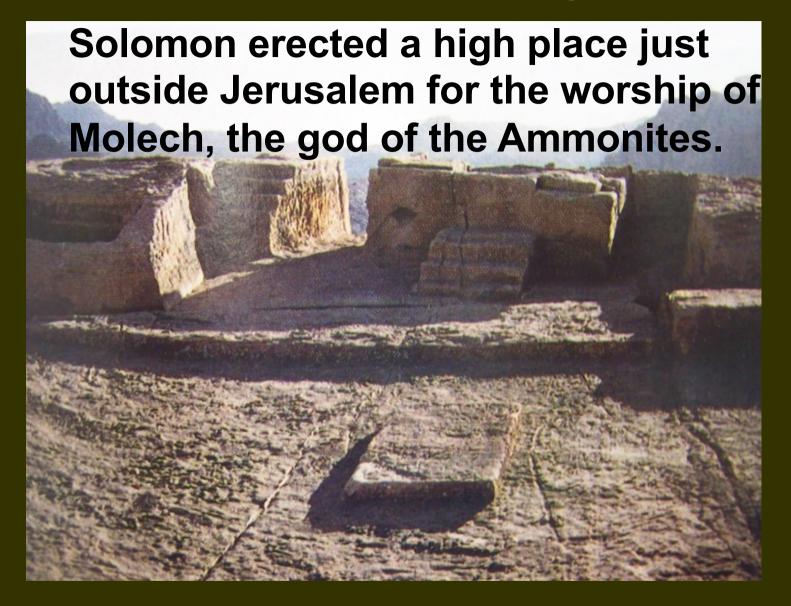




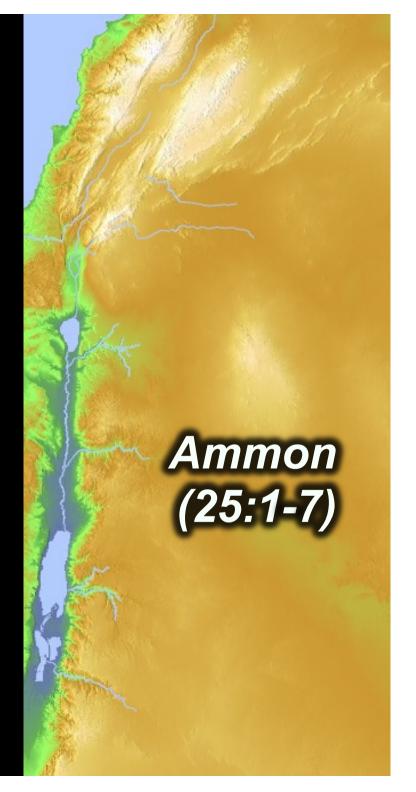




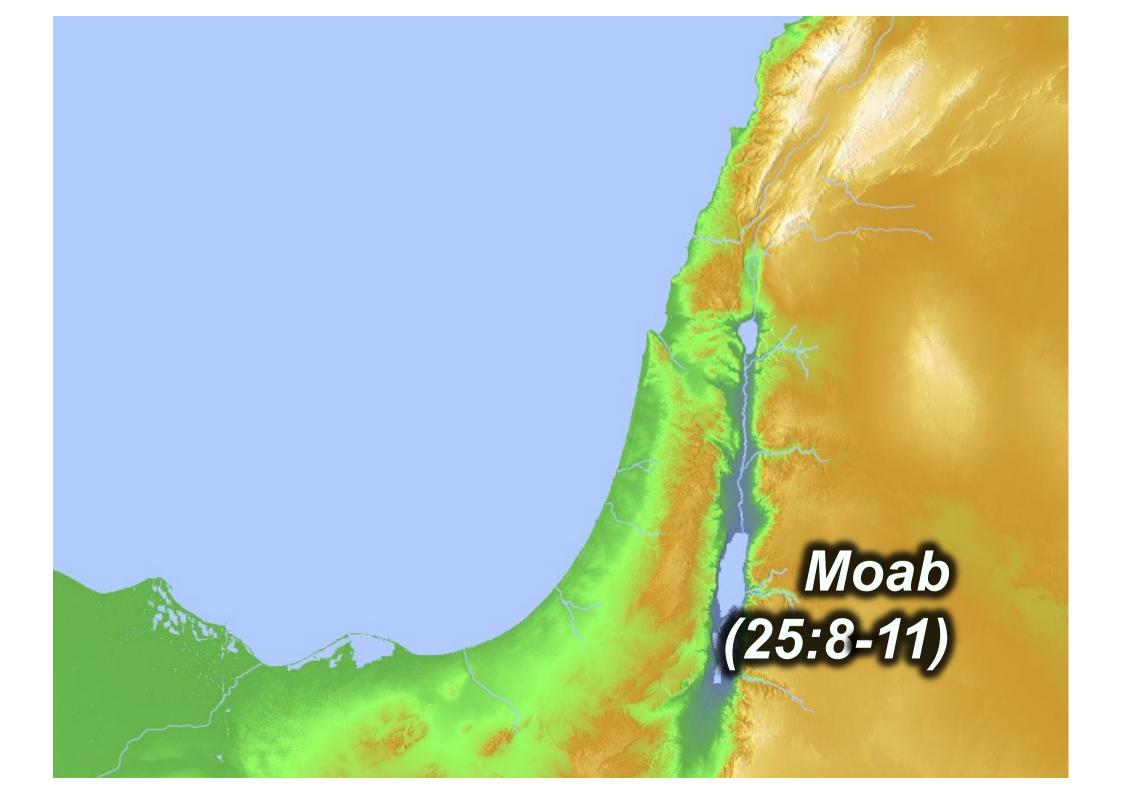
Imported Idolatry



"This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Because you clapped and danced and cheered with glee at the destruction of my people, ⁷ I will raise my fist of judgment against you. I will give you as plunder to many nations. I will cut you off from being a nation and destroy you completely. Then you will know that I am the LORD."







Moabite Deities

Chemosh

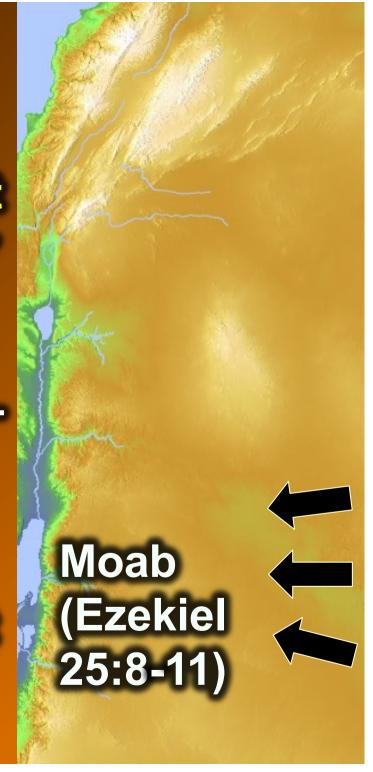
- chief deity, national god, warrior god
- god who provided for all aspects of life
- 1 Kings 11:7,
 Num 21:27-30

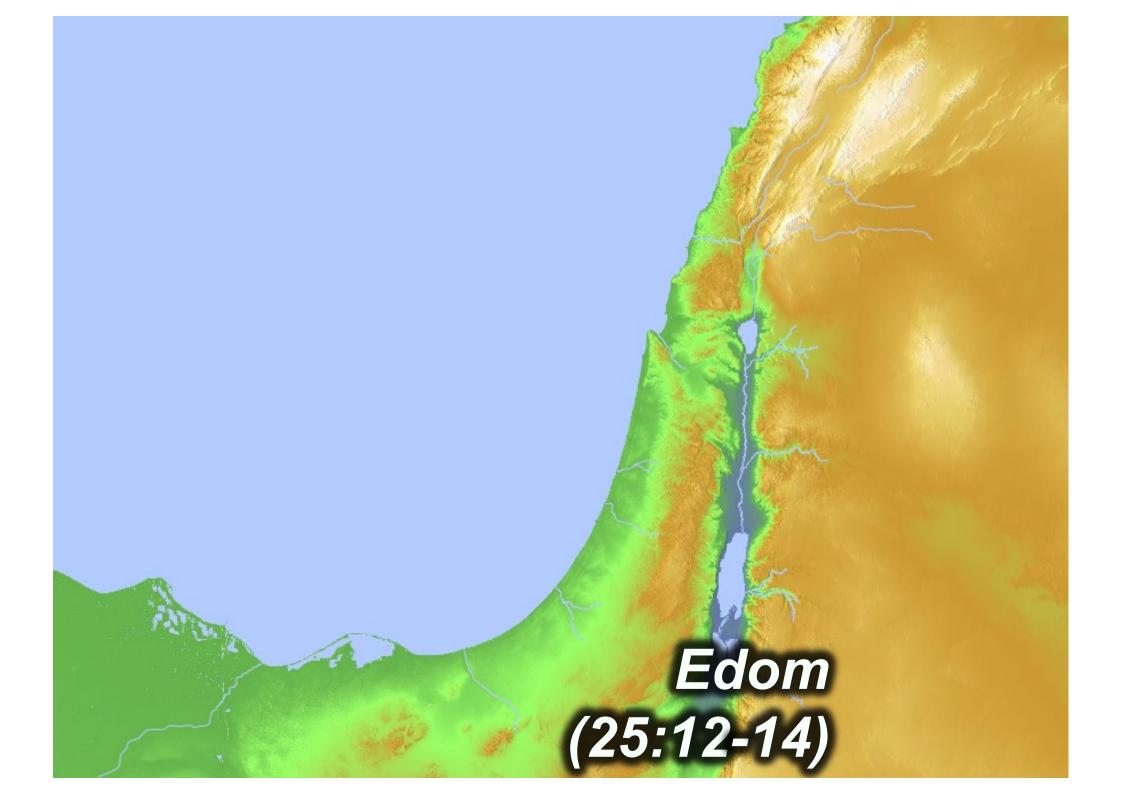
Astarte

- mother goddess
- Ashtar-Chemosh mentioned in the Mesha inscription



"This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Because the people of Moab have said that Judah is just like all the other nations, 9 I will open up their eastern flank and wipe out their glorious frontier towns— Beth-jeshimoth, Baal-meon, and Kiriathaim. ¹⁰ And I will hand Moab over to nomads from the eastern deserts, just as I handed over Ammon..."



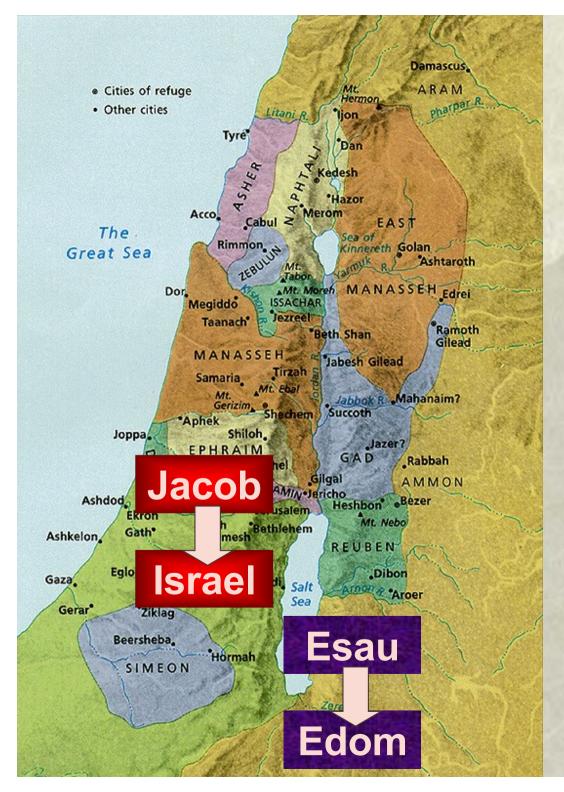


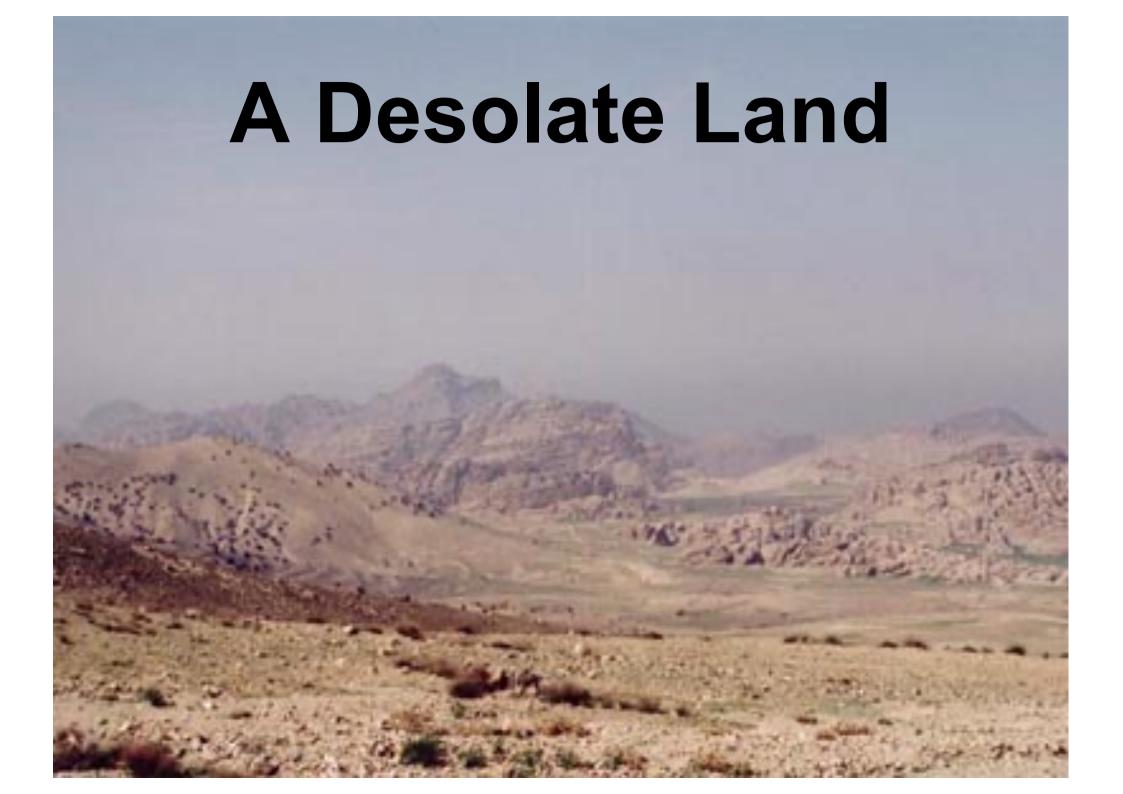


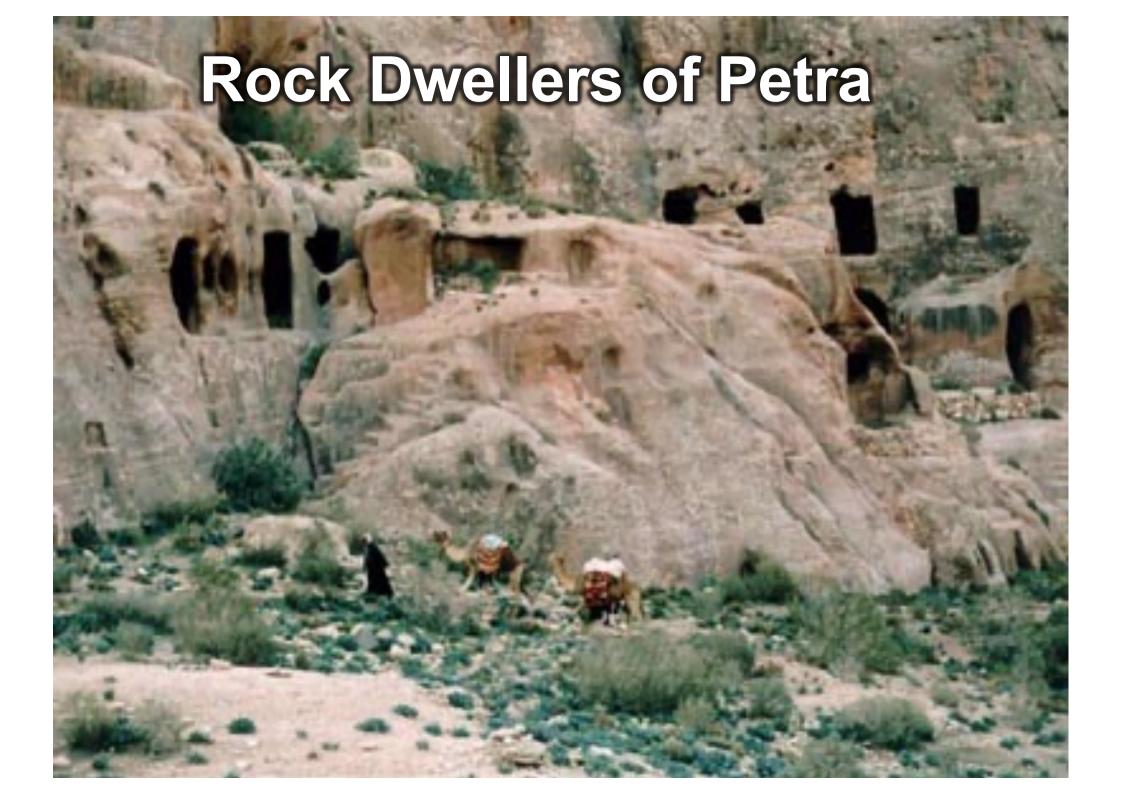
God chose Jacob over Esau

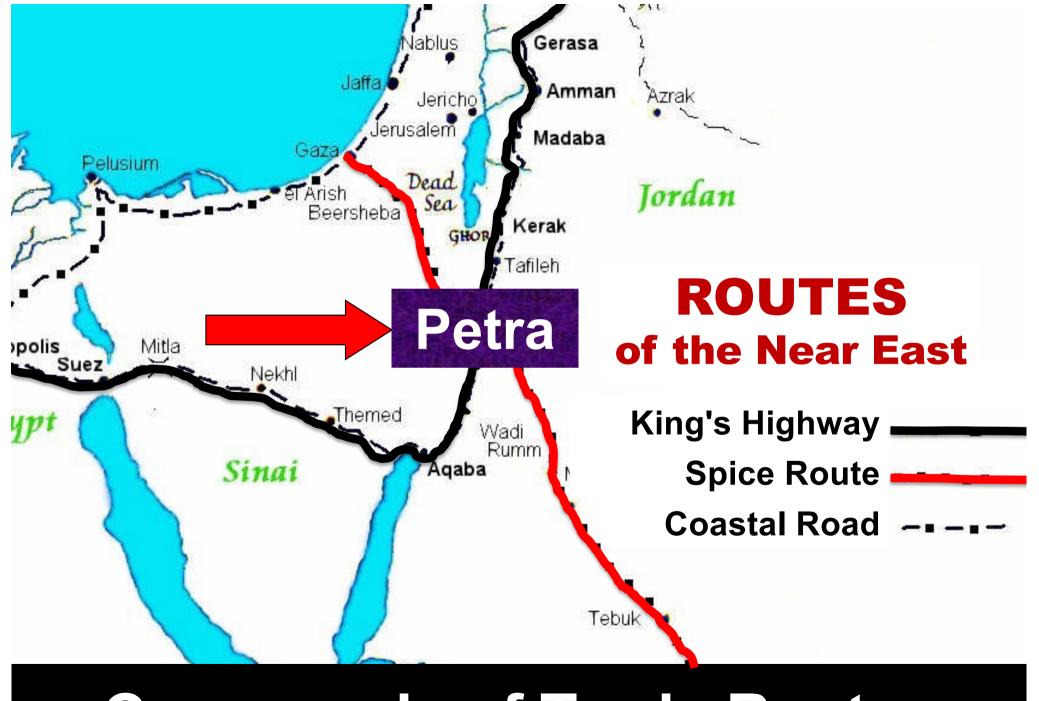
Genesis 27

Geography









Crossroads of Trade Routes



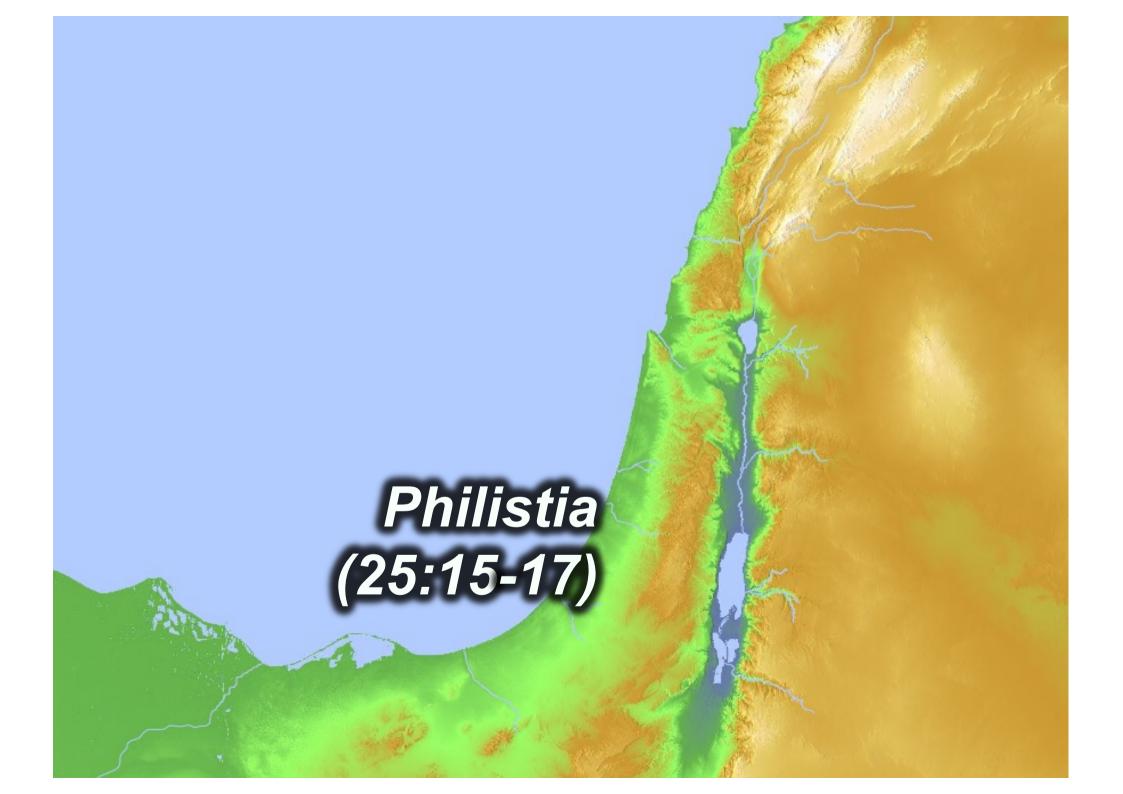
Deity

The three-horned headdress of the figurine has no known parallel.

Double-flute player is believed to be made by the same artisan in the same workshop

"This is what the Sovereign LORD says: The people of Edom have sinned greatly by avenging themselves against the people of Judah. 13 Therefore, says the Sovereign LORD, I will raise my fist of judgment against Edom. I will wipe out its people and animals with the sword. I will make a wasteland of everything from Teman to Dedan. ¹⁴ I will accomplish this by the hand of my people of Israel. They will carry out my vengeance with anger, and Edom will know that this vengeance is from me. I, the Sovereign LORD, have spoken!"

Edom (25:12-14)



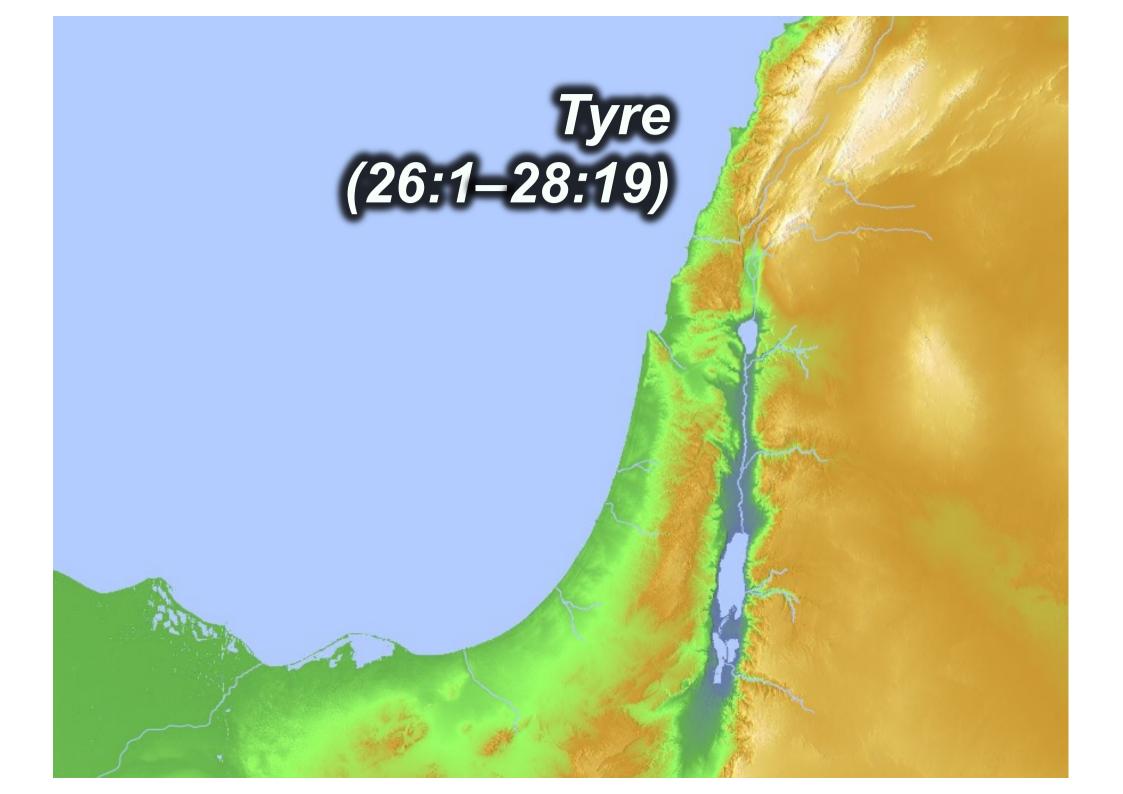
Philistines were a fearsome people



"This is what the Sovereign LORD says: The people of Philistia have acted against Judah out of bitter revenge and long-standing contempt. 16 Therefore... 17 I will execute terrible vengeance against them to punish them for what they have done. And when I have inflicted my revenge, they will know that I am the LORD."



Ezekiel 26





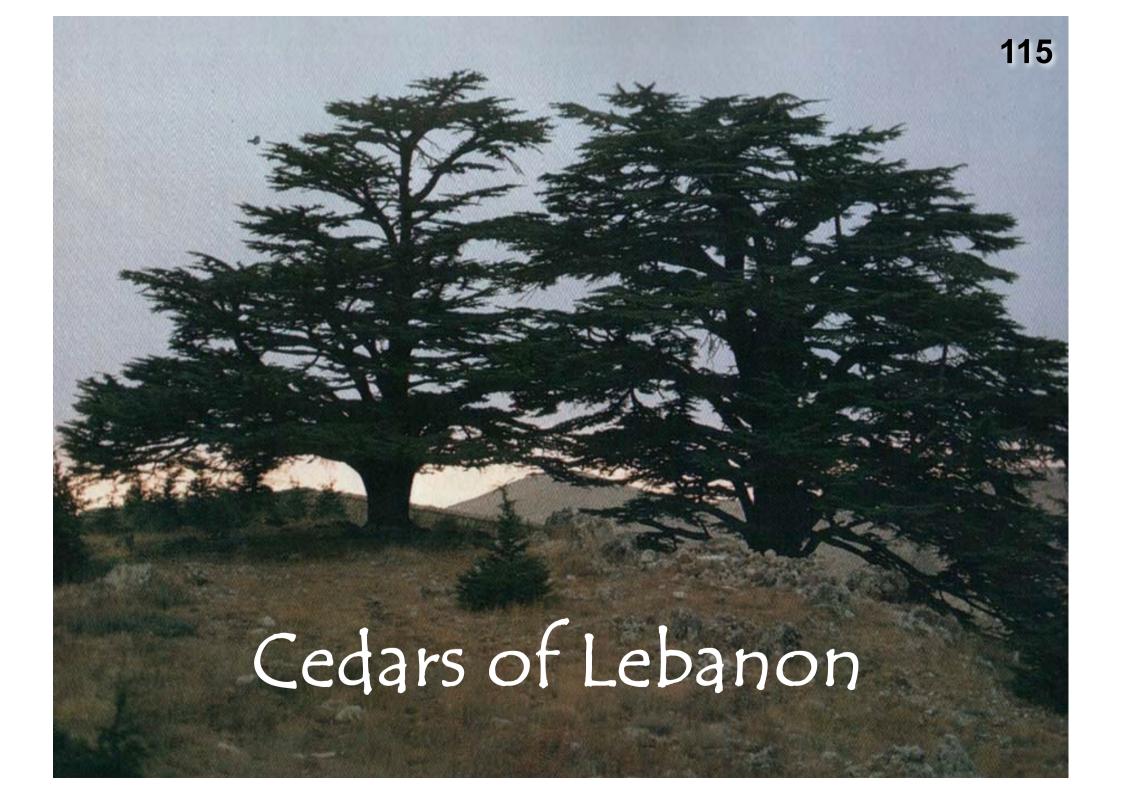
Tyre, Capital of the Phoenicians

- Phoenicia from Greek 'phoinix' meaning purple red
- A mighty seaport
- Purposes: Gain better understanding
 - ✓ Relationship with Israel
 - ✓ Impact on the nations around them
 - ✓ Lessons we can learn from them

Geography of Phoenicia

- Strip of land between the Mediterranean Sea and mountains
- ♦ Fertile crops
- Heart of the region:
 Tyre, Sidon and Byblos





History



3000 BC

=> First Phoenician settlement

1800 BC

=> Under Egyptian control

1600 BC

=> Trading with foreign cities

1400 BC

=> Under Hittite control

1200 BC

=> Independent & colonizing

800 BC

=> Under Assyrians

585 BC

=> Conquered by Nebuchadnezzar

332 BC

=> Conquered by Alexander

64 BC

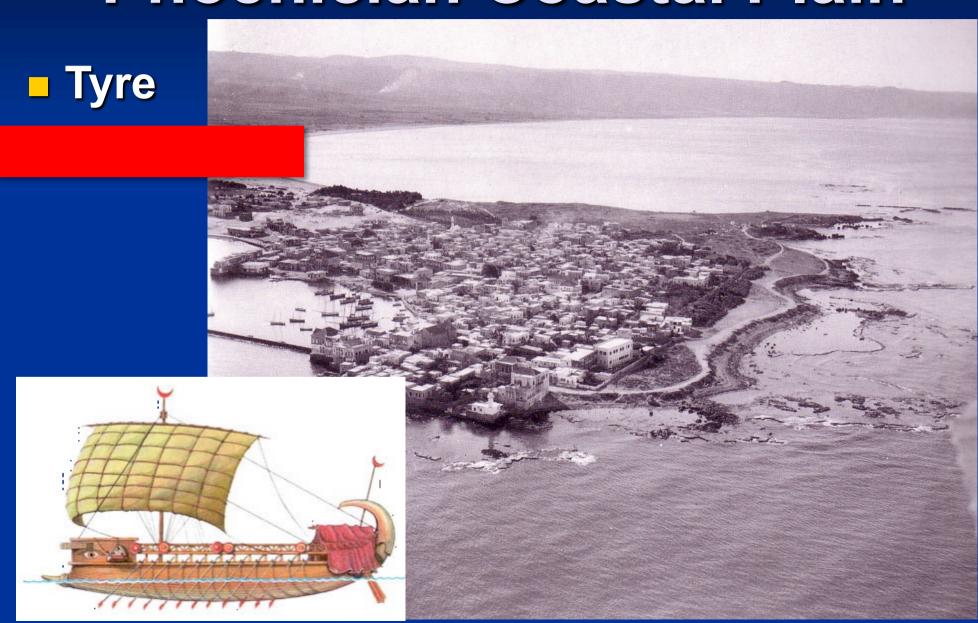
=> Absorbed into Roman empire

"Son of man, Tyre has rejoiced over the fall of Jerusalem, saying..."

Tyre (Ezekiel 26:1–28:19)

"Ha! She who was the gateway to the rich trade routes to the east has been broken, and I am the heir! Because she has been made desolate, I will become wealthy!" (26:1-2 NLT)

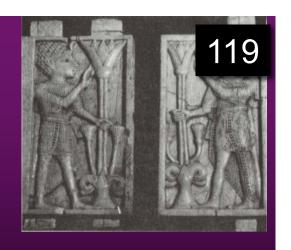
Phoenician Coastal Plain



Ezekiel 27



Trade of Tyre (Isaiah 23)



Imported raw materials from faraway countries and exported finished products:



- Bronze exported to Assyria, Cyprus,
 Greece, and Italy
- Ivory imported from Syria then exported finished products to the west
- Also glass workings, wool stuffs dyed in purple, etc.

The Trade of Phoenicia

Commercially astute: used trade treaties & political alliances:



- ◇ Trade with David (2 Sam. 5:11; 1 Kings 5:1)
- King Hiram helped Solomon in building and overseas ventures
- Export of oil, wine and timber
- Called a harlot (Isa. 23:16-17)

"Tarshish sent merchants to buy your wares in exchange for silver, iron, tin, and lead. 13 Merchants from Greece, Tubal, and Meshech brought slaves and articles of bronze to trade with you" (Ezekiel 27:12 NLT). SARDINIA IBERIA (Tarshish) SICILY Carthage Mediterranean CRETE Byblos CYPRUS (Tangier) Sea **AFRICA** Memphis^s Phoenician Shipping Routes Land of Phoenicia 250 500 mi **Trade Routes** 500 km

Ezekiel 28



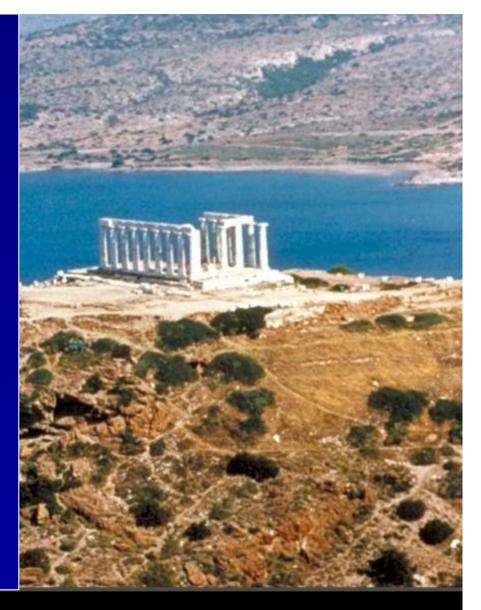
"son of man" (2:1 & 93 times)
"Spirit within you" (36:26-27)
"prince of Tyre" (28:2)

Who was the King of Tyre (Isaiah 23)?



Tyrian coins

"Son of man, give the prince of Tyre this message from the Sovereign LORD: 'In your great pride, you claim, "I am a god! I sit on a divine throne in the heart of the sea." But you are only a man and not a god, though you boast that you are a god.""

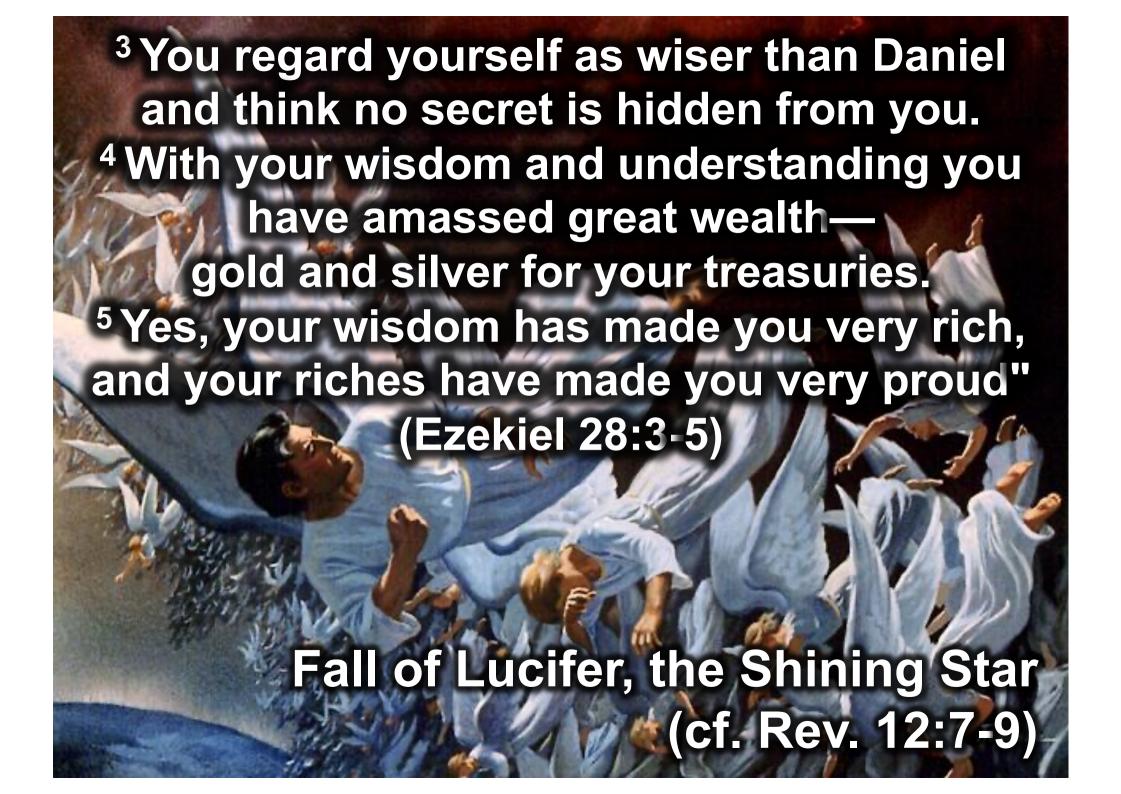


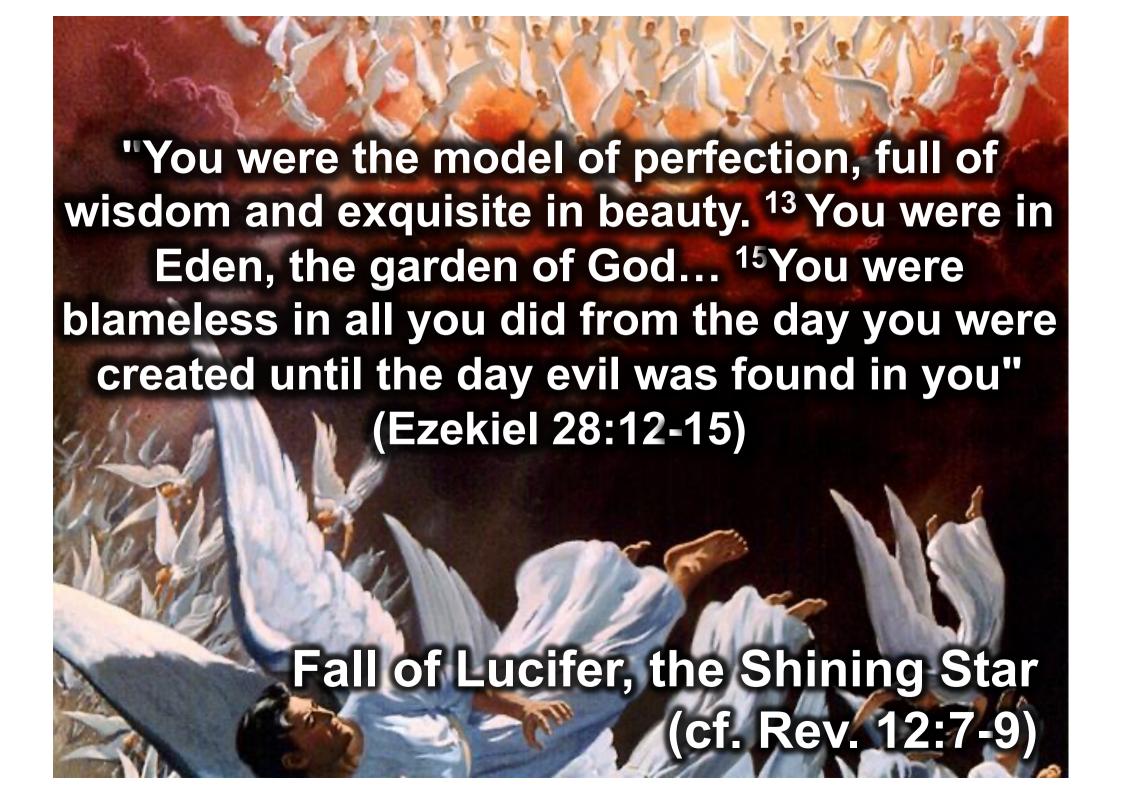
Poseidon's Temple

Tyre's king regarded himself as the god of the sea (Ezek. 28:2 NLT)

² "Son of man, give the prince of Tyre this message from the Sovereign LORD:
"In your great pride you claim, 'I am a god! I sit on a divine throne in the heart of the sea.'
But you are only a man and not a god, though you boast that you are a god" (Ezekiel 28:2).

Satan cast down (cf. Rev. 12:7-13)





¹⁶Your rich commerce led you to violence, and you sinned. So I banished you in disgrace from the mountain of God. I expelled you, O mighty guardian, from your place among the stones of fire. ¹⁷Your heart was filled with pride because of all your beauty. Your wisdom was corrupted by your love of splendor. So I threw you to the ground and exposed you to the curious gaze of kings" (Ezek. 28:16-17)

Sidon (28:20-26)

"I am your enemy, O Sidon... ²³ I will send a plague against you, and blood will be spilled in your streets. The attack will come from every direction, and your people will lie slaughtered within your walls. Then everyone will know that I am the LORD. ²⁴ No longer will Israel's scornful neighbors prick and tear at her like briers and thorns. For then they will know that I am the Sovereign LORD."

Ezekiel 29

Egypt was deemed strong

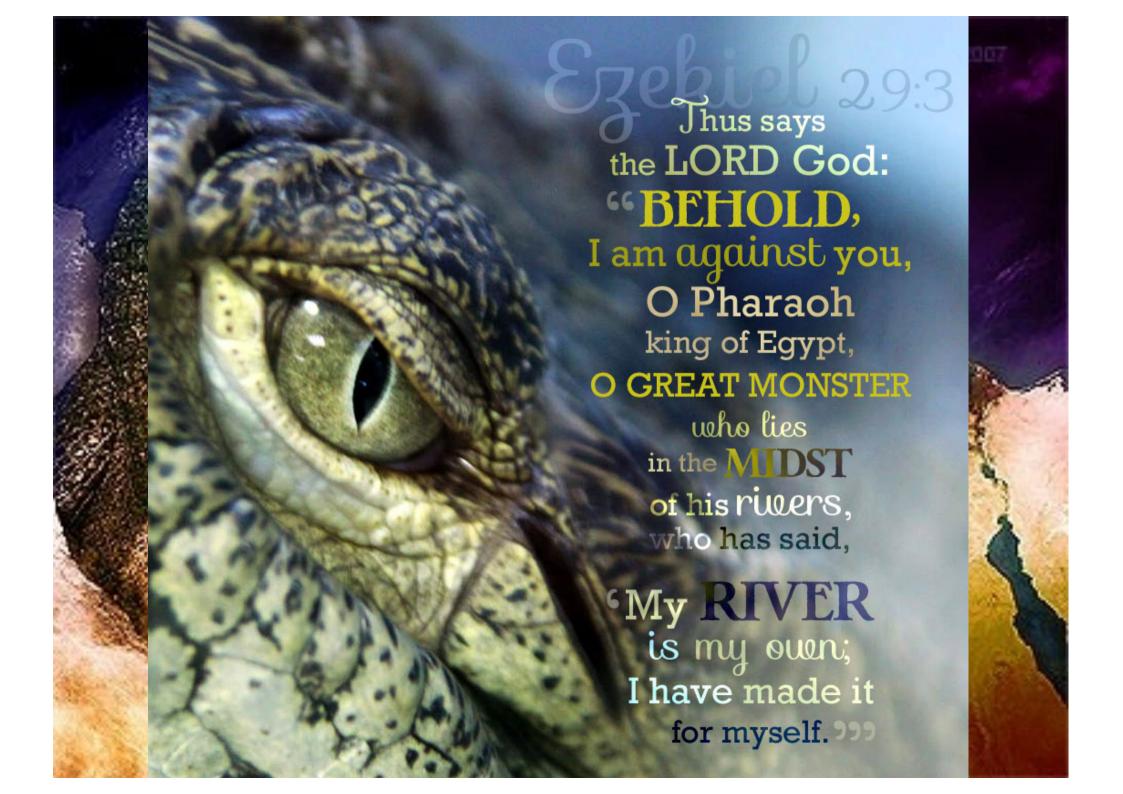


"On January 7, during the tenth year of King Jehoiachin's captivity [587 BC], this message came to me from the LORD:

²'Son of man, turn and face Egypt and prophesy against Pharaoh the king and all the people of Egypt'"

—Ezekiel 29:1-2 NLT—

Egypt (29–32)



"But this is what the Sovereign LORD also says: At the end of the forty years I will bring the Egyptians home again from the nations to which they have been scattered. ¹⁴ I will restore the prosperity of Egypt and bring its people back to the land of Pathros in southern Egypt from which they came. But Egypt will remain an unimportant, minor kingdom. 15 It will be the lowliest of all the nations, never again great enough to rise above its neighbors"

—Ezekiel 29:13-15 NLT—

Babylon to Conquer Egypt (571 BC)



"Son of man, the army of King **Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon** fought so hard against Tyre that the warriors' heads were rubbed bare and their shoulders were raw and blistered. Yet **Nebuchadnezzar and his army** won no plunder to compensate them for all their work"

(Ezekiel 29:18 NLT).

Babylon to Conquer Egypt (571 BC)

Tyre

Egypt

"Therefore, this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will give the land of Egypt to Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. He will carry off its wealth, plundering everything it has so he can pay his army. ²⁰ Yes, I have given him the land of Egypt as a reward for his work, says the Sovereign LORD, because he was working for me when he destroyed Tyre"

(Ezekiel 29:19-20 NLT).

Ezekiel 30

But Egypt was unreliable

"What sorrow awaits my rebellious children," says the LORD. 'You make plans that are contrary to mine. You make alliances not directed by my Spirit, thus piling up your sins. ² For without consulting me, you have gone down to Egypt for help. You have put your trust in Pharaoh's protection. You have tried to hide in his shade. ³ But by trusting Pharaoh, you will be humiliated, and by depending on him, you will be disgraced" (Isaiah 30:1-3 NLT).

Egypt and Allies Destroyed

"A sword will come against Egypt, and those who are slaughtered will cover the ground. Its wealth will be carried away and its foundations destroyed..."

—Ezekiel 30:4 NLT

Egypt and Allies Destroyed



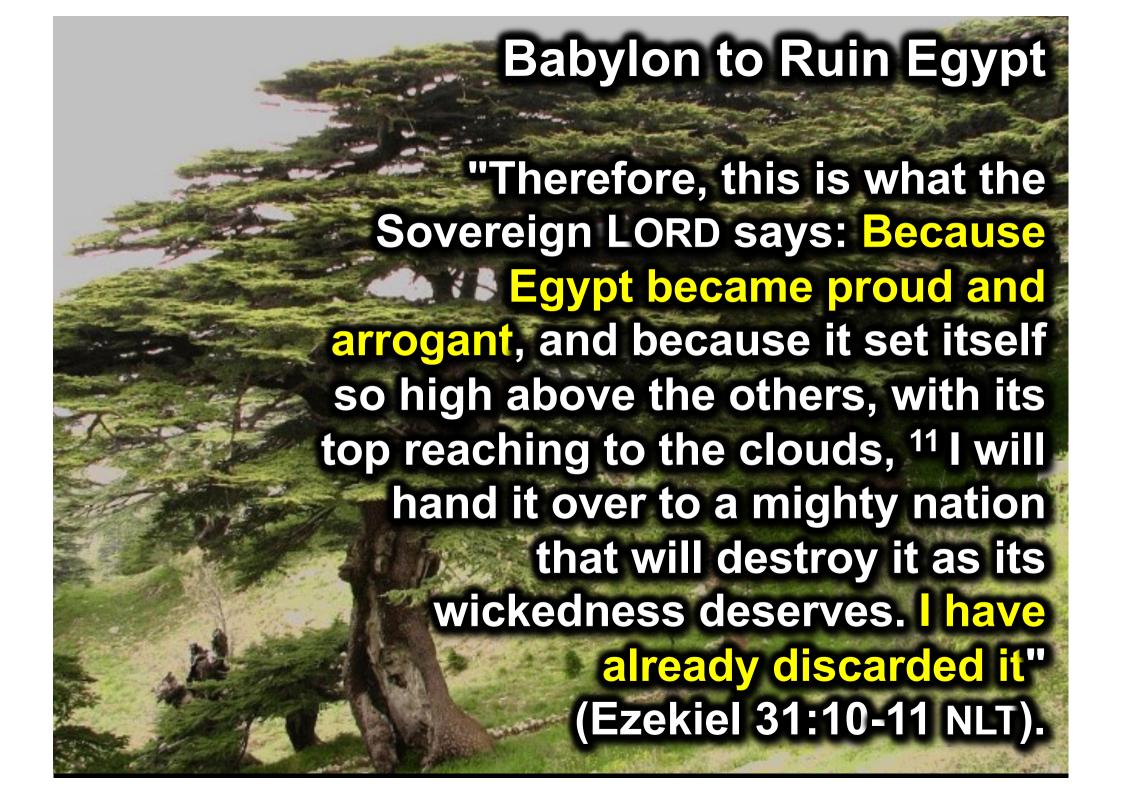
Ezekiel 31

Do not trust Egypt

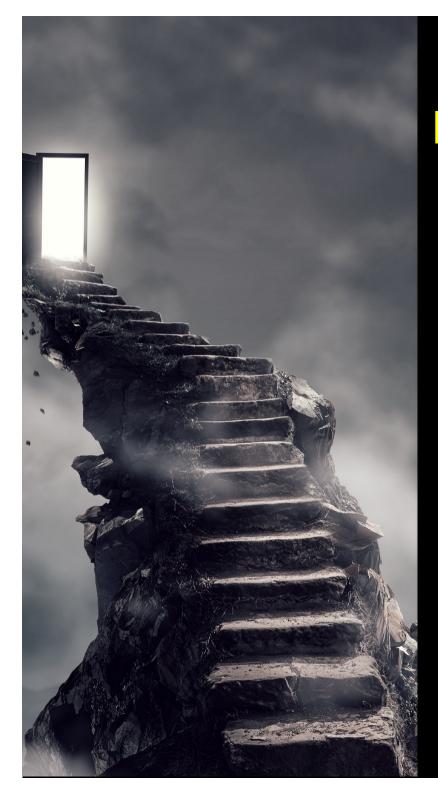
"What sorrow awaits those who look to Egypt for help,

trusting their horses, chariots, and charioteers and depending on the strength of human armies





Ezekiel 32



"Son of man, weep for the hordes of Egypt and for the other mighty nations. For I will send them down to the world below in company with those who descend to the pit. ¹⁹ Say to them, 'O Egypt, are you lovelier than the other nations? No! So go down to the pit and lie there among the outcasts" (Ezekiel 32:18-19 NLT).

How can you be expectant of God's glory once again in your life?

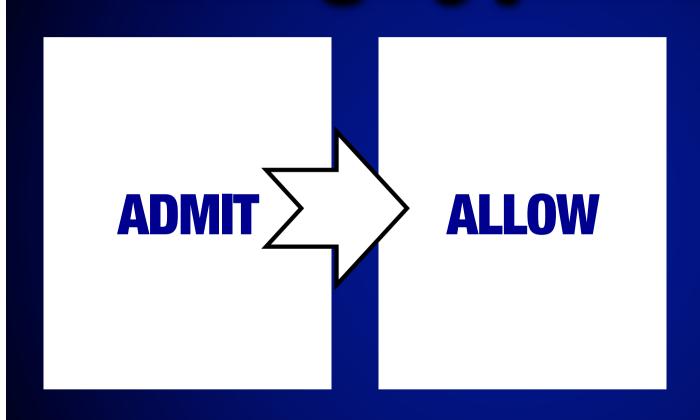


1—Admit that God's glory left (Ezek 1–24).

ADMIT

STEPS TO GOD'S GLORY

2—Allow God to handle all rivals to his glory (Ezek 25–32).



STEPS TO GOD'S GLORY

God still judges nations because they are still responsible

Sovereign Departing and Return of Glory

Glory Departs 1–24			Nations Judged (No Glory) 25–32			Glory Returns 33–48			
Exile			Sovereignty Vindicated				Restoration		
Judgment of Jud		ah	Judgment of Nations				lessing of Israel		
Judah's Fall			Judah's Foes				Judah's Future		
Before the Sieg		Ģ	During the Siege				After the Siege		
Call in glory 1–3	Pre-ex Hopele -ness 4–24	SS	Ammon, Moab, Edom, Philistia	Tyre and Sidon 26–28	Egypt 29–32		New Life 33–39	New Order 40–48	
Portion (502 570-2C)									

Babylon (592-545 BC)

The Big Ten





Why must there be judgment?

- 1. That people may repent
- 2. That people may know God speaks and acts
- 3. That God may prove Himself holy
- 4. That God may show Himself just
- 5. That God may purge people and prepare them for future restoration

God is still just (fair) so there must be judgment

Can you render the world correct judgment?

Can you render the world correct judgement?

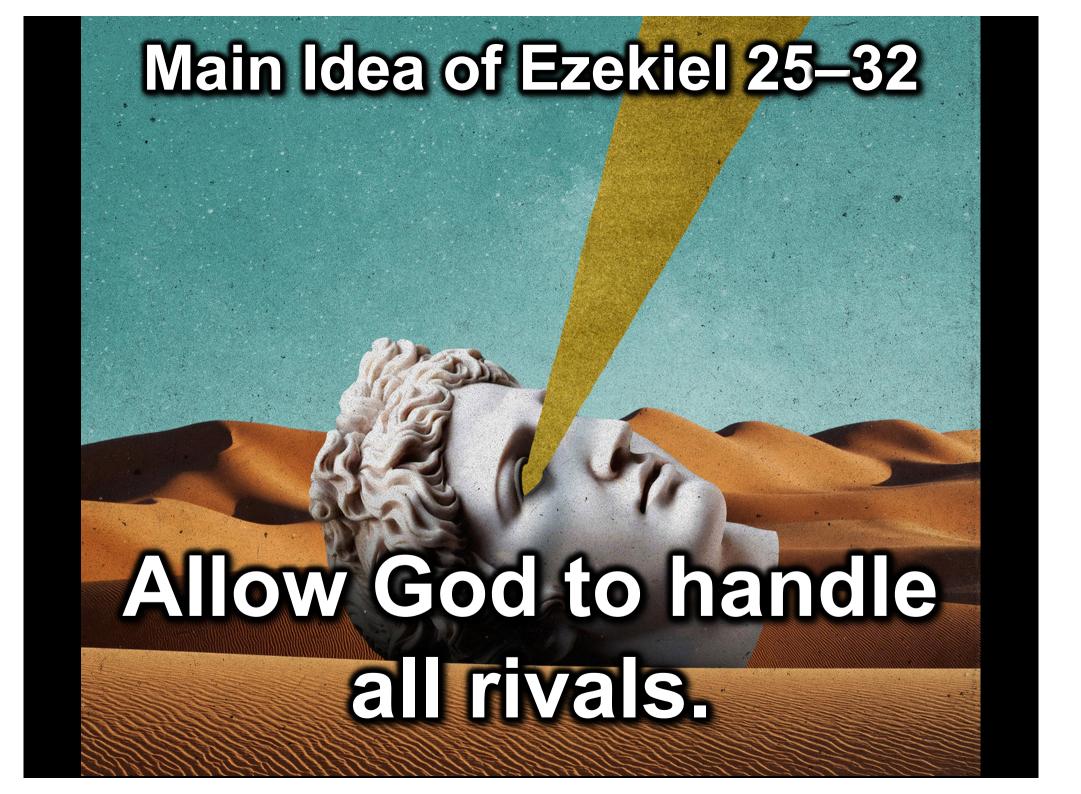


"They wear pride like a jeweled necklace and clothe themselves with cruelty" (Psalm 73:6 NLT).





How should we act when we feel we're on the losing side?

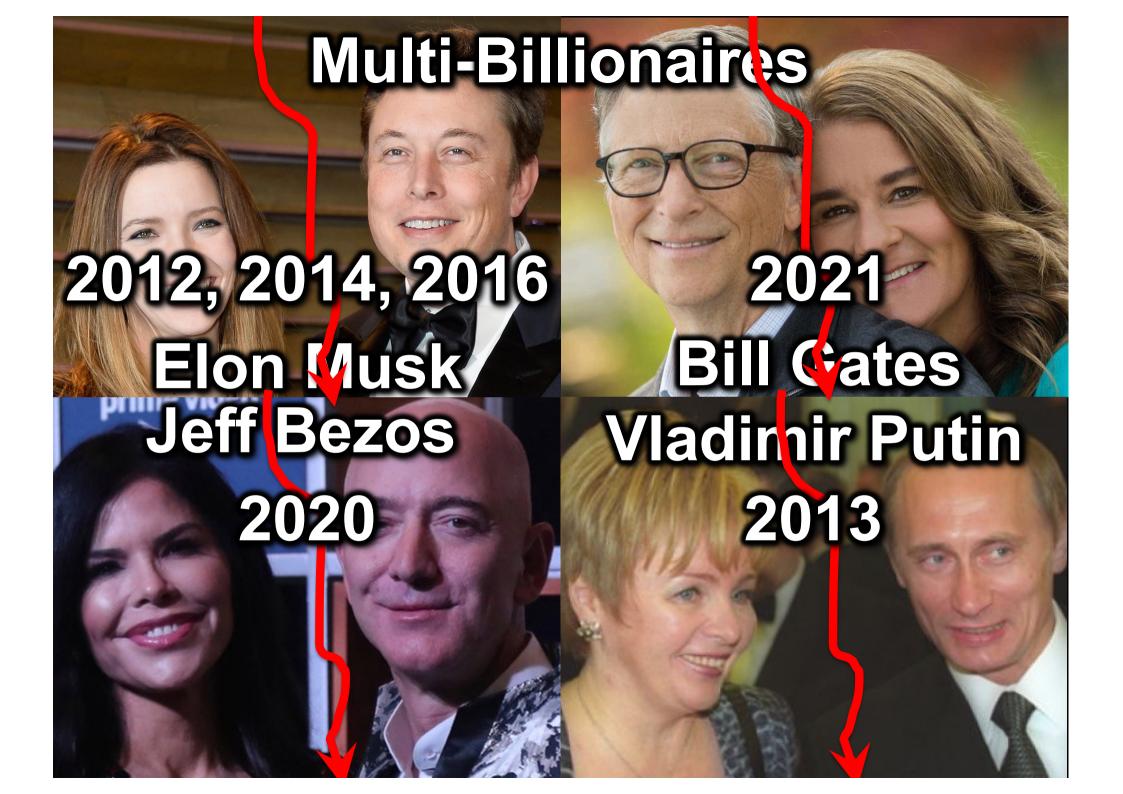


Be Patient

Don't put in the microwave what God has in the crockpot.

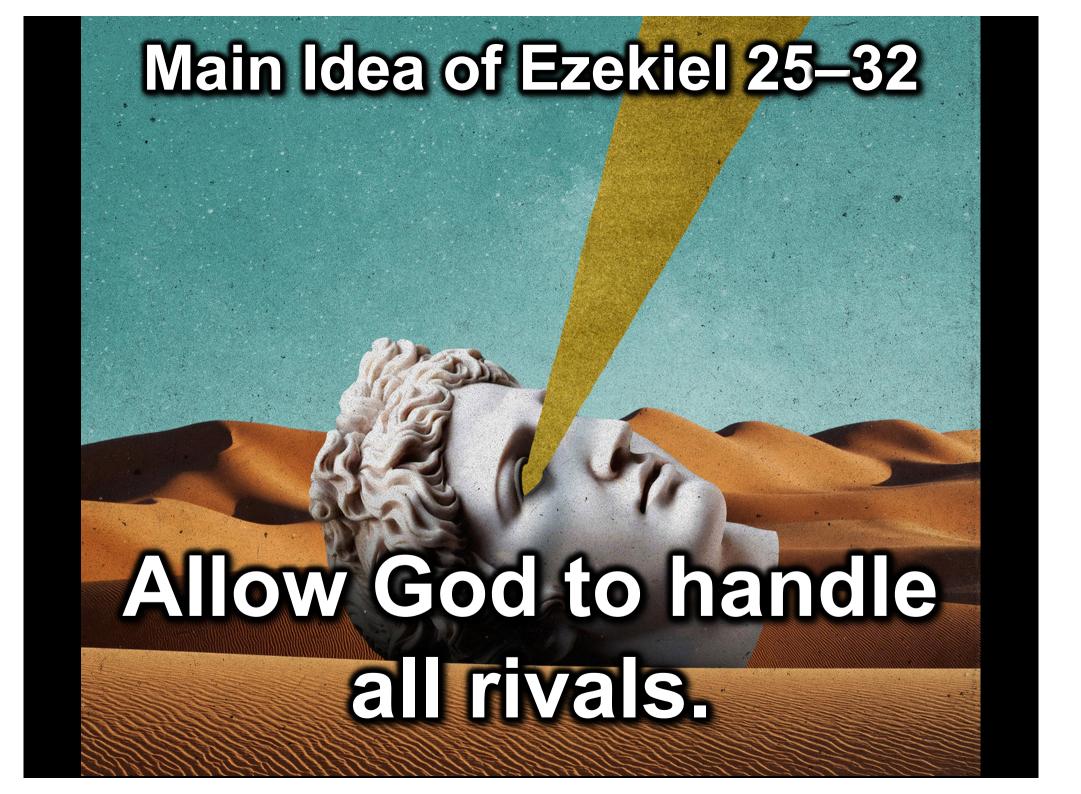
God's glory will not shine with competitors in your life.





Proverbs 28:5 NLT

"Evil people don't understand justice, but those who follow the LORD understand completely."



"That's the whole story. Here now is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey his commands, for this is everyone's duty. ¹⁴God will judge us for everything we do, including every secret thing, whether good or bad" (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 NLT).



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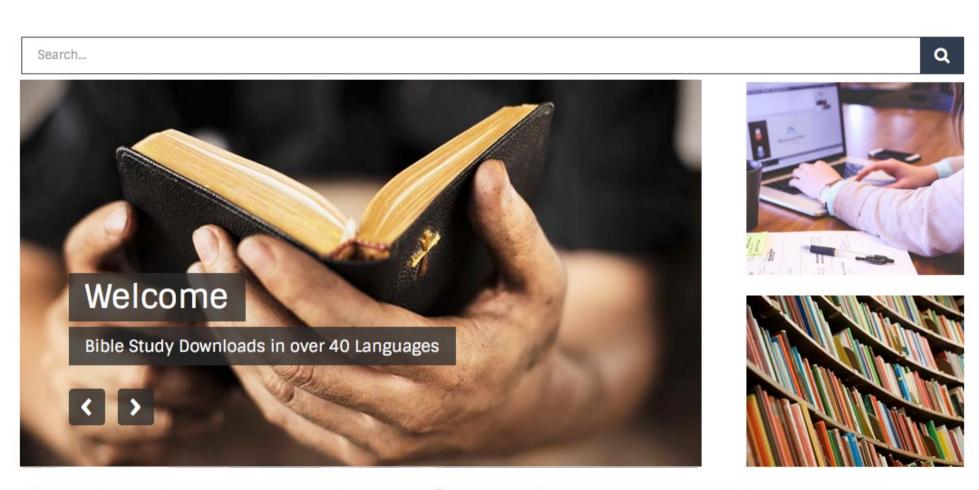
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Theological Themes

- God
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 - Holiness of God
 - Faithful to covenant
 - Spirit of Yahweh
 - Glory of Yahweh
- Individual Responsibility
- Restoration
 - New covenant
 - New physical order
 - Edenic ideals

Summary Reunion of Judah and Israel **Enemies Defeated Shekinah Glory Returned** Temple Rebuilt **Order of Worship Restored** Redemption (Forgiveness of Sins) All will know that I am Yahweh **Territories Restored Indwelling Spirit Obedience Guaranteed New Heart** Shepherd of Israel



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