

The Bad Good News
 Why Does God Rage against the Nations?
 Ezekiel 28:20–26
 Veritas Adult Community
 September 19, 2020

The Scripture Reading

The Lord’s Theological Goal for the Nations

²⁰ The following word of YHWH came to me:

²¹ Human, direct your face toward Sidon, and prophecy against her.

²² And say, “Thus has the Lord YHWH declared:

‘Look! I am against you, O Sidon.

I will display my glory in your midst.

And they will know that I am YHWH

when I inflict punishments on her

and display my holiness in her midst.

²³ I will send pestilence against her

and bloodshed into her streets.

And the slain will fall in her midst,

[cut down] by the sword attacking her from all sides.

Then they will know that I am YHWH.’

The Lord’s Gospel Goal for Israel

²⁴ “The family of Israel will never again suffer from prickling briars or painful thorns inflicted by any of their neighbors who have treated them with contempt. And they will know that I am the Lord YHWH.”

²⁵ “Thus has the Lord YHWH declared:

‘When I regather the family of Israel from the peoples among whom they have been dispersed, I will display my holiness through them in the sight of the nations. Then they will live on their own land, which I gave to my servant Jacob. ²⁶ And they will live on it securely; they will build houses and plant vineyards. They will live on it securely when I have inflicted punishments upon all from the surrounding peoples who have treated them with contempt. Then they will know that I am YHWH their God.’”

Exposition

Why Does God's Fury Rage against the Nations?
(28:20-26)

Introduction

Psalm 2:1-4

Ezekiel 4:1-3

Prophetic Prophecies against the Nations

On Babylon: Ezekiel 21:30-32

The Symmetry and Balance of Ezekiel 25-32

Amos 1-2	Isaiah 12-23	Jeremiah 46-51	Ezekiel 25-32
Damascus	Babylon (Assyria)	Egypt	Bene Ammon A/B
Gaza	Philistia	Philistines	Moab
Tyre	Moab	Moab	Edom
Edom	Damascus	Bene Ammon	Philistia
Bene Ammon	Egypt	Edom	Tyre A/B
Moab	Desert	Kedar	King of Tyre A/B
Judah	Arabia	Hazor	Sidon
Israel	Valley of Vision	Elam	Egypt (7x)
	Tyre	Babylon	Babylon
	Sidon		

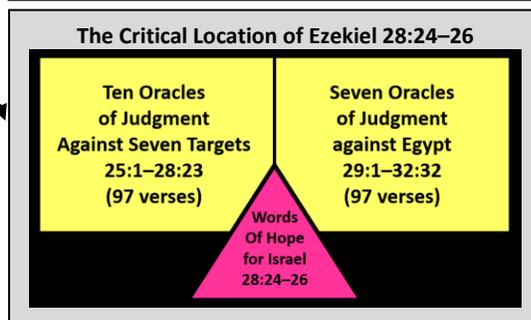
A. Introduction to the Prophecy against Sidon (vv. 20-22a)

B. The Prophetic Message against Sidon (vv. 22b-23)

1. The LORD's Word to Sidon (v. 22b)
2. The LORD's Word about Sidon (vv. 22c-23).
 - a. The Nature of the LORD's Action (v. 23)
 - b. The Goal and Effect of the LORD's Action (v. 24)

What will Sidon Learn about YHWH, the God of Israel?

- (1) He is the true and living God.
- (2) His visit to Sidon is not pleasant.
- (3) He speaks and keeps his word.
- (4) He is Glorious (I will display my glory!)
- (5) He is Holy (I will display my holiness!)



C. The Prophetic Message for Israel (vv. 24-26)

1. The LORD will put his Humpty Dumpty together again.
 - a. He will regather his people.
 - b. He will bring them back to the land promised to their ancestors.
2. The LORD will display his holiness to Israel and the nations.

D. Practical and Theological Lessons for Us

1. No nation stands outside the scope of divine sovereignty.
2. God keeps his covenant.
3. When God intervenes in human affairs his goal is to open our eyes and the eyes of the world to his glory and his holiness.