

A Lament for the Magnificent Ship Tyre!
Veritas Adult Community
October 24, 2020

A. Preamble: The Call for Lamentation Over Tyre

¹The following message of YHWH came to me:

²As for you, human, raise a lament over Tyre ³and say:

O Tyre! [You] who rule the gateways of the sea, broker of the peoples, to many coastal lands.

B. The Magnificence of Tyrian Glory

^{3b}Thus has the Lord YHWH declared:

O Tyre! You have boasted, “I am the perfection of beauty.”

⁴Your frontiers are in the heart of the seas;

Your builders made your beauty perfect.

⁵Of juniper from Senir they built for you the whole double-deck.

Of cedar from Lebanon they took to make a mast for you.

⁶Of oaks from Bashan they made your oars.

Your hull they built of cypresses from the coasts of Cyprus.

⁷Your sail was of finely embroidered linen from Egypt, serving as your banner.

Your deck coverings were of blue-violet and red-purple, from the coasts of Elishah.

⁸The nobility of Sidon and Arwad were your oarsmen;

Your skilled men, O Tyre, were on board you—they were your helmsmen.

⁹Skilled veterans of Byblos were on board you—serving as your repairmen.

All the ships of the sea and their sailors,

were in your harbor, to handle your merchandise.

¹⁰Men of Paras, Lydia, and Put were in your army, serving as your warriors.

They hung shields and helmets on you;

They endowed you with your splendor.

¹¹Men of Arvad and Helek manned your walls all around;

And Gammadites were stationed on your towers.

They hung their weapons on your walls all around—

They made your beauty perfect.

C. The Source of Tyrian Glory

¹²Tarshish was your agent, because of the abundance of all your wealth. In exchange for silver, iron, tin, and lead, they offered your wares. ¹³Javan, Tubal and Meshech—they were your brokers. In exchange for human beings and copper utensils, they offered your merchandise. ¹⁴From Beth-Togarmah, [in exchange for] horses and chariot teams and mules, they offered your wares. ¹⁵The people of Dedan [Danuna] were your brokers; many coastal lands conducted trade on your behalf. As your payment they brought back to you tusks of ivory, and ebony. ¹⁶Aram was your agent, because of the abundance of your products. In exchange for turquoise, purple products, embroidered cloth, fine linen, coral, and pearl, they offered your wares. ¹⁷Judah and the land of Israel—they were your brokers. In exchange for wheat of Minnith, flour, honey, oil, and balm, they offered your merchandise. ¹⁸Damascus was your agent. In exchange for the abundance of your produce—because of the abundance of wealth, in exchange for the wine of Helbon and wool from Suhru, ¹⁹and casks of wine from Uzzal—they offered your wares: wrought iron, cassia and calamus were among your merchandise. ²⁰Dedan was your broker. In exchange for saddlecloths used for riding— ²¹Arabia, and all the sheiks of Kedar, they conducted trade on your behalf. In exchange for lambs, and rams, and goats, for these they were your agents. ²²The brokers of Sheba and Raamah—they were your brokers.

In exchange for the choicest of perfumes and for all kinds of precious stones, and gold, they offered your wares. ²³Haran, Canneh, Eden, Asshur and Kilmad were your brokers— ²⁴they were your brokers. In exchange for the choicest of fabrics, for cloaks of blue-purple and embroidered cloth, for colorful carpets, and for tightly braided cords, for these they were your brokers. ²⁵The ships of Tarshish transported your merchandise for you. So you were full and extremely heavily loaded in the heart of the seas.

D. The Imminent Fall of Tyre

²⁶Out into the high seas your oarsmen have brought you.
An easterly gale has shipwrecked you in the heart of the seas.
²⁷Your wealth, your wares, and your merchandise;
Your sailors, your helmsmen, and your repairmen;
The merchants of your merchandise,
and all your warriors on board you,
along with your entire crew in your midst—
They will sink into the heart of the seas,
on the day of your fall.
²⁸Amid the loud outcry of your helmsmen,
The mainland suburbs will heave.
²⁹All who handle the rudder will come down from their ships.
The sailors and all the mariners will stand on the land.
³⁰They will shout loudly **over you**,
and cry out bitterly.
They will throw dust on their heads,
and wallow in the ashes.
³¹On account of your plight they will shave their heads,
and don sackcloth.
They will weep bitterly **over you**,
with bitter mourning.

D. The Sailors' Lament over the Demise of the Ship Tyre

³²And in their wailing they will raise a lament **over you**.
They will lament **over you**:
Who is like Tyre,
when she was moaning in the midst of the seas?
³³When your wares were unloaded from the seas
you met the needs of many peoples.
With your bountiful wealth and your merchandise,
you enriched the kings of the earth.
³⁴Now that you have been shipwrecked by the seas,
in the deepest waters your merchandise,
and your entire crew in your midst have gone down.
³⁵All who live on the coastal lands are appalled **over you**,
and the hair of their kings bristles with horror;
Their faces are contorted.
³⁶The agents among the peoples hiss **over you**;
You have become a horror,
And you will be no more forever.

Exposition

Introduction:

The Genre: “This is a dirge.”

The Structure:

The Secular Tone

A. The Preamble (vv. 1–3a)**B. The Magnificence of the Tyrian Glory (vv. 3b–11)**

1. The Theme Statement (vv. 3b–4)
2. The Superior Quality of the Boats Construction (vv. 5–7)
3. The Superior Quality of the Crew on the Ship (vv. 8–11)

C. The Source of Tyrian Glory (vv. 12–25).

Tyre’s Bill of Lading (below)

D. The Imminent Fall of Tyre: The Wreck of the Tyrian Ship (vv. 26–31)**E. The Lament Over the Tyrian Ship (27:32b–36)****F. Practical Lessons from the Fall of the Magnificent Ship Tyre****1. The Problem with a “Secular text” like this:**

What does this text tell us about God?

What does it tell us about the world?

What does it tell us about the human condition?

What does it tell us about sin?

What does it tell us about Jesus Christ, the Messiah?

2. The Solution

- a. Hybris carries within itself the seeds of one’s own destruction.

Pride comes before destruction, and an arrogant spirit before a fall. (Prov. 16:18, CSV)

- b. The fates of all nations are in the hands of the LORD.

- c. Beware of the idolatry of greed.

Table 10: The Commercial Records of Tyre
Ezekiel 27:12-24

12	Tarshish	was your agent	because of the abundance of all your wealth.	In exchange for silver, iron, tin, and lead,	they offered your wares.
13	Javan, Tubal, and Meshech—	they were your brokers.		In exchange for human beings and copper utensils	they offered your merchandise.
14	From Beth-Togarmah			horses and chariot teams and mules,	they offered your wares.
15	The people of Dedan (Danuna) many coastal lands	were your brokers. conducted trade on your behalf		tusks of ivory, and ebony	they brought as your payment.
16	Aram	was your agent,	because of the abundance of your products.	In exchange for turquoise, purple products, embroidered linen, coral, and rubies,	they offered your wares.
17	Judah and the land of Israel—	they were your brokers.		In exchange for wheat of Minnith, flour, honey, oil, and balm,	they offered your merchandise.
18	Damascus	was your agent.	In exchange for the abundance of your produce— because of the abundance of wealth,	In exchange for the wine of Helbon, and wool from Suhru, and casks of wine from Uzzal, wrought iron, cassia, and calamus	as your wares they offered. were among your merchandise.
19					
20	Dedan	was your broker.		In exchange for saddlecloths used for riding—	
21	Arabia, and all the sheiks of Kedar,	they conducted trade on your behalf.		In exchange for lands and rams and goats, for these they were your agents.	
22	The brokers of Sheba and Raamah—	they were your brokers.		In exchange for the choicest of perfumes, and for all kinds of precious stones, and gold,	they offered your wares.
23	Haran, Kanneh, Eden, Asshur, and Kilmad	were your brokers— They were your brokers.		In exchange for the choicest of fabrics, for cloaks of blue-purple and embroidered cloth, for many-colored carpets, and for tightly braided cords,	for these they were your brokers.
24					

TYRE'S INTERNATIONAL TRADE RECORD
(Ezekiel 27:12–25)

AGENTS	AGENTS' CONTRIBUTIONS	TYRE'S CONTRIBUTIONS	RECORD OF DEAL
Tarshish	silver, iron, tin, lead	manufactured wares	X
Javan, Tubal, Meshech	slaves, copper vessels	merchandise	X
Beth-Togarmah	horses, chariot teams, mules	manufactured wares	X
Dedan [Danuna], coastal lands	tusks of ivory, ebony	produce	X
Edom	garnet, purple, embroidered cloth, fine linen, coral, agate	manufactured wares	X
Judah, land of Israel	wheat, meal, honey	merchandise	X
Damascus	wine of Helbon, wool of Suhru, wine from Uzal, wrought iron, cassia, calamus, oil, balm	manufactured wares merchandise	X X
Dedan	saddlecloths		
Arabia, Qedar	lambs, rams, goats		
Sheba, Raamah	choice spices, jewelry, gold	manufactured wares	X
Haran, Kanneh, Eden, Assyria, Kilmad	choice fabrics, blue-purple cloaks, embroidered cloth, colorful carpets, decorative cords, jewelry, gold	merchandise	X