

THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL



Outline of Ezekiel

1–3 The Call of the Prophet

4–24 God's Judgment on Judah & Jerusalem
Given before the siege of Jerusalem

25–32 God's Judgment on the Surrounding Nations
Given during the siege

33–48 The Restoration of the Jews
Given after the siege

33–36 The return to their land

37 They experience new life and unity

38–39 They are protected from Gog and Magog

40–48 The Millennial Temple & Kingdom

Judgment of the Nations

- There is a consistent pattern in scripture...
- God's judgment of the Gentile nations is in regard to the way they have treated Israel
- This is in direct response to God's promise to Abraham in Genesis 12
- While God judges nations for various reasons throughout Scripture (such as pride, idolatry, or general wickedness, as seen in the judgment of Sodom or Nineveh), the specific judgments in Ezekiel 25 and Matthew 25 are explicitly linked to how those nations interacted with God's covenant people.



Judgment of the Nations

- ³¹ When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:
- ³² And before him shall be gathered **all nations:** and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:
- ³³ And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Matthew 25:31-33

Judgment of the Nations

- 40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of **these my brethren**, ye have done it unto me.
- 41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

Matthew 25:40-41

Judgment of the Nations

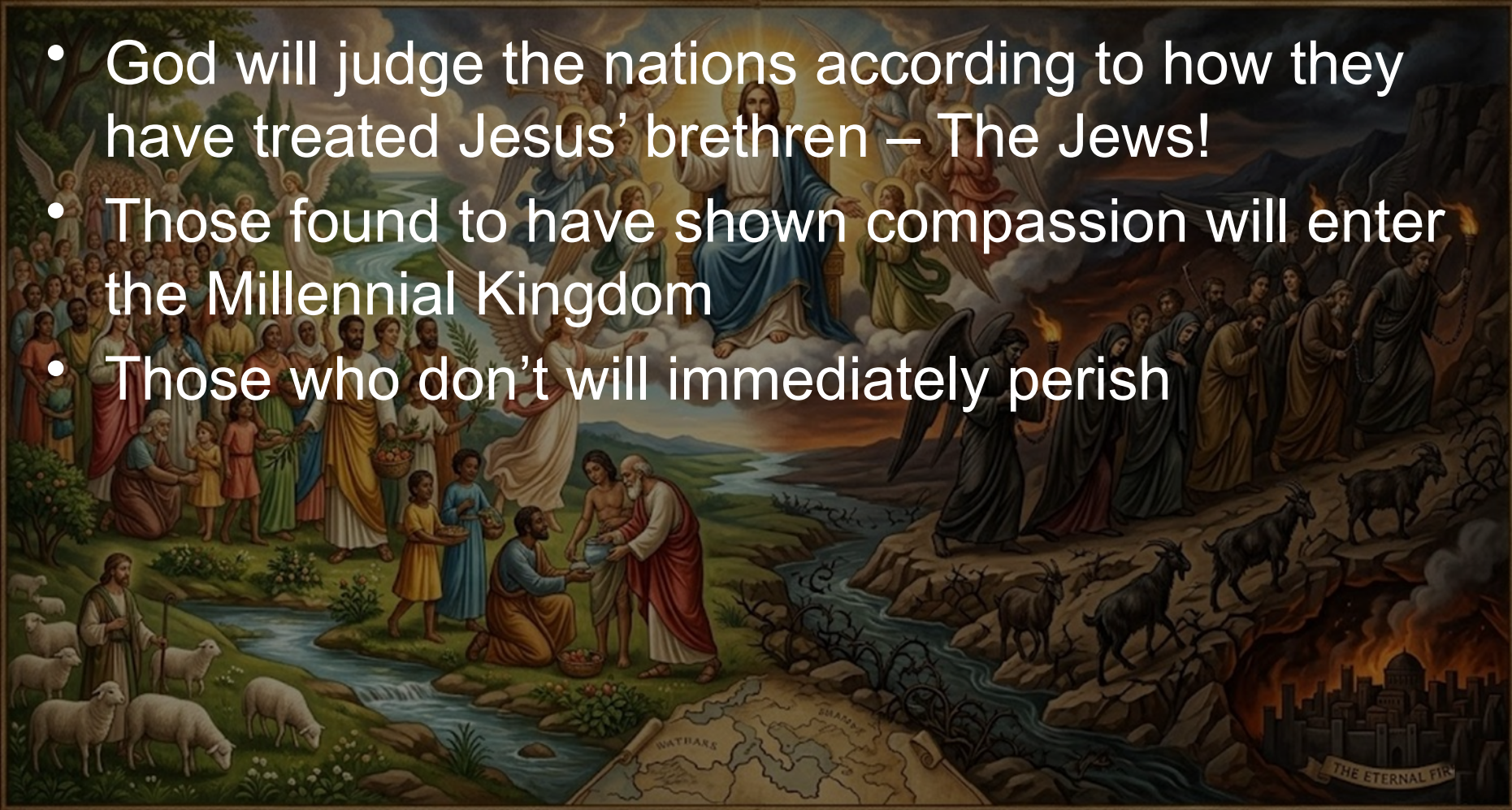
45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.

46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Matthew 25:45-46

The Sheep & The Goats

- God will judge the nations according to how they have treated Jesus' brethren – The Jews!
- Those found to have shown compassion will enter the Millennial Kingdom
- Those who don't will immediately perish



God's Covenantal Promise

¹ Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

² And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

³ And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

God's Covenantal Promise

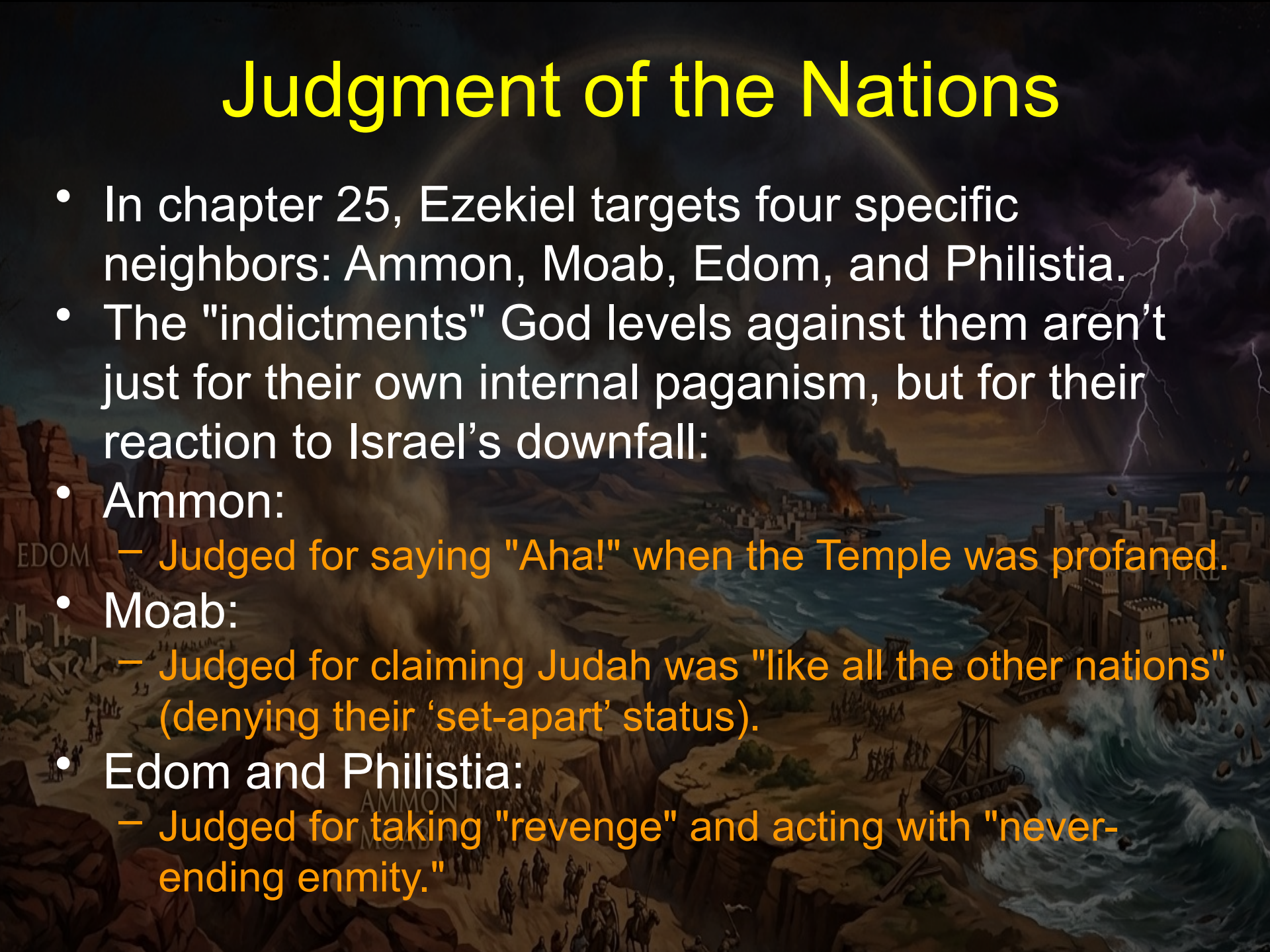
- The reason for the Abrahamic covenant:
 - **Functional Purpose of Israel:** Romans 3:1-2
 - To have a people to whom God could entrust His written revelation to mankind
 - **Testimonial Purpose of Israel:** Isaiah 42:6 / Ex 19:6
 - To have a witness to One-True-God in the earth in the midst of the nations
 - **Redemptive Purpose of Israel:** Rev 12 / Gal 3:16
 - To provide a safe way for the Messiah to come into this world at the appointed time
- Because of this, Israel were the recipients of God's divine favour

God's Covenantal Promise

- When you look at Ezekiel 25 with Revelation 12 in mind, the judgment of the nations becomes even more significant:
- The Nations' Crime:
 - They weren't just being "mean" to neighbors; they were participating (wittingly or unwittingly) in the Dragon's attempt to destroy the "Woman" and prevent the "Manchild" from appearing.
- God's Response:
 - His judgment is a "Restraining Order."
- By judging Moab, Edom, and the others, He is clearing the path so that the "Seed" can reach the "Appointed Time" Galatians 4:4.

Judgment of the Nations

- In chapter 25, Ezekiel targets four specific neighbors: Ammon, Moab, Edom, and Philistia.
- The "indictments" God levels against them aren't just for their own internal paganism, but for their reaction to Israel's downfall:
 - Ammon:
 - Judged for saying "Aha!" when the Temple was profaned.
 - Moab:
 - Judged for claiming Judah was "like all the other nations" (denying their 'set-apart' status).
 - Edom and Philistia:
 - Judged for taking "revenge" and acting with "never-ending enmity."



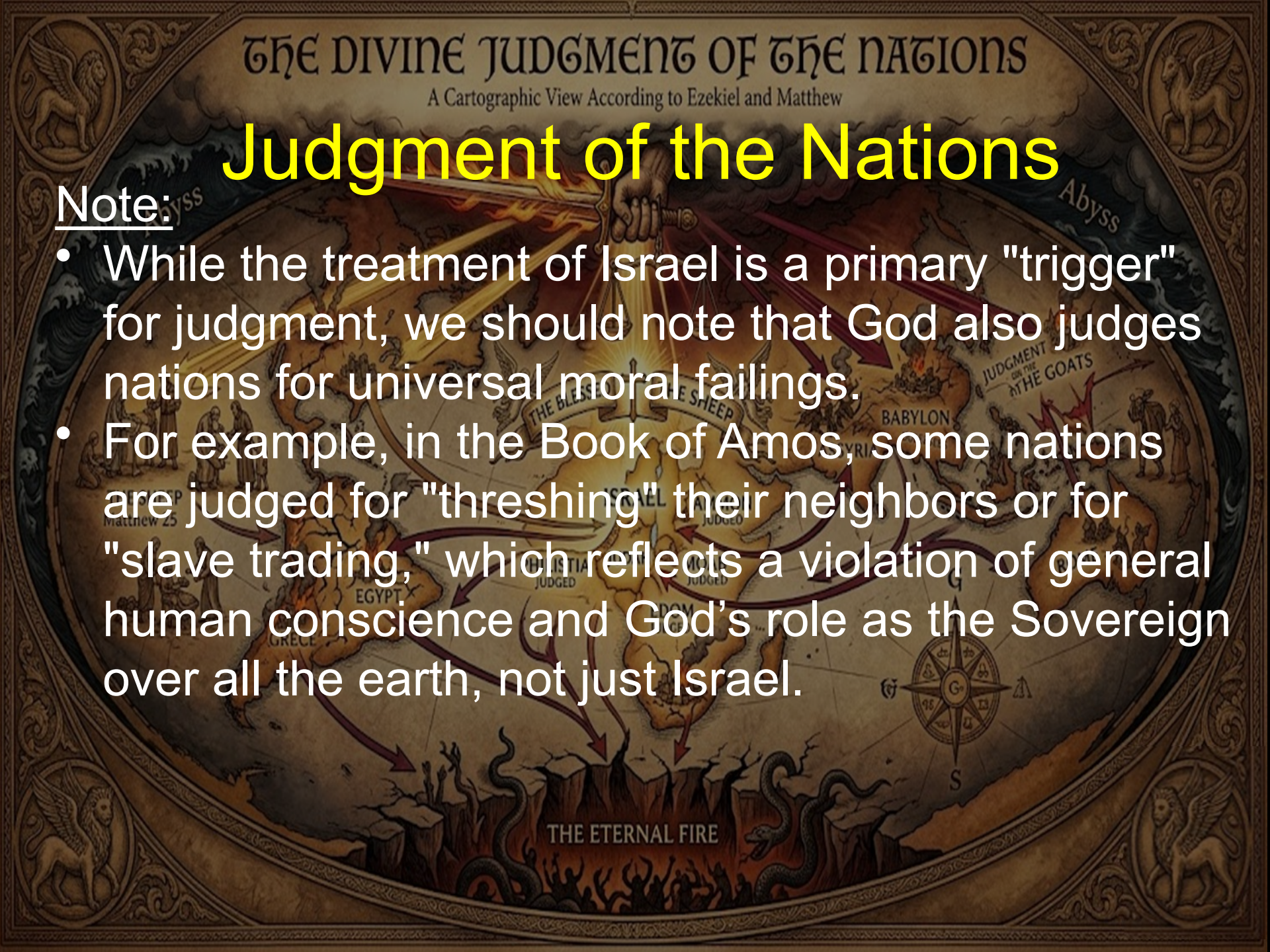
THE DIVINE JUDGMENT OF THE NATIONS

A Cartographic View According to Ezekiel and Matthew

Judgment of the Nations

Note:

- While the treatment of Israel is a primary "trigger" for judgment, we should note that God also judges nations for universal moral failings.
- For example, in the Book of Amos, some nations are judged for "threshing" their neighbors or for "slave trading," which reflects a violation of general human conscience and God's role as the Sovereign over all the earth, not just Israel.



Judgment of the Nations

- Ammonites 25:2-7
- Moab 25:8-11
- Edom 25:12-14
- Philistines 25:15-17
- Tyre 26:1-21
- Sidon 28:21-24
- Egypt 29:2-16
- Ethiopia /Libya/Lydia 30:1-9



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THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

Chapter 26

Judgment Against Tyre

Chapter 26

- This chapter begins a long three-chapter oracle against Tyre (Ezekiel 26–28). Tyre was a wealthy, near-impregnable island-city/fortress famous for trade.
- 1. Tyre's Sin: Commercial Greed (26:1–6)
 - The oracle is dated shortly after Jerusalem's fall (c. 587 BC).
 - Tyre rejoices because Jerusalem, a major trade rival/customs hub, is broken: "I shall be replenished, now that she is laid waste."

PHOENICIA
MAINLAND

TYRE

Chapter 26

- This chapter begins a long three-chapter oracle against Tyre (Ezekiel 26–28). Tyre was a wealthy, near-impregnable island-city/fortress famous for trade.
- 2. The Instrument: Nebuchadnezzar (26:7–11)
 - A specific prophecy detailing the Babylonian siege.
 - Nebuchadnezzar will build siege towers, cast up mounds, and break down the walls with battering rams.

PHOENICIA
MAINLAND

TYRE

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- 3. The Result: Total Obliteration (26:12–14)
 - The unique elements of Tyre's judgment: The city's stones, timber, and soil will be **cast into the sea**.
 - This wealthy city will become "a bare rock" and "a place for the spreading of nets" (a prophecy dramatically fulfilled centuries later by Alexander the Great).

PHOENICIA
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TYRE

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- 4. The Geopolitical Impact (26:15–21)
 - The "coastlands" and other "princes of the sea" will tremble at Tyre's fall.
 - They will mourn the "renowned city" and be terrified by her sudden, permanent disappearance (being brought down to "the Pit").

PHOENICIA
MAINLAND

TYRE

- ¹ And it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the first day of the month, that the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,
- ² Son of man, because that Tyre hath said against Jerusalem, Aha, she is broken that was the gates of the people: she is turned unto me: I shall be replenished, now she is laid waste:

Ezekiel 26:1-2

- The 11th year of Ezekiel's captivity c.586 B.C.
 - After the final destruction of Jerusalem

The Gate of the People

- In the ancient Near East, the "gate" was more than just an entrance; it was the hub of commerce, law, and international trade.
- Jerusalem sat at a strategic crossroads.
 - To reach the Mediterranean coast (where Tyre was located) from the eastern deserts or the southern kingdoms, traders often had to pass through Judean territory.
- Jerusalem acted as a "land gate" and collected tolls, taxes, and managed the flow of goods like spices, gold, and textiles.
- Jerusalem had been the primary controller of inland trade.

Tyre's Boast

- Tyre expected that the caravans which once stopped in Jerusalem would now head straight to the Phoenician coast.
- Tyre was already the queen of the seas; by Jerusalem falling, they hoped to become the undisputed masters of the land routes as well.
- The word "replenished" (or "filled" in some translations) suggests that Tyre felt they were lacking as long as Jerusalem was prosperous.
- If Jerusalem was "full," Tyre was "empty." Now that Jerusalem was "laid waste," Tyre believed all that diverted wealth would flow into their own coffers.

The Divine Irony!

- The irony Ezekiel highlights is that Tyre's celebration was premature.
- By cheering for the "broken gates" of Jerusalem, they were essentially cheering for the arrival of Nebuchadnezzar.
- They didn't realize that the same "crusher of nations" who had just dismantled Jerusalem was already turning his siege engines toward their own walls.

3 Therefore thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Tyre, and will cause many nations to come up against thee, as the sea causeth his waves to come up.

4 And they shall destroy the walls of Tyre, and break down her towers: I will also scrape her dust from her, and make her like the top of a rock.

- 5 It shall be a place for the spreading of nets in the midst of the sea: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord God: and it shall become a spoil to the nations.*
- 6 And her daughters which are in the field shall be slain by the sword; and they shall know that I am the Lord.*

- 7 For thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will bring upon Tyre Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, a king of kings, from the north, with horses, and with chariots, and with horsemen, and companies, and much people.*
- 8 He shall slay with the sword thy daughters in the field: and he shall make a fort against thee, and cast a mount against thee, and lift up the buckler against thee.*

- 9 And he shall set engines of war against thy walls, and with his axes he shall break down thy towers.
- 10 By reason of the abundance of his horses their dust shall cover thee: thy walls shall shake at the noise of the horsemen, and of the wheels, and of the chariots, when he shall enter into thy gates, as men enter into a city wherein is made a breach.

11 With the hoofs of his horses shall he tread down all thy streets: he shall slay thy people by the sword, and thy strong garrisons shall go down to the ground.

12 And they shall make a spoil of thy riches, and make a prey of thy merchandise: and they shall break down thy walls, and destroy thy pleasant houses: and they shall lay thy stones and thy timber and thy dust in the midst of the water.

13 And I will cause the noise of thy songs to cease; and the sound of thy harps shall be no more heard.

14 And I will make thee like the top of a rock: thou shalt be a place to spread nets upon; thou shalt be built no more: for I the Lord have spoken it, saith the Lord God.

- 15 Thus saith the Lord God to Tyre; shall not the isles shake at the sound of thy fall, when the wounded cry, when the slaughter is made in the midst of thee?*
- 16 Then all the princes of the sea shall come down from their thrones, and lay away their robes, and put off their broidered garments: they shall clothe themselves with trembling; they shall sit upon the ground, and shall tremble at every moment, and be astonished at thee.*

17 And they shall take up a lamentation for thee, and say to thee, How art thou destroyed, that wast inhabited of seafaring men, the renowned city, which wast strong in the sea, she and her inhabitants, which cause their terror to be on all that haunt it!

18 Now shall the isles tremble in the day of thy fall; yea, the isles that are in the sea shall be troubled at thy departure.

- 19 For thus saith the Lord God; When I shall make thee a desolate city, like the cities that are not inhabited; when I shall bring up the deep upon thee, and great waters shall cover thee;
- 20 When I shall bring thee down with them that descend into the pit, with the people of old time, and shall set thee in the low parts of the earth, in places desolate of old, with them that go down to the pit, that thou be not inhabited; and I shall set glory in the land of the living;

²¹ I will make thee a terror, and thou shalt be no more: though thou be sought for, yet shalt thou never be found again, saith the Lord God.

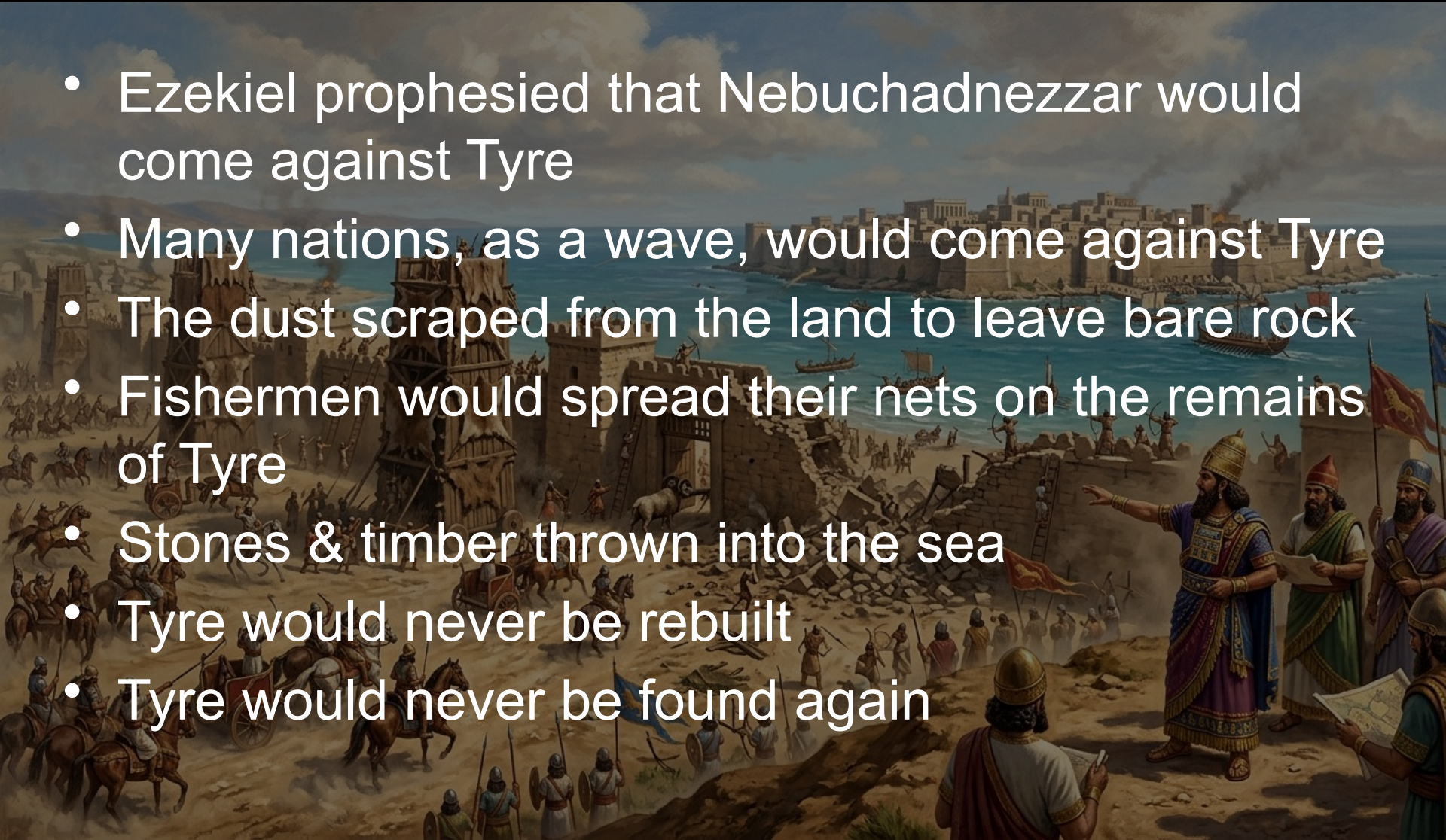
Ezekiel 26:21

- 17 And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree;*
- 18 Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee.*

Romans 11:17-18

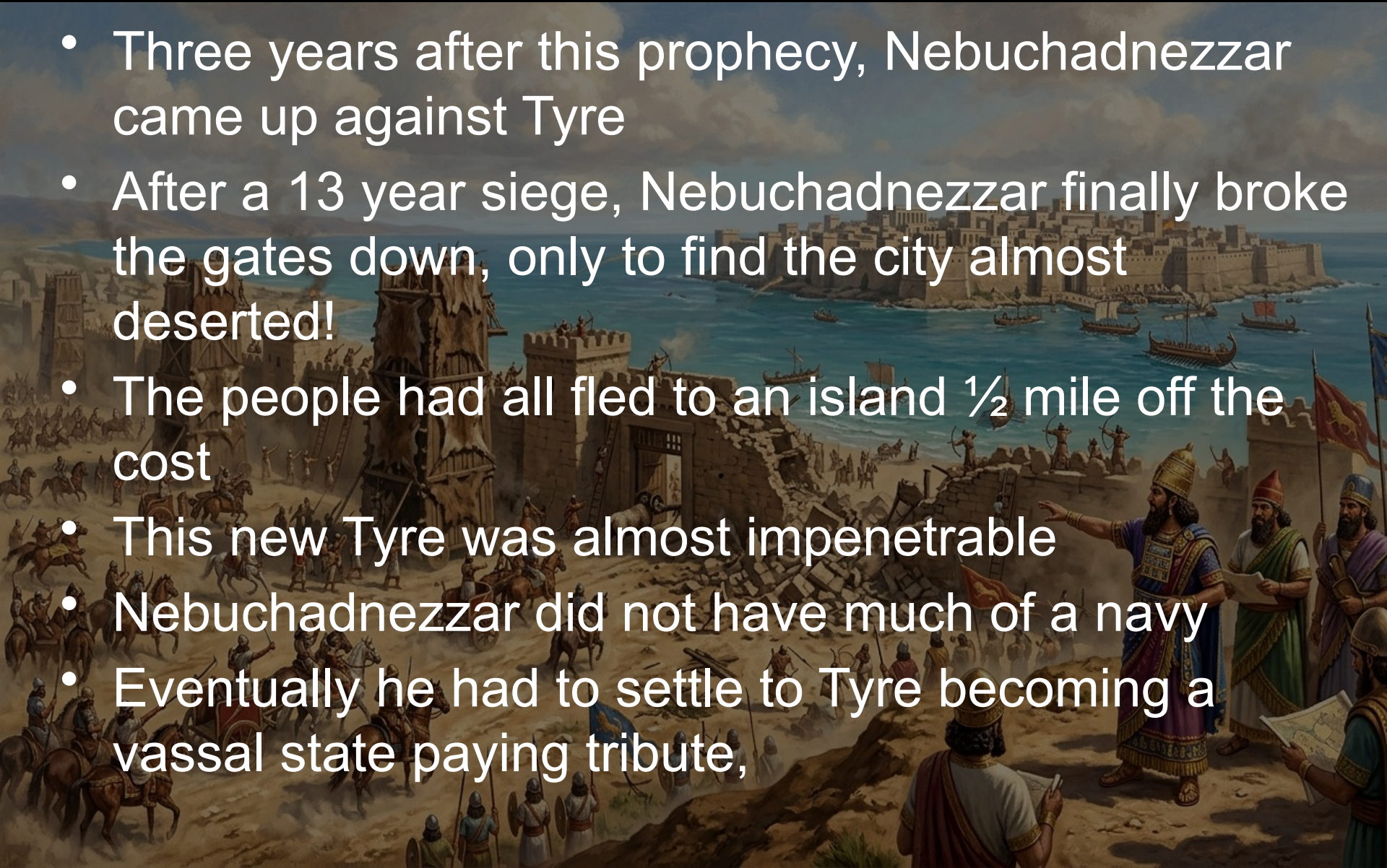
The Destruction of Tyre

- Ezekiel prophesied that Nebuchadnezzar would come against Tyre
- Many nations, as a wave, would come against Tyre
- The dust scraped from the land to leave bare rock
- Fishermen would spread their nets on the remains of Tyre
- Stones & timber thrown into the sea
- Tyre would never be rebuilt
- Tyre would never be found again



The Destruction of Tyre

- Three years after this prophecy, Nebuchadnezzar came up against Tyre
- After a 13 year siege, Nebuchadnezzar finally broke the gates down, only to find the city almost deserted!
- The people had all fled to an island $\frac{1}{2}$ mile off the coast
- This new Tyre was almost impenetrable
- Nebuchadnezzar did not have much of a navy
- Eventually he had to settle to Tyre becoming a vassal state paying tribute,

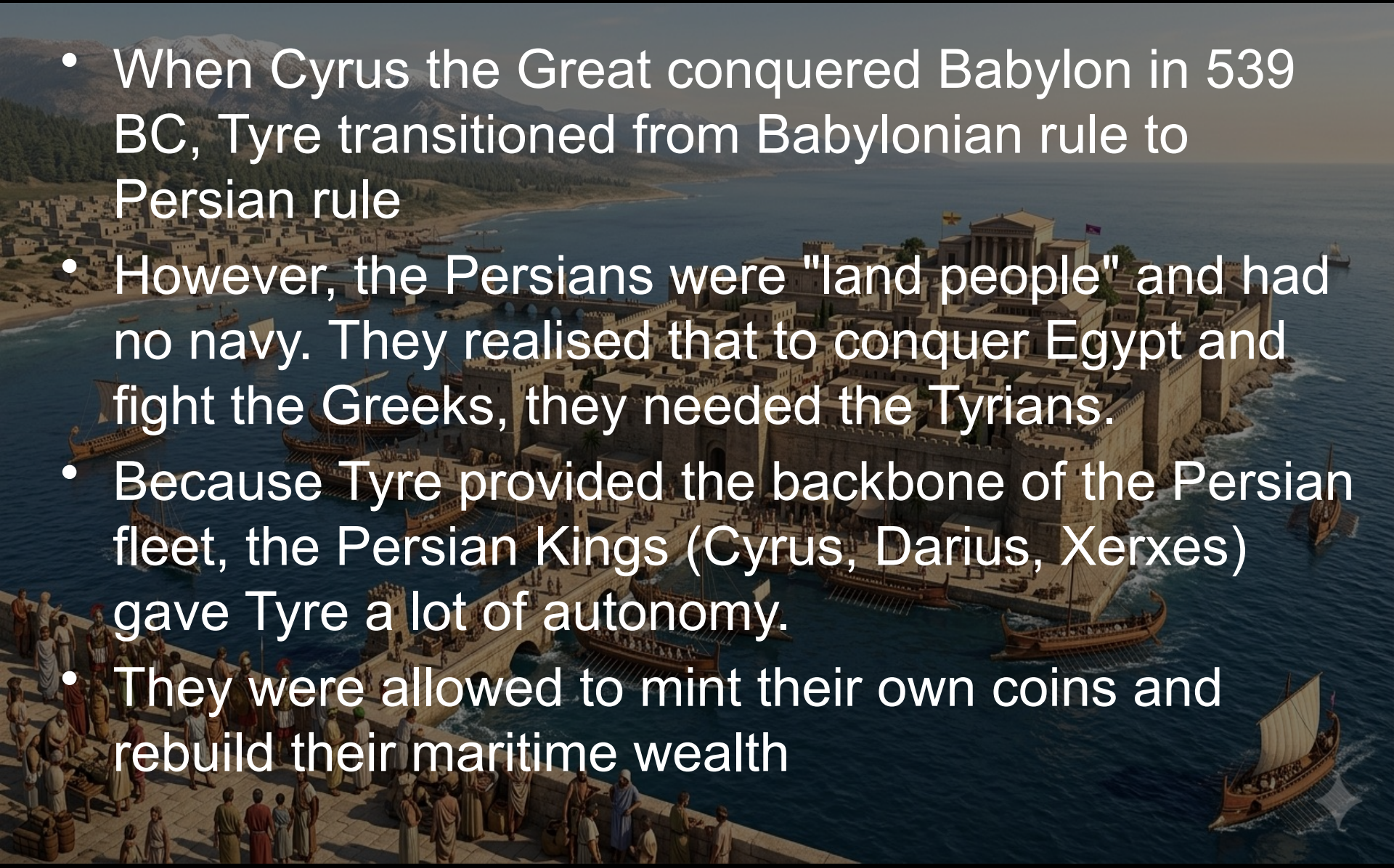


The Destruction of Tyre

- Tyre essentially realised they couldn't outlast the Babylonian empire forever, and Nebuchadnezzar realised he couldn't take the island without a fleet.
- They came to a compromise where Tyre became a vassal state of the Babylonian Empire.
 - The Tyrian king, Ithobaal III (who had seen the start of the siege), was either removed from power or died and was replaced by Baal II, who ruled specifically as a Babylonian client-king.
- Tyre was forced to pay significant tribute to Babylon. While they kept their lives and their city, their "merchandise" and "wealth" were now heavily taxed to fund Nebuchadnezzar's empire.

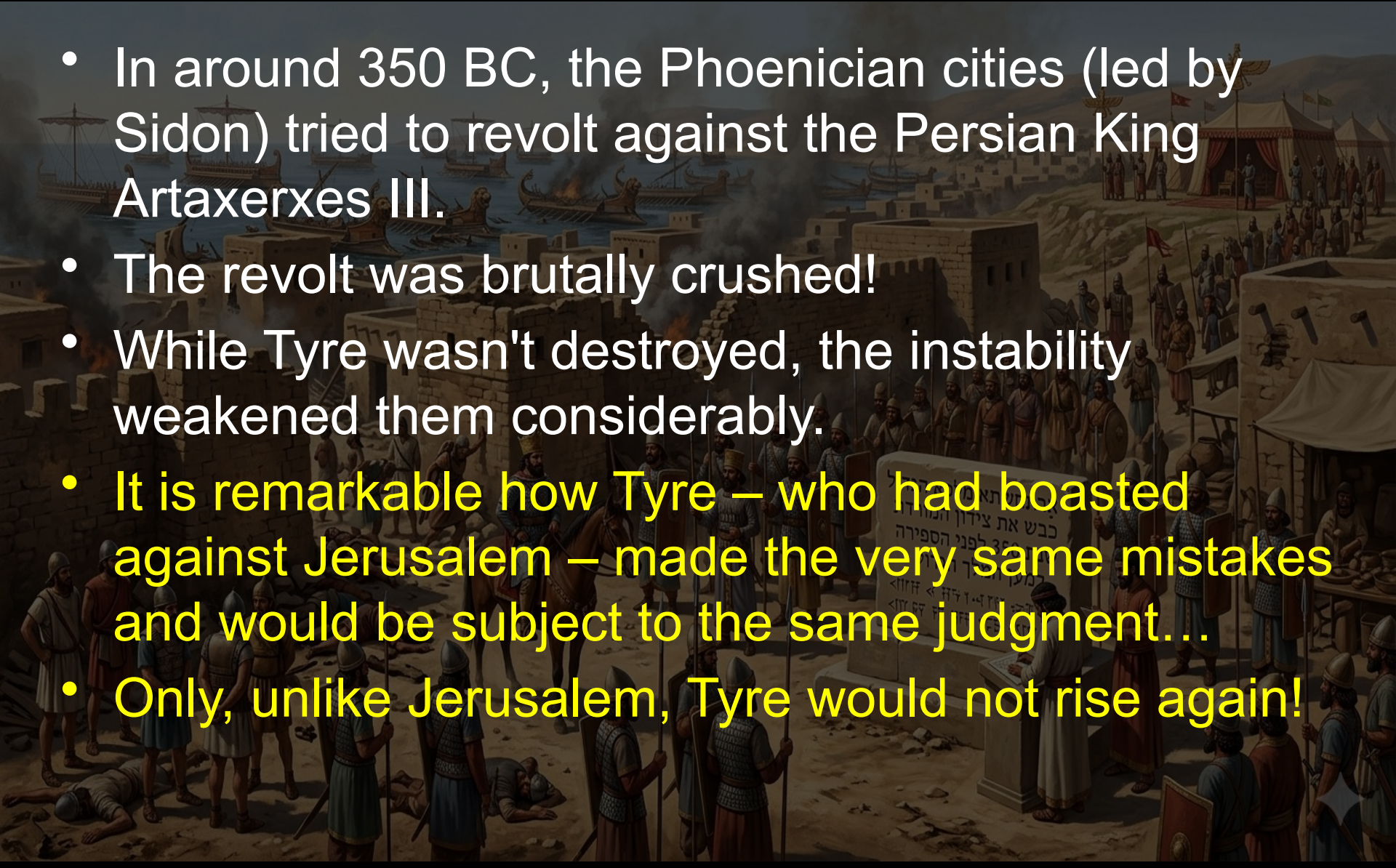
Respite for Tyre?

- When Cyrus the Great conquered Babylon in 539 BC, Tyre transitioned from Babylonian rule to Persian rule
- However, the Persians were "land people" and had no navy. They realised that to conquer Egypt and fight the Greeks, they needed the Tyrians.
- Because Tyre provided the backbone of the Persian fleet, the Persian Kings (Cyrus, Darius, Xerxes) gave Tyre a lot of autonomy.
- They were allowed to mint their own coins and rebuild their maritime wealth



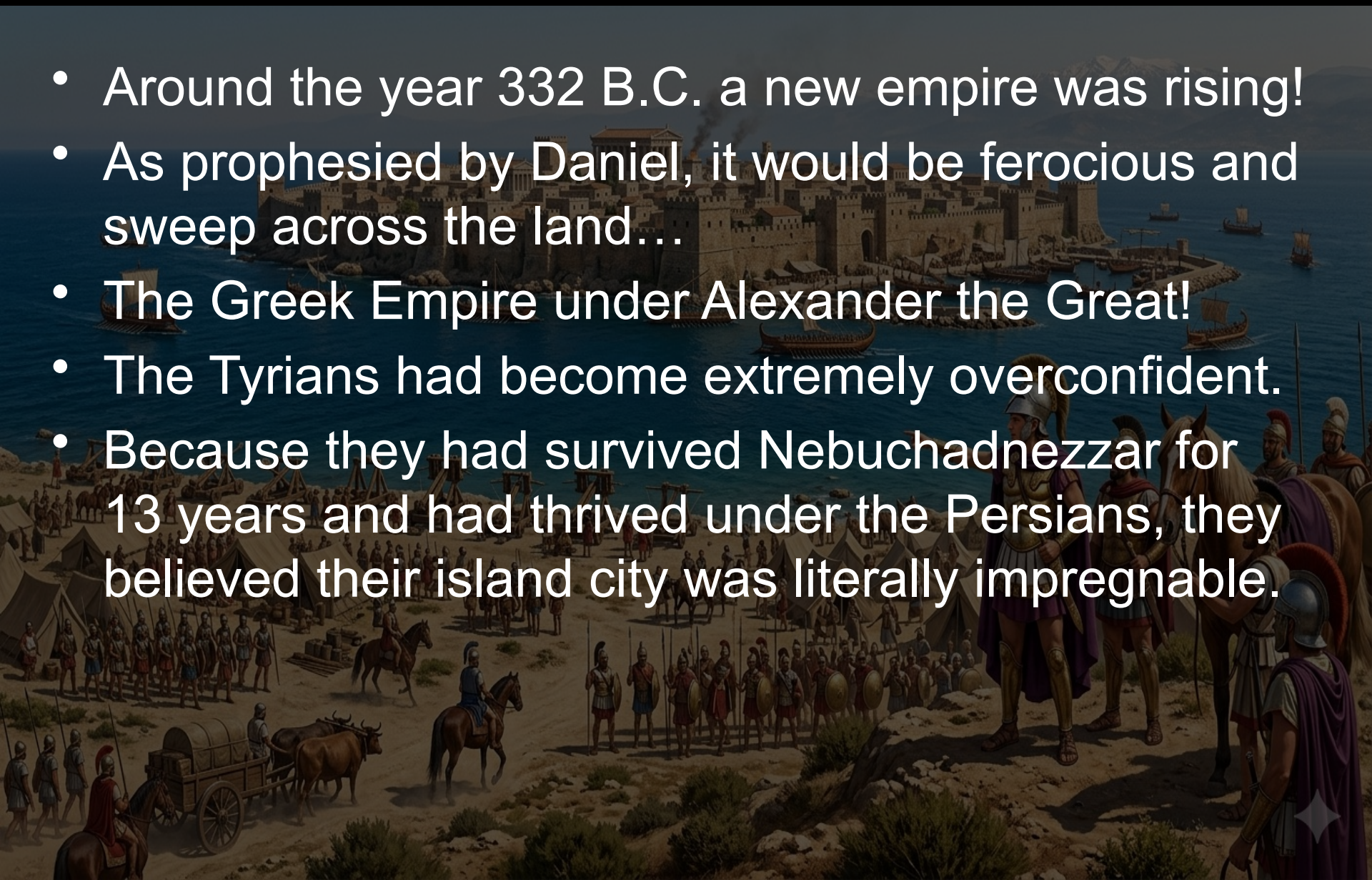
Ill-fated Rebellion!

- In around 350 BC, the Phoenician cities (led by Sidon) tried to revolt against the Persian King Artaxerxes III.
- The revolt was brutally crushed!
- While Tyre wasn't destroyed, the instability weakened them considerably.
- It is remarkable how Tyre – who had boasted against Jerusalem – made the very same mistakes and would be subject to the same judgment...
- Only, unlike Jerusalem, Tyre would not rise again!



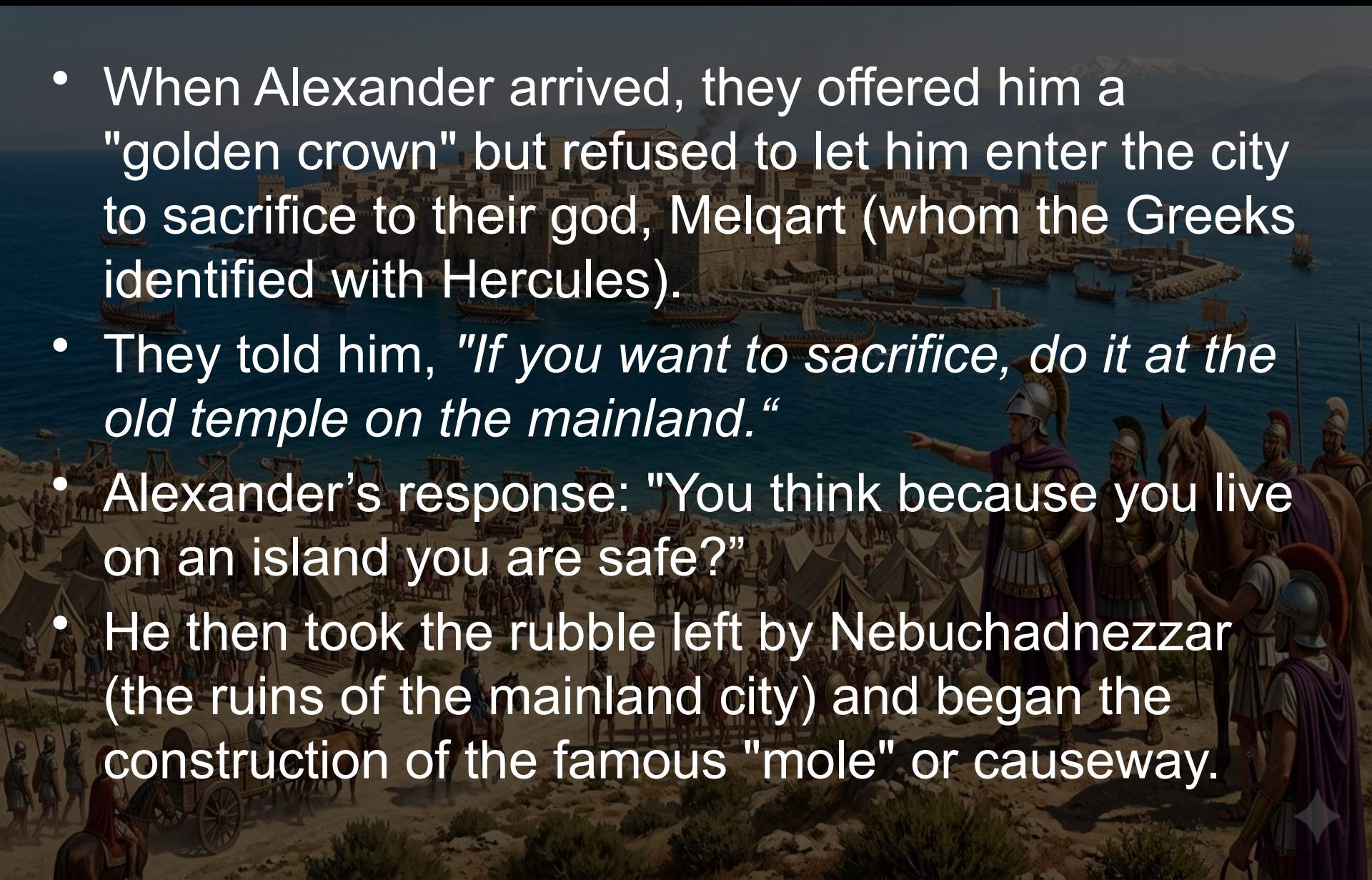
The Pride of Tyre

- Around the year 332 B.C. a new empire was rising!
- As prophesied by Daniel, it would be ferocious and sweep across the land...
- The Greek Empire under Alexander the Great!
- The Tyrians had become extremely overconfident.
- Because they had survived Nebuchadnezzar for 13 years and had thrived under the Persians, they believed their island city was literally impregnable.



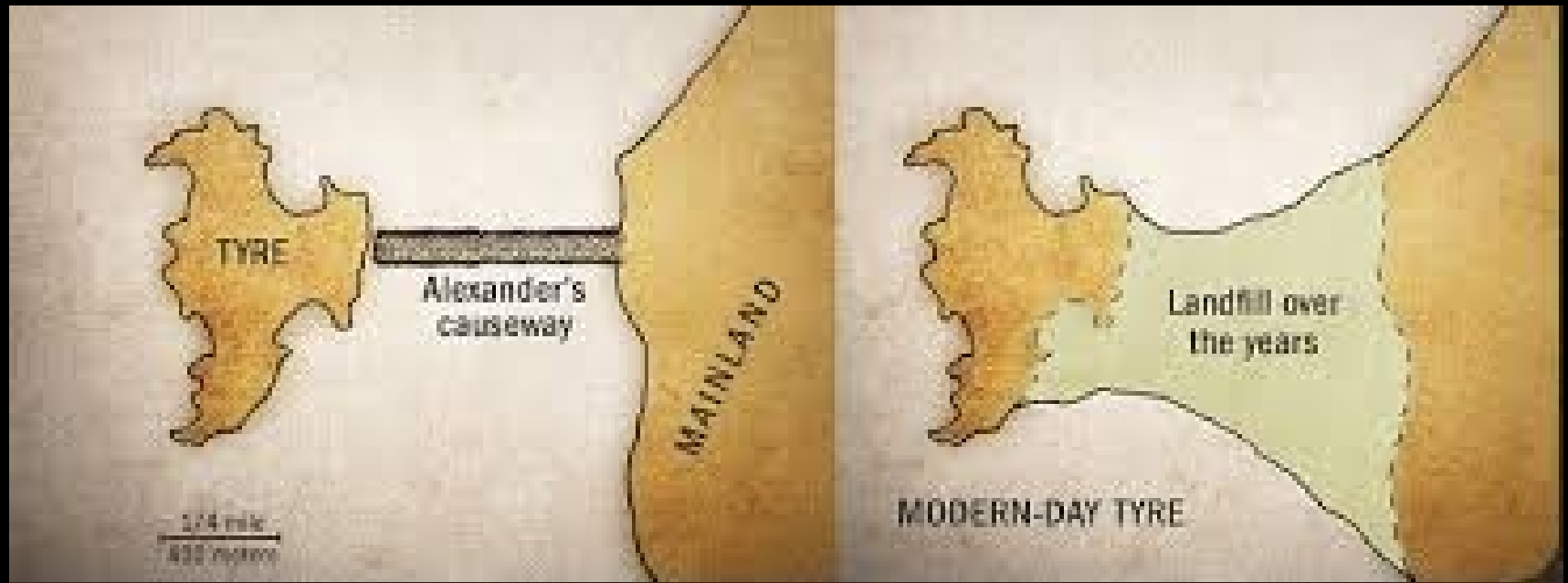
The Destruction of Tyre

- When Alexander arrived, they offered him a "golden crown" but refused to let him enter the city to sacrifice to their god, Melqart (whom the Greeks identified with Hercules).
- They told him, *"If you want to sacrifice, do it at the old temple on the mainland."*
- Alexander's response: "You think because you live on an island you are safe?"
- He then took the rubble left by Nebuchadnezzar (the ruins of the mainland city) and began the construction of the famous "mole" or causeway.



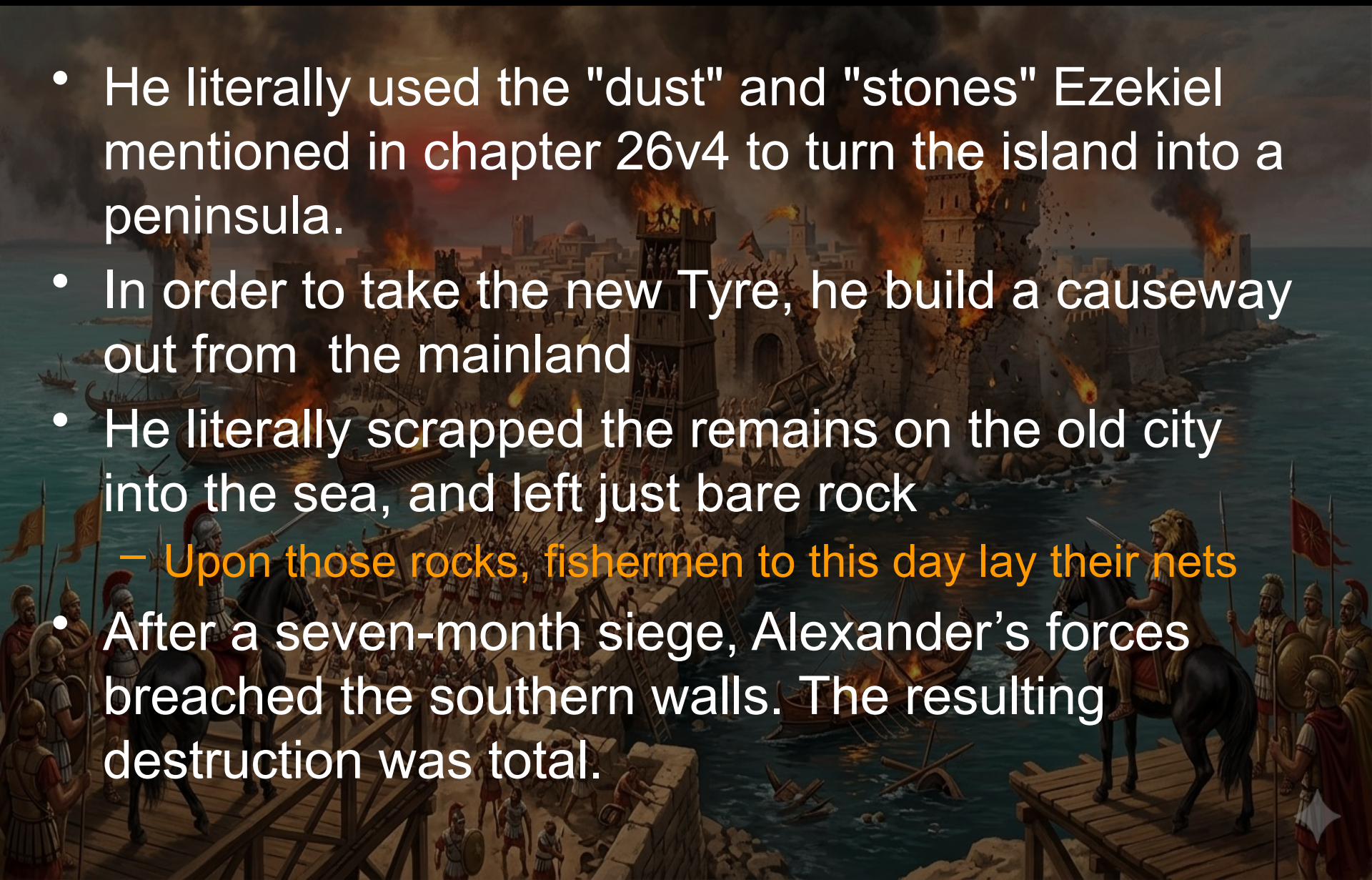
The Destruction of Tyre

- Alexander's Causeway



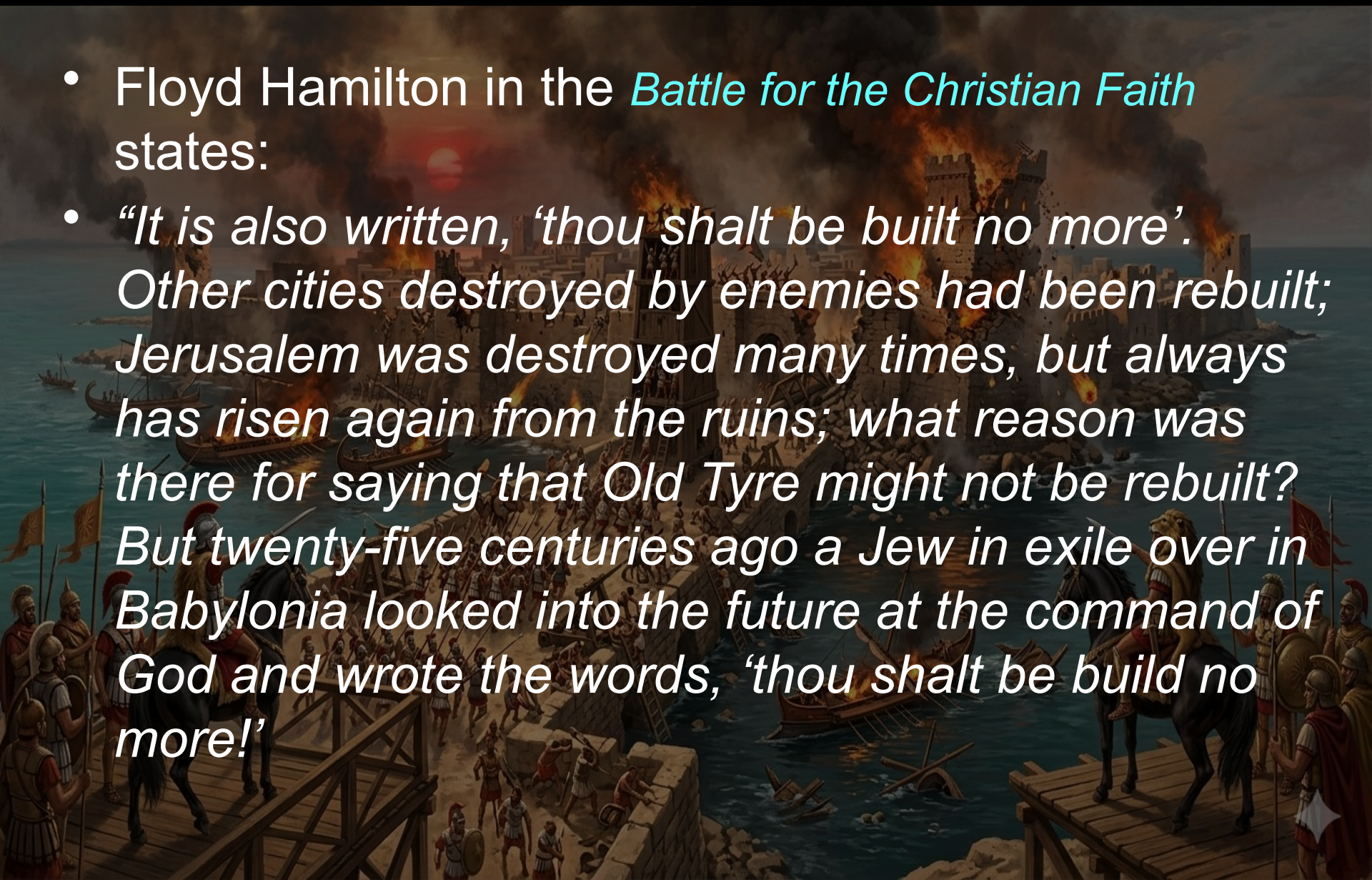
The Destruction of Tyre

- He literally used the "dust" and "stones" Ezekiel mentioned in chapter 26v4 to turn the island into a peninsula.
- In order to take the new Tyre, he build a causeway out from the mainland
- He literally scrapped the remains on the old city into the sea, and left just bare rock
 - Upon those rocks, fishermen to this day lay their nets
- After a seven-month siege, Alexander's forces breached the southern walls. The resulting destruction was total.



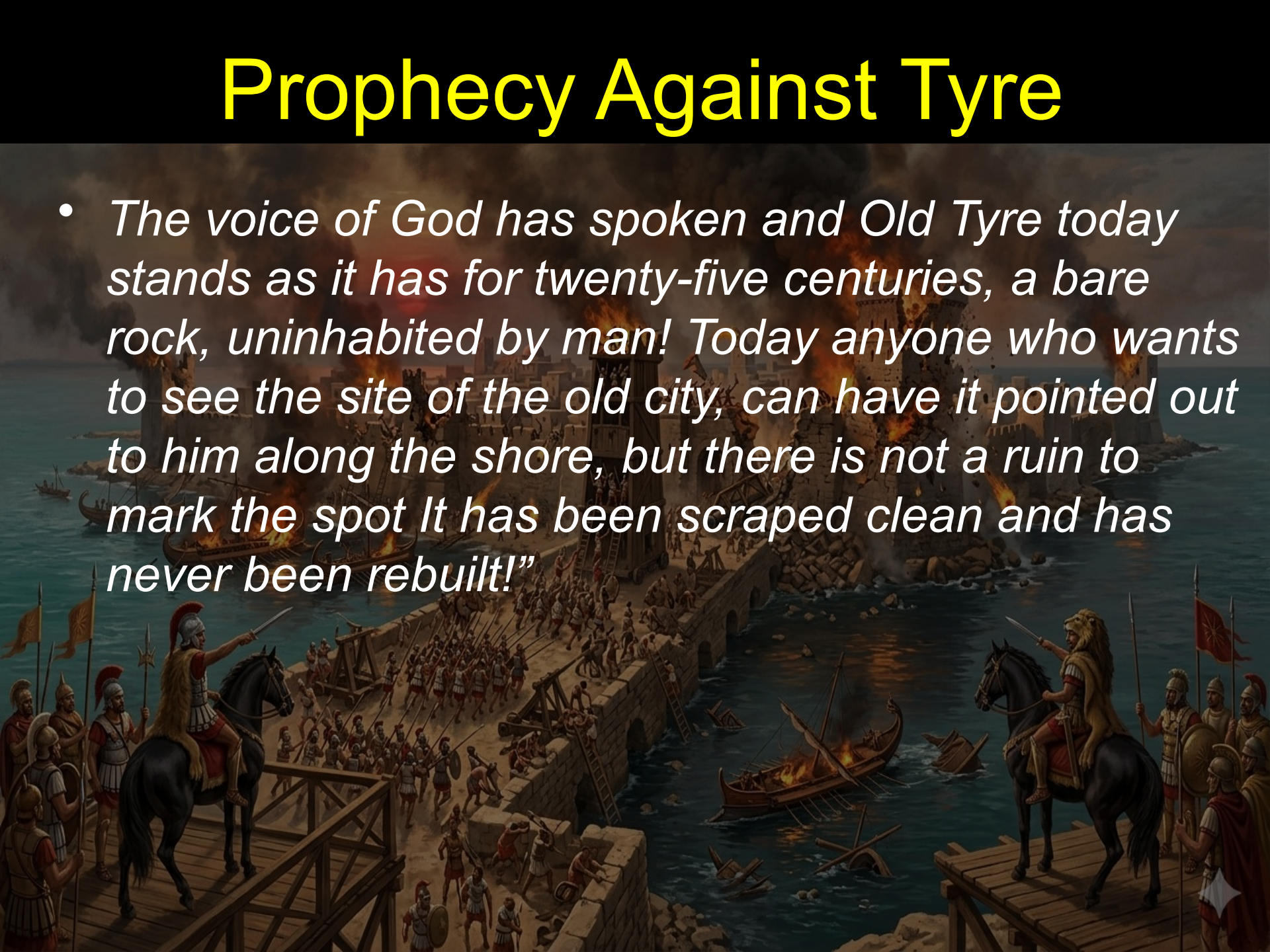
Prophecy Against Tyre

- Floyd Hamilton in the *Battle for the Christian Faith* states:
- *“It is also written, ‘thou shalt be built no more’. Other cities destroyed by enemies had been rebuilt; Jerusalem was destroyed many times, but always has risen again from the ruins; what reason was there for saying that Old Tyre might not be rebuilt? But twenty-five centuries ago a Jew in exile over in Babylonia looked into the future at the command of God and wrote the words, ‘thou shalt be build no more!’*



Prophecy Against Tyre

- The voice of God has spoken and Old Tyre today stands as it has for twenty-five centuries, a bare rock, uninhabited by man! Today anyone who wants to see the site of the old city, can have it pointed out to him along the shore, but there is not a ruin to mark the spot It has been scraped clean and has never been rebuilt!”*



Prophecy Against Tyre

- *“The great freshwater springs of Reselain are at the site of the mainland city of Tyre, and no doubt supplied the city with an abundance of fresh water. These springs are still there and still flow, but their water runs into the sea. The flow of these springs was measured by an engineer, and found to be about 10,000,000 gallons daily. It is still an excellent site for a city and would have fresh water enough for a large modern city, yet it has never been rebuilt. Thus [this prophecy] has stood true for more than 2500 years*

Floyd Hamilton

THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

To be continued..



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THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

Chapter 27

Judgment Against Tyre cont'd

1 The word of the Lord came again unto me, saying,

2 Now, thou son of man, take up a lamentation for Tyre;

3 And say unto Tyre, O thou that art situate at the entry of the sea, which art a merchant of the people for many isles, Thus saith the Lord God; O Tyre, thou hast said, I am of perfect beauty.

4 Thy borders are in the midst of the seas, thy builders have perfected thy beauty. Ezekiel 27:1-4

- 5 They have made all thy ship boards of fir trees of Senir: they have taken cedars from Lebanon to make masts for thee.
- 6 Of the oaks of Bashan have they made thine oars; the company of the Ashurites have made thy benches of ivory, brought out of the isles of Chittim.

- 7 Fine linen with broidered work from Egypt was that which thou spreadest forth to be thy sail; blue and purple from the isles of Elishah was that which covered thee.
- 8 The inhabitants of Zidon and Arvad were thy mariners: thy wise men, O Tyre, that were in thee, were thy pilots.

- 9 *The ancients of Gebal and the wise men thereof were in thee thy calkers: all the ships of the sea with their mariners were in thee to occupy thy merchandise.*
- 10 *They of Persia and of Lud and of Phut were in thine army, thy men of war: they hanged the shield and helmet in thee; they set forth thy comeliness.*

11 The men of Arvad with thine army were upon thy walls round about, and the Gammadims were in thy towers: they hanged their shields upon thy walls round about; they have made thy beauty perfect.

12 Tarshish was thy merchant by reason of the multitude of all kind of riches; with silver, iron, tin, and lead, they traded in thy fairs.

- ¹³ Javan, Tubal, and Meshech, they were thy merchants: they traded the persons of men and vessels of brass in thy market.
- ¹⁴ They of the house of Togarmah traded in thy fairs with horses and horsemen and mules.
- ¹⁵ The men of Dedan were thy merchants; many isles were the merchandise of thine hand: they brought thee for a present horns of ivory and ebony.

¹⁶ Syria was thy merchant by reason of the multitude of the wares of thy making: they occupied in thy fairs with emeralds, purple, and broidered work, and fine linen, and coral, and agate.

¹⁷ Judah, and the land of Israel, they were thy merchants: they traded in thy market wheat of Minnith, and Pannag, and honey, and oil, and balm.

- ¹⁸ Damascus was thy merchant in the multitude of the wares of thy making, for the multitude of all riches; in the wine of Helbon, and white wool.
- ¹⁹ Dan also and Javan going to and fro occupied in thy fairs: bright iron, cassia, and calamus, were in thy market.
- ²⁰ Dedan was thy merchant in precious clothes for chariots.

- ²¹ Arabia, and all the princes of Kedar, they occupied with thee in lambs, and rams, and goats: in these were they thy merchants.
- ²² The merchants of Sheba and Raamah, they were thy merchants: they occupied in thy fairs with chief of all spices, and with all precious stones, and gold.
- ²³ Haran, and Canneh, and Eden, the merchants of Sheba, Asshur, and Chilmad, were thy merchants.

- 24 These were thy merchants in all sorts of things, in blue clothes, and broidered work, and in chests of rich apparel, bound with cords, and made of cedar, among thy merchandise.*
- 25 The ships of Tarshish did sing of thee in thy market: and thou wast replenished, and made very glorious in the midst of the seas.*
- 26 Thy rowers have brought thee into great waters: the east wind hath broken thee in the midst of the seas.*

27 Thy riches, and thy fairs, thy merchandise, thy mariners, and thy pilots, thy calkers, and the occupiers of thy merchandise, and all thy men of war, that are in thee, and in all thy company which is in the midst of thee, shall fall into the midst of the seas in the day of thy ruin.

28 The suburbs shall shake at the sound of the cry of thy pilots.

- ²⁹ And all that handle the oar, the mariners, and all the pilots of the sea, shall come down from their ships, they shall stand upon the land;
- ³⁰ And shall cause their voice to be heard against thee, and shall cry bitterly, and shall cast up dust upon their heads, they shall wallow themselves in the ashes:

31 And they shall make themselves utterly bald for thee, and gird them with sackcloth, and they shall weep for thee with bitterness of heart and bitter wailing.

32 And in their wailing they shall take up a lamentation for thee, and lament over thee, saying, What city is like Tyre, like the destroyed in the midst of the sea?

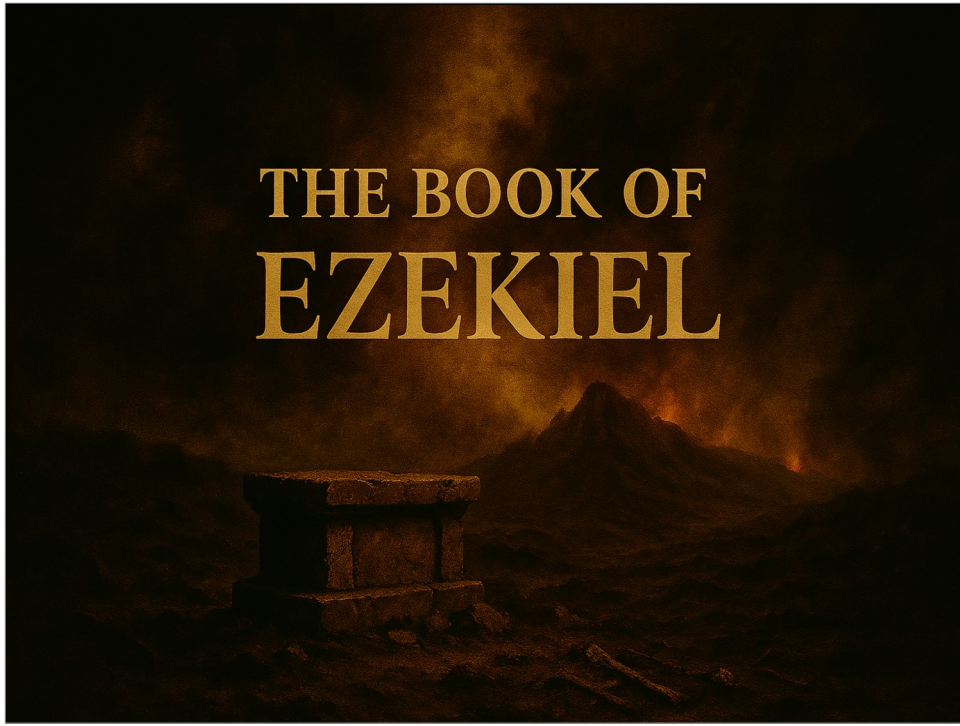
33 When thy wares went forth out of the seas, thou filledst many people; thou didst enrich the kings of the earth with the multitude of thy riches and of thy merchandise.

34 In the time when thou shalt be broken by the seas in the depths of the waters thy merchandise and all thy company in the midst of thee shall fall.

- 35 All the inhabitants of the isles shall be astonished at thee, and their kings shall be sore afraid, they shall be troubled in their countenance.*
- 36 The merchants among the people shall hiss at thee; thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt be any more.*

Ezekiel 27:35-36

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- ³¹ When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:
- ³² And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:
- ³³ And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Matthew 25:31-33

Judgment of the Nations

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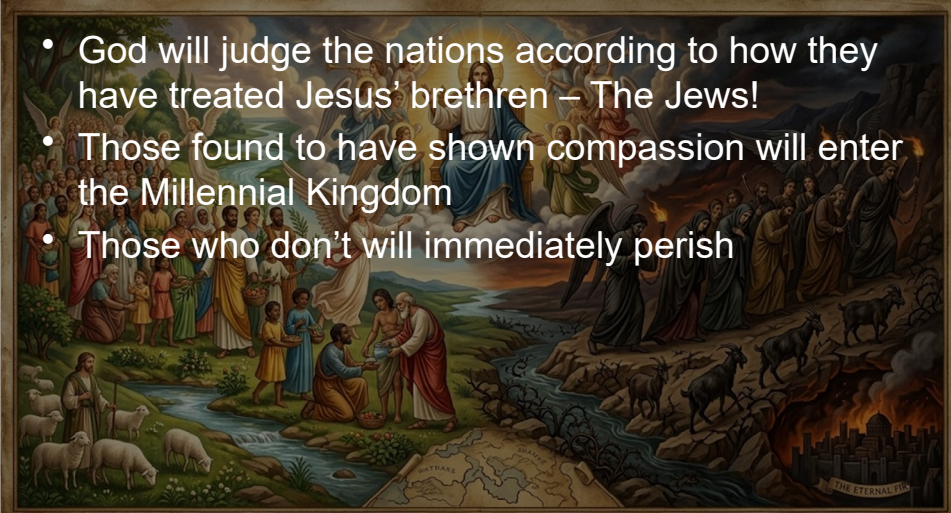
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- God will judge the nations according to how they have treated Jesus' brethren – The Jews!
- Those found to have shown compassion will enter the Millennial Kingdom
- Those who don't will immediately perish



God's Covenantal Promise

¹ Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

² And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

³ And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Genesis 12:1-3

God's Covenantal Promise

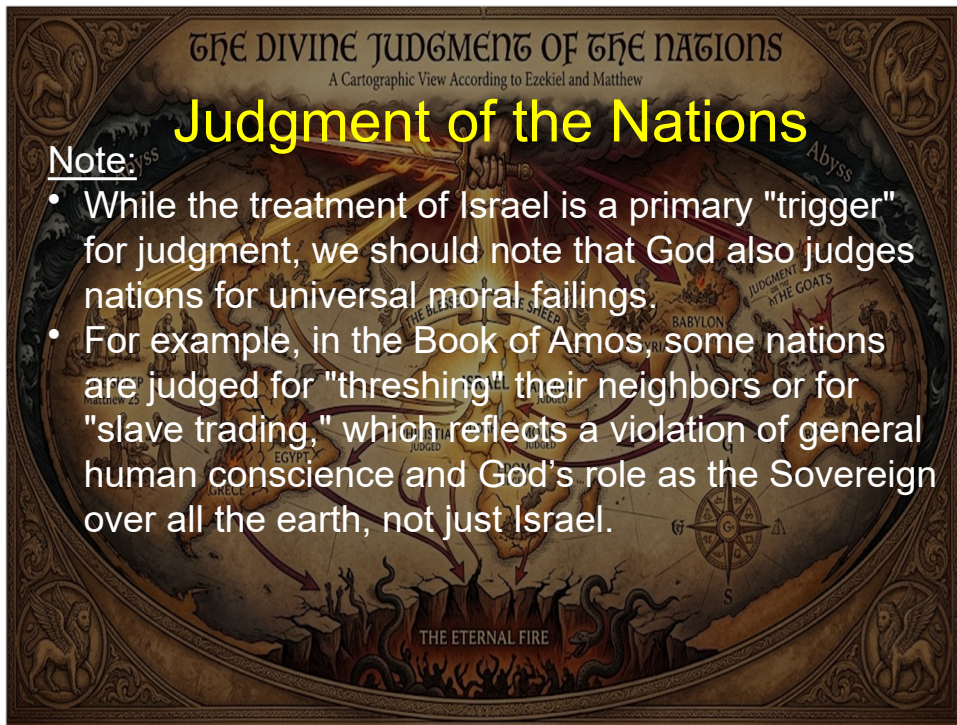
- The reason for the Abrahamic covenant:
 - **Functional Purpose of Israel:** Romans 3:1-2
 - To have a people to whom God could entrust His written revelation to mankind
 - **Testimonial Purpose of Israel:** Isaiah 42:6 / Ex 19:6
 - To have a witness to One-True-God in the earth in the midst of the nations
 - **Redemptive Purpose of Israel:** Rev 12 / Gal 3:16
 - To provide a safe way for the Messiah to come into this world at the appointed time
- Because of this, Israel were the recipients of God's divine favour

God's Covenantal Promise

- When you look at Ezekiel 25 with Revelation 12 in mind, the judgment of the nations becomes even more significant:
- The Nations' Crime:
 - They weren't just being "mean" to neighbors; they were participating (wittingly or unwittingly) in the Dragon's attempt to destroy the "Woman" and prevent the "Manchild" from appearing.
- God's Response:
 - His judgment is a "Restraining Order."
- By judging Moab, Edom, and the others, He is clearing the path so that the "Seed" can reach the "Appointed Time" [Galatians 4:4](#).

Judgment of the Nations

- In chapter 25, Ezekiel targets four specific neighbors: Ammon, Moab, Edom, and Philistia.
- The "indictments" God levels against them aren't just for their own internal paganism, but for their reaction to Israel's downfall:
- Ammon:
 - Judged for saying "Aha!" when the Temple was profaned.
- Moab:
 - Judged for claiming Judah was "like all the other nations" (denying their 'set-apart' status).
- Edom and Philistia:
 - Judged for taking "revenge" and acting with "never-ending enmity."



Judgment of the Nations

- Ammonites 25:2-7
- Moab 25:8-11
- Edom 25:12-14
- Philistines 25:15-17
- Tyre 26:1-21
- Sidon 28:21-24
- Egypt 29:2-16
- Ethiopia /Libya/Lydia 30:1-9



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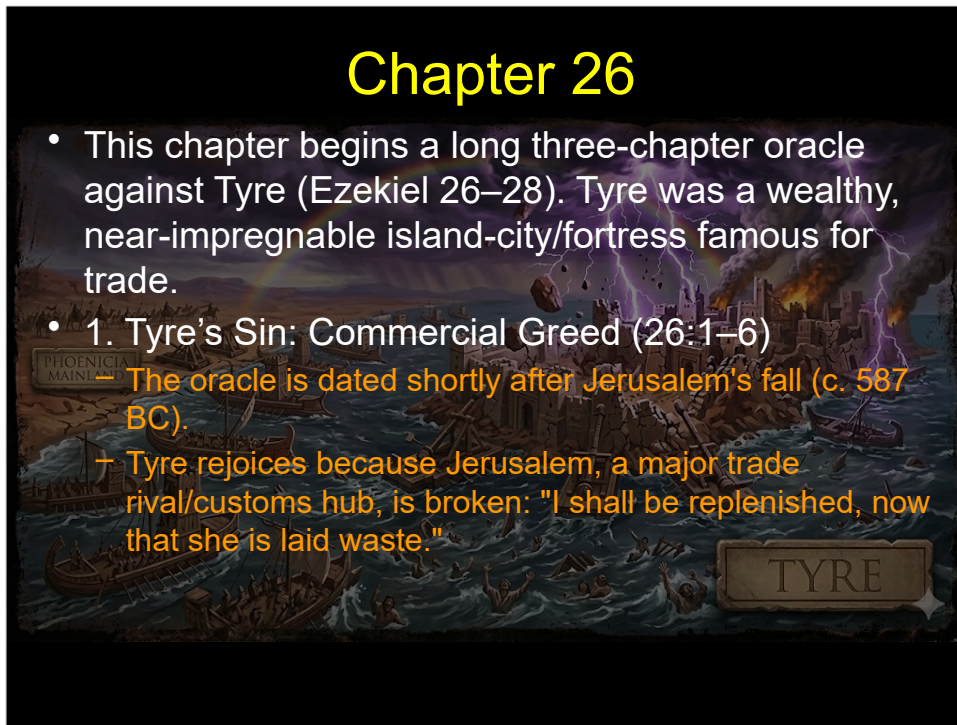
THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

Chapter 26

Judgment Against Tyre

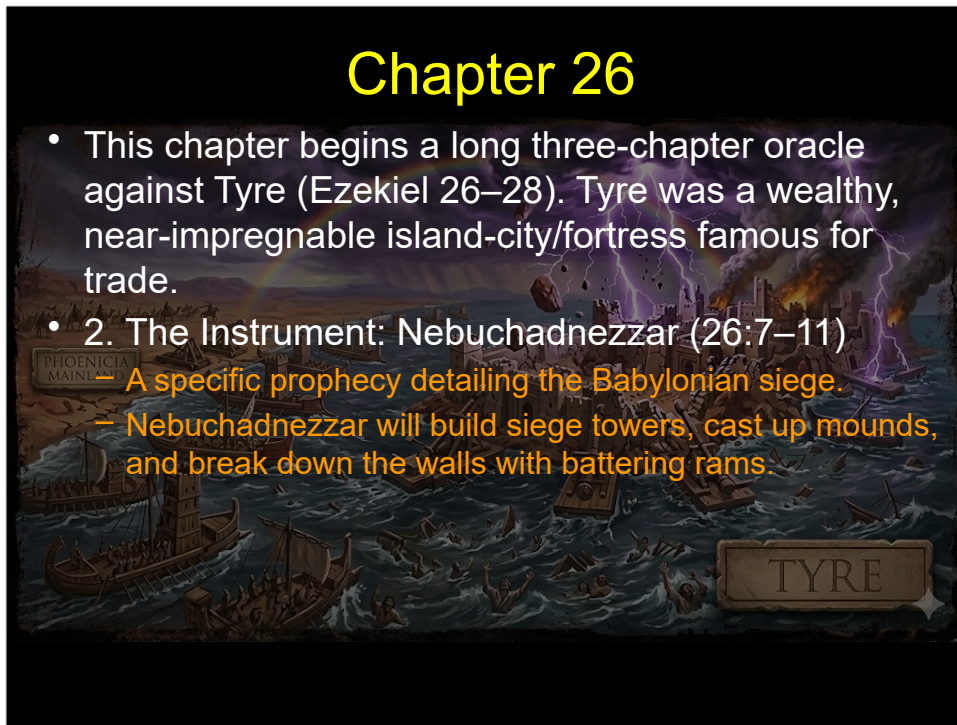
Chapter 26

- This chapter begins a long three-chapter oracle against Tyre (Ezekiel 26–28). Tyre was a wealthy, near-impregnable island-city/fortress famous for trade.
- 1. Tyre's Sin: Commercial Greed (26:1–6)
 - The oracle is dated shortly after Jerusalem's fall (c. 587 BC).
 - Tyre rejoices because Jerusalem, a major trade rival/customs hub, is broken: "I shall be replenished, now that she is laid waste."



Chapter 26

- This chapter begins a long three-chapter oracle against Tyre (Ezekiel 26–28). Tyre was a wealthy, near-impregnable island-city/fortress famous for trade.
- 2. The Instrument: Nebuchadnezzar (26:7–11)
 - A specific prophecy detailing the Babylonian siege.
 - Nebuchadnezzar will build siege towers, cast up mounds, and break down the walls with battering rams.



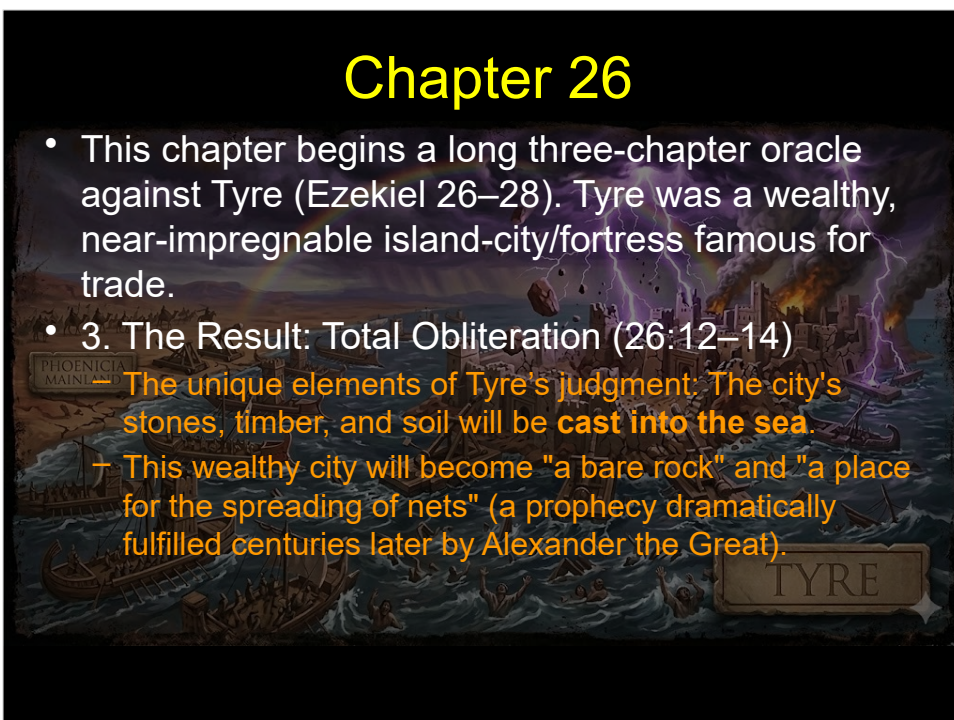
Chapter 26

- This chapter begins a long three-chapter oracle against Tyre (Ezekiel 26–28). Tyre was a wealthy, near-impregnable island-city/fortress famous for trade.
- 3. The Result: Total Obliteration (26:12–14)

PHOENICIAN MAIN — The unique elements of Tyre's judgment: The city's stones, timber, and soil will be **cast into the sea**.

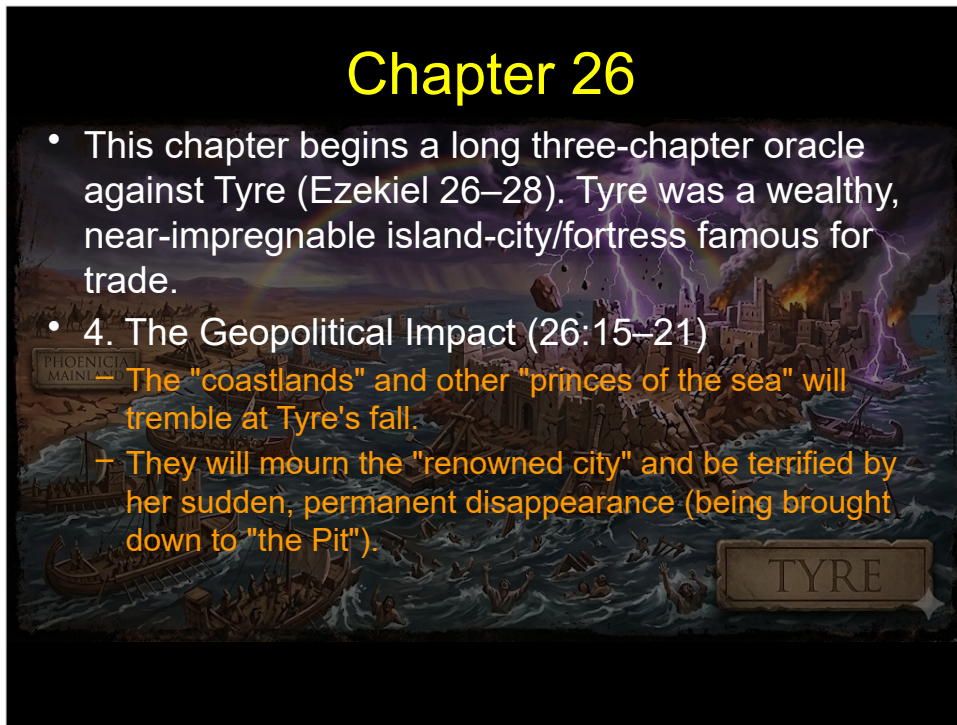
— This wealthy city will become "a bare rock" and "a place for the spreading of nets" (a prophecy dramatically fulfilled centuries later by Alexander the Great).

TYRE



Chapter 26

- This chapter begins a long three-chapter oracle against Tyre (Ezekiel 26–28). Tyre was a wealthy, near-impregnable island-city/fortress famous for trade.
- 4. The Geopolitical Impact (26:15–21)
 - The "coastlands" and other "princes of the sea" will tremble at Tyre's fall.
 - They will mourn the "renowned city" and be terrified by her sudden, permanent disappearance (being brought down to "the Pit").



¹ And it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the first day of the month, that the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,

² Son of man, because that Tyre hath said against Jerusalem, Aha, she is broken that was the gates of the people: she is turned unto me: I shall be replenished, now she is laid waste:

Ezekiel 26:1-2

- The 11th year of Ezekiel's captivity c.586 B.C.
 - After the final destruction of Jerusalem

The Gate of the People

- In the ancient Near East, the "gate" was more than just an entrance; it was the hub of commerce, law, and international trade.
- Jerusalem sat at a strategic crossroads.
 - To reach the Mediterranean coast (where Tyre was located) from the eastern deserts or the southern kingdoms, traders often had to pass through Judean territory.
- Jerusalem acted as a "land gate" and collected tolls, taxes, and managed the flow of goods like spices, gold, and textiles.
- Jerusalem had been the primary controller of inland trade.

Tyre's Boast

- Tyre expected that the caravans which once stopped in Jerusalem would now head straight to the Phoenician coast.
- Tyre was already the queen of the seas; by Jerusalem falling, they hoped to become the undisputed masters of the land routes as well.
- The word "replenished" (or "filled" in some translations) suggests that Tyre felt they were lacking as long as Jerusalem was prosperous.
- If Jerusalem was "full," Tyre was "empty." Now that Jerusalem was "laid waste," Tyre believed all that diverted wealth would flow into their own coffers.

The Divine Irony!

- The irony Ezekiel highlights is that Tyre's celebration was premature.
- By cheering for the "broken gates" of Jerusalem, they were essentially cheering for the arrival of Nebuchadnezzar.
- They didn't realize that the same "crusher of nations" who had just dismantled Jerusalem was already turning his siege engines toward their own walls.

³ Therefore thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Tyre, and will cause many nations to come up against thee, as the sea causeth his waves to come up.

⁴ And they shall destroy the walls of Tyre, and break down her towers: I will also scrape her dust from her, and make her like the top of a rock.

Ezekiel 26:3-4

⁵ It shall be a place for the spreading of nets in the midst of the sea: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord God: and it shall become a spoil to the nations.

⁶ And her daughters which are in the field shall be slain by the sword; and they shall know that I am the Lord.

Ezekiel 26:5-6

- ⁷ For thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will bring upon Tyre Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, a king of kings, from the north, with horses, and with chariots, and with horsemen, and companies, and much people.
- ⁸ He shall slay with the sword thy daughters in the field: and he shall make a fort against thee, and cast a mount against thee, and lift up the buckler against thee.

Ezekiel 26:7-8

⁹ And he shall set engines of war against thy walls,
and with his axes he shall break down thy
towers.

¹⁰ By reason of the abundance of his horses their
dust shall cover thee: thy walls shall shake at the
noise of the horsemen, and of the wheels, and of
the chariots, when he shall enter into thy gates,
as men enter into a city wherein is made a
breach.

Ezekiel 26:9-10

¹¹ With the hoofs of his horses shall he tread down all thy streets: he shall slay thy people by the sword, and thy strong garrisons shall go down to the ground.

¹² And they shall make a spoil of thy riches, and make a prey of thy merchandise: and they shall break down thy walls, and destroy thy pleasant houses: and they shall lay thy stones and thy timber and thy dust in the midst of the water.

Ezekiel 26:11-12

¹³ And I will cause the noise of thy songs to cease; and the sound of thy harps shall be no more heard.

¹⁴ And I will make thee like the top of a rock: thou shalt be a place to spread nets upon; thou shalt be built no more: for I the Lord have spoken it, saith the Lord God.

Ezekiel 26:13-14

¹⁵ Thus saith the Lord God to Tyre; Shall not the isles shake at the sound of thy fall, when the wounded cry, when the slaughter is made in the midst of thee?

¹⁶ Then all the princes of the sea shall come down from their thrones, and lay away their robes, and put off their broidered garments: they shall clothe themselves with trembling; they shall sit upon the ground, and shall tremble at every moment, and be astonished at thee.

Ezekiel 26:15-16

¹⁷ And they shall take up a lamentation for thee, and say to thee, How art thou destroyed, that wast inhabited of seafaring men, the renowned city, which wast strong in the sea, she and her inhabitants, which cause their terror to be on all that haunt it!

¹⁸ Now shall the isles tremble in the day of thy fall; yea, the isles that are in the sea shall be troubled at thy departure.

Ezekiel 26:17-18

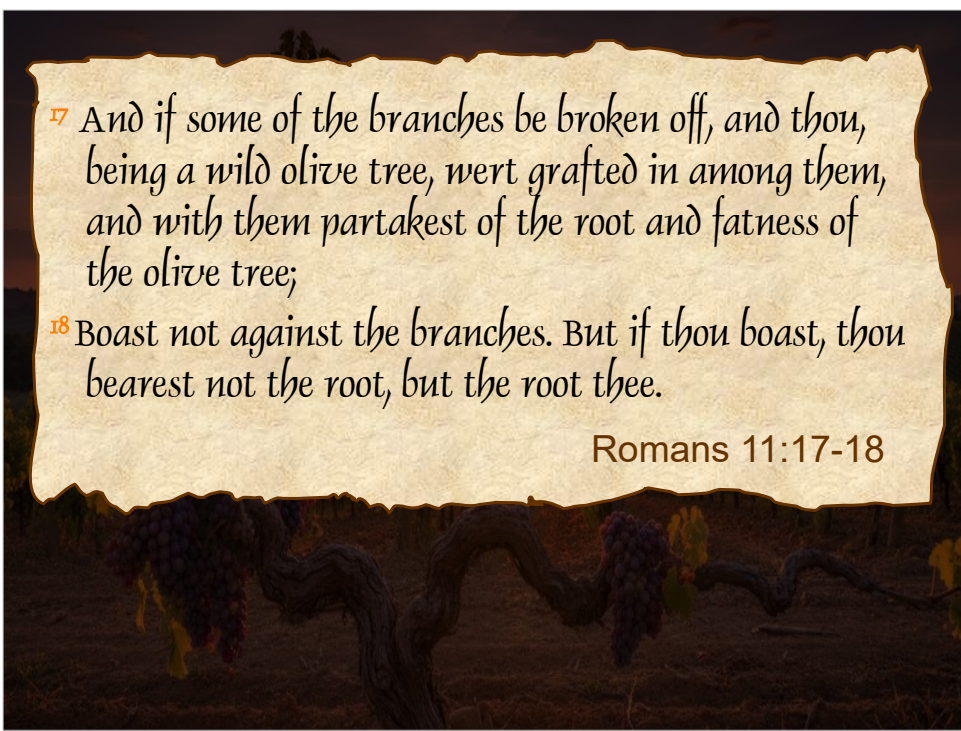
¹⁹ For thus saith the Lord God; When I shall make thee a desolate city, like the cities that are not inhabited; when I shall bring up the deep upon thee, and great waters shall cover thee;

²⁰ When I shall bring thee down with them that descend into the pit, with the people of old time, and shall set thee in the low parts of the earth, in places desolate of old, with them that go down to the pit, that thou be not inhabited; and I shall set glory in the land of the living;

Ezekiel 26:19-20

²¹ I will make thee a terror, and thou shalt be no more: though thou be sought for, yet shalt thou never be found again, saith the Lord God.

Ezekiel 26:21



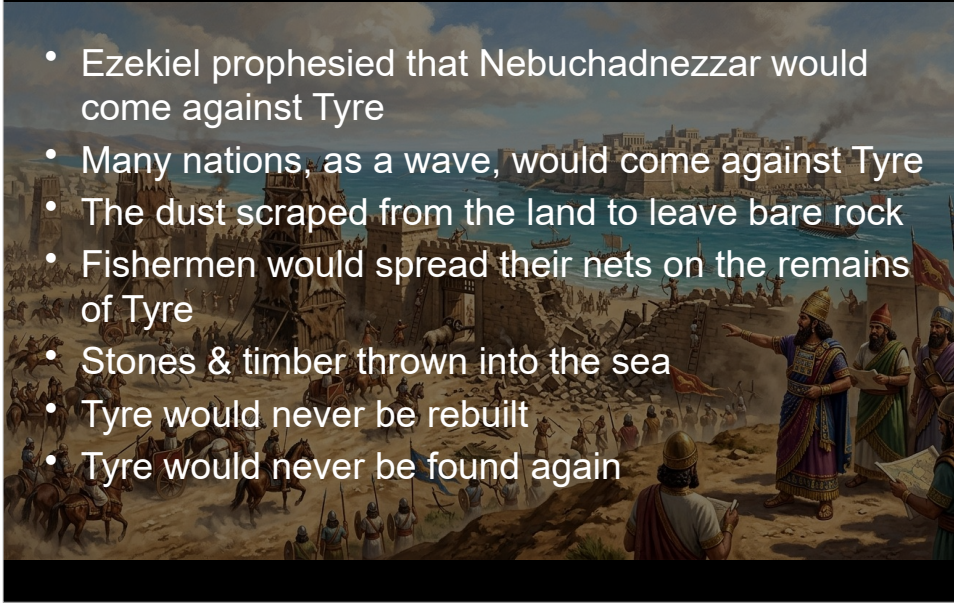
¹⁷ And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree;

¹⁸ Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee.

Romans 11:17-18

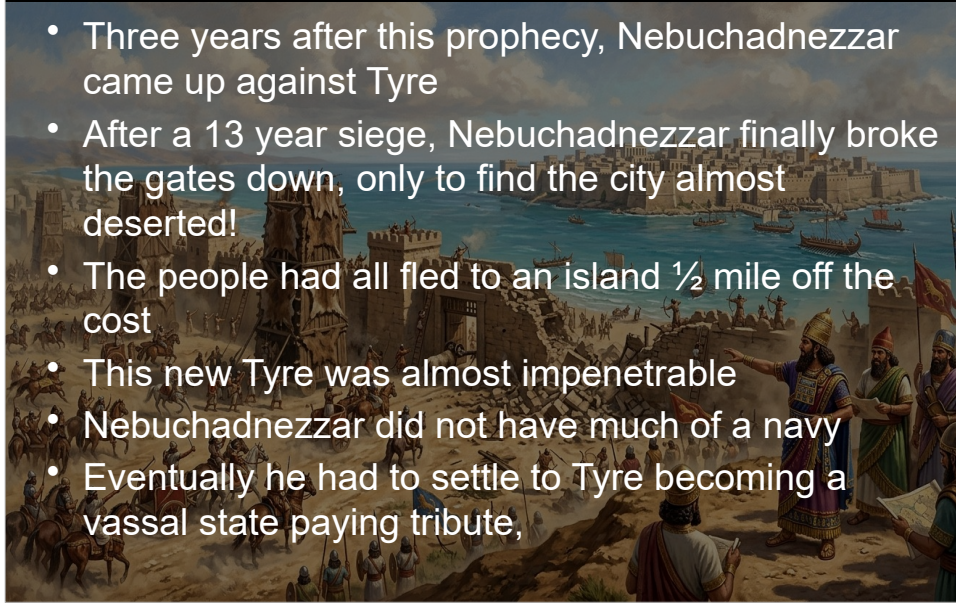
The Destruction of Tyre

- Ezekiel prophesied that Nebuchadnezzar would come against Tyre
- Many nations, as a wave, would come against Tyre
- The dust scraped from the land to leave bare rock
- Fishermen would spread their nets on the remains of Tyre
- Stones & timber thrown into the sea
- Tyre would never be rebuilt
- Tyre would never be found again



The Destruction of Tyre

- Three years after this prophecy, Nebuchadnezzar came up against Tyre
- After a 13 year siege, Nebuchadnezzar finally broke the gates down, only to find the city almost deserted!
- The people had all fled to an island ½ mile off the coast
- This new Tyre was almost impenetrable
- Nebuchadnezzar did not have much of a navy
- Eventually he had to settle to Tyre becoming a vassal state paying tribute,



The Destruction of Tyre

- Tyre essentially realised they couldn't outlast the Babylonian empire forever, and Nebuchadnezzar realised he couldn't take the island without a fleet.
- They came to a compromise where Tyre became a vassal state of the Babylonian Empire.
 - The Tyrian king, Ithobaal III (who had seen the start of the siege), was either removed from power or died and was replaced by Baal II, who ruled specifically as a Babylonian client-king.
- Tyre was forced to pay significant tribute to Babylon. While they kept their lives and their city, their "merchandise" and "wealth" were now heavily taxed to fund Nebuchadnezzar's empire.

Respite for Tyre?

- When Cyrus the Great conquered Babylon in 539 BC, Tyre transitioned from Babylonian rule to Persian rule
- However, the Persians were "land people" and had no navy. They realised that to conquer Egypt and fight the Greeks, they needed the Tyrians.
- Because Tyre provided the backbone of the Persian fleet, the Persian Kings (Cyrus, Darius, Xerxes) gave Tyre a lot of autonomy.
- They were allowed to mint their own coins and rebuild their maritime wealth

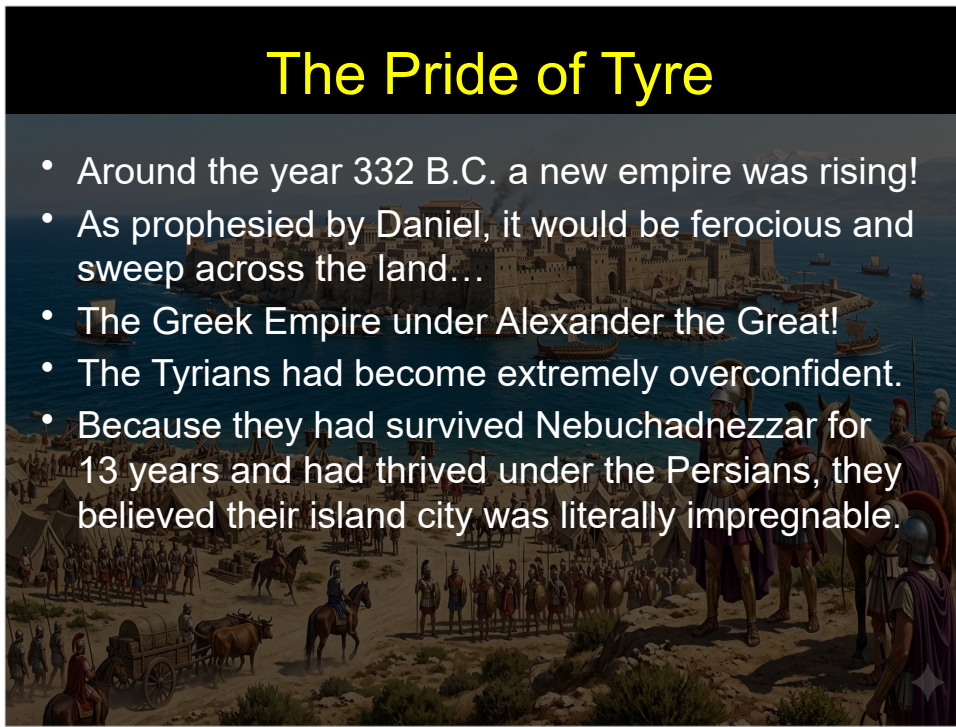
Ill-fated Rebellion!

- In around 350 BC, the Phoenician cities (led by Sidon) tried to revolt against the Persian King Artaxerxes III.
- The revolt was brutally crushed!
- While Tyre wasn't destroyed, the instability weakened them considerably.
- It is remarkable how Tyre – who had boasted against Jerusalem – made the very same mistakes and would be subject to the same judgment...
- Only, unlike Jerusalem, Tyre would not rise again!

Pride and deceit and broken oaths!

The Pride of Tyre

- Around the year 332 B.C. a new empire was rising!
- As prophesied by Daniel, it would be ferocious and sweep across the land...
- The Greek Empire under Alexander the Great!
- The Tyrians had become extremely overconfident.
- Because they had survived Nebuchadnezzar for 13 years and had thrived under the Persians, they believed their island city was literally impregnable.



Daniel ch 7 & 8

The Destruction of Tyre

- When Alexander arrived, they offered him a "golden crown" but refused to let him enter the city to sacrifice to their god, Melqart (whom the Greeks identified with Hercules).
- They told him, *"If you want to sacrifice, do it at the old temple on the mainland."*
- Alexander's response: "You think because you live on an island you are safe?"
- He then took the rubble left by Nebuchadnezzar (the ruins of the mainland city) and began the construction of the famous "mole" or causeway.

Daniel ch 7 & 8

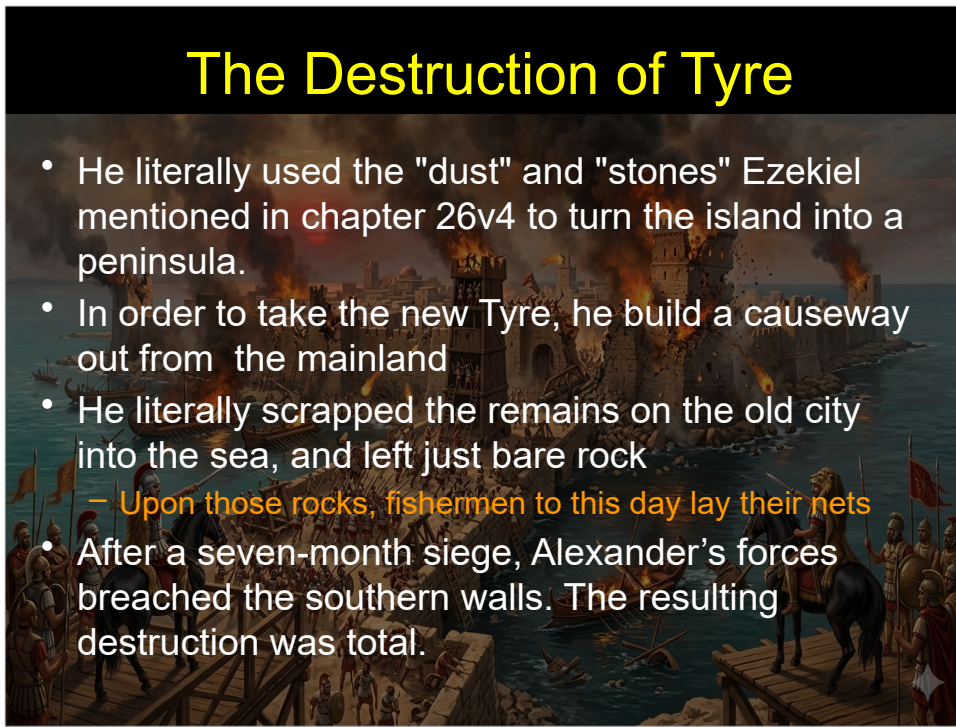
The Destruction of Tyre

- Alexander's Causeway



The Destruction of Tyre

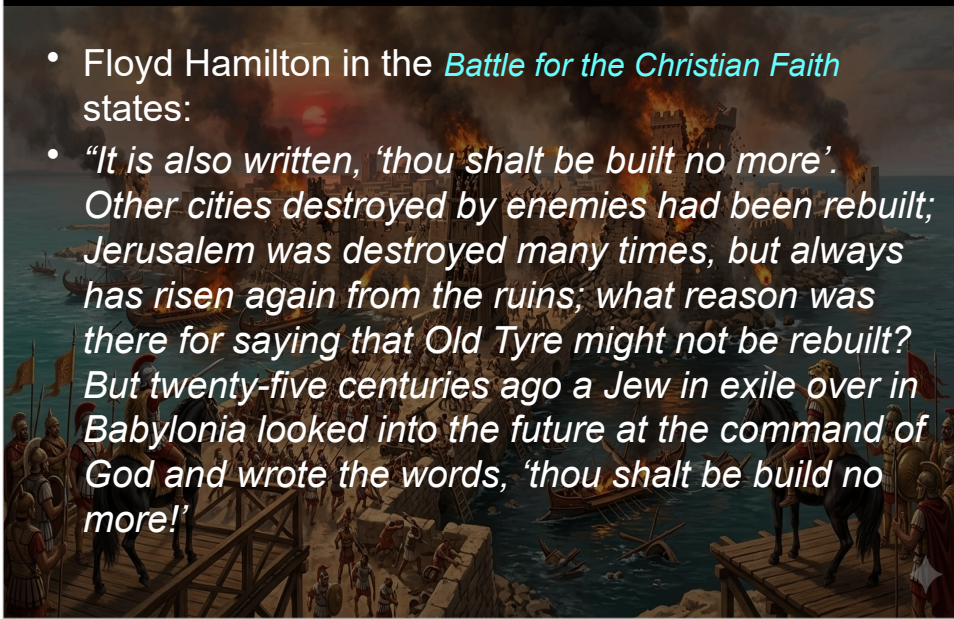
- He literally used the "dust" and "stones" Ezekiel mentioned in chapter 26v4 to turn the island into a peninsula.
- In order to take the new Tyre, he build a causeway out from the mainland
- He literally scrapped the remains on the old city into the sea, and left just bare rock
 - Upon those rocks, fishermen to this day lay their nets
- After a seven-month siege, Alexander's forces breached the southern walls. The resulting destruction was total.



Daniel ch 7 & 8

Prophecy Against Tyre

- Floyd Hamilton in the *Battle for the Christian Faith* states:
- *“It is also written, ‘thou shalt be built no more’. Other cities destroyed by enemies had been rebuilt; Jerusalem was destroyed many times, but always has risen again from the ruins; what reason was there for saying that Old Tyre might not be rebuilt? But twenty-five centuries ago a Jew in exile over in Babylonia looked into the future at the command of God and wrote the words, ‘thou shalt be build no more!’*



Prophecy Against Tyre

- *The voice of God has spoken and Old Tyre today stands as it has for twenty-five centuries, a bare rock, uninhabited by man! Today anyone who wants to see the site of the old city, can have it pointed out to him along the shore, but there is not a ruin to mark the spot It has been scraped clean and has never been rebuilt!"*



Prophecy Against Tyre

- *“The great freshwater springs of Reselain are at the site of the mainland city of Tyre, and no doubt supplied the city with an abundance of fresh water. These springs are still there and still flow, but their water runs into the sea. The flow of these springs was measured by an engineer, and found to be about 10,000,000 gallons daily. It is still an excellent site for a city and would have fresh water enough for a large modern city, yet it has never been rebuilt. Thus [this prophecy] has stood true for more than 2500 years*

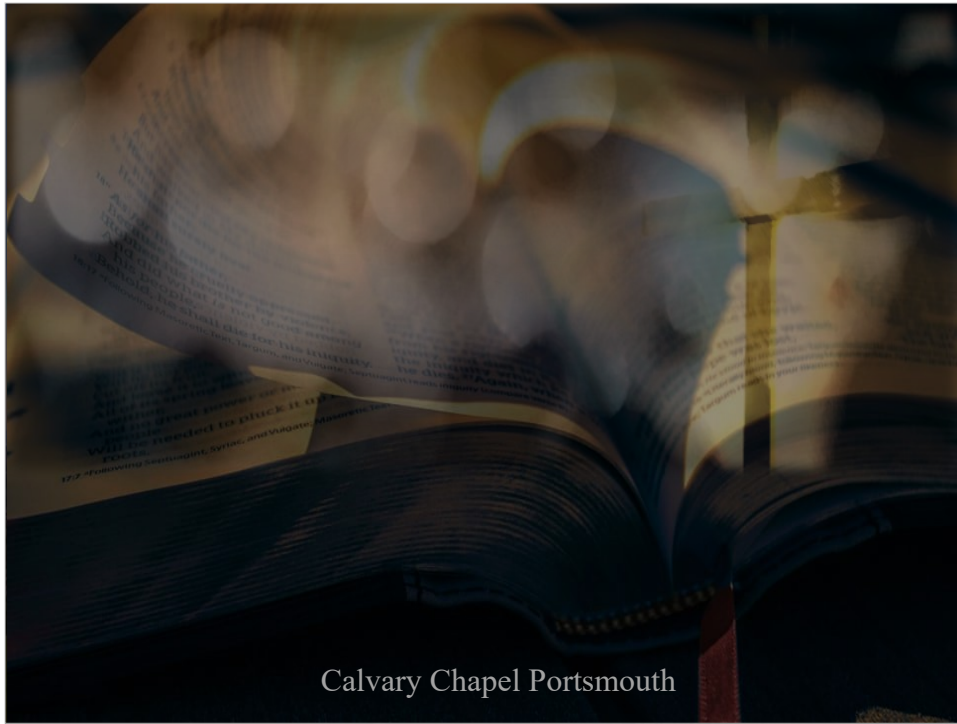
Floyd Hamilton

shsh

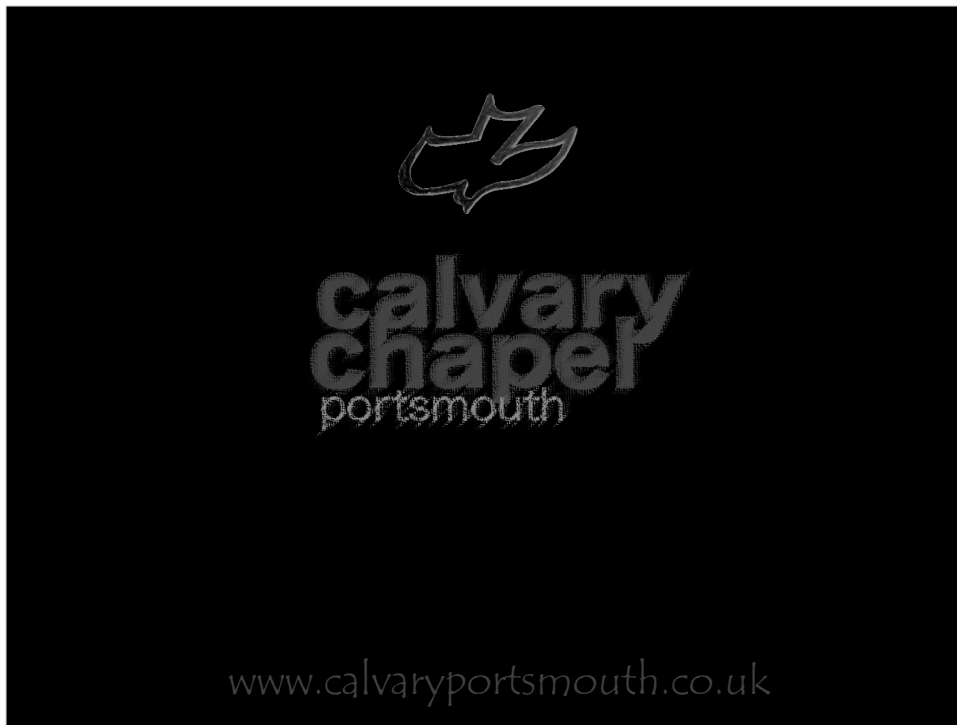
The background of the image is a dark, atmospheric landscape. In the center, a mountain peak is visible, with a warm, orange glow emanating from its base, suggesting a fire or a sunset. In the foreground, there is a stone structure, possibly a tomb or a monument, with a flat top. The overall scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source being the orange glow from the mountain.

THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

To be continued..

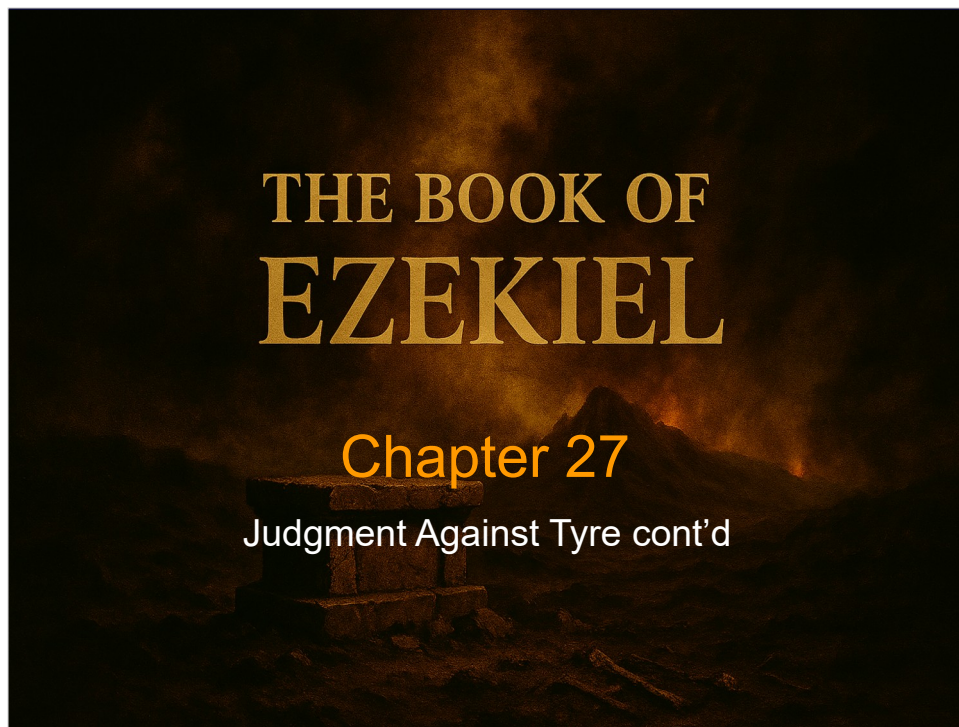


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Click to add Notes





Chapter 27 is an elaborate, poetic **funeral dirge** for a city that hasn't died yet. Ezekiel uses a brilliant literary device here: he portrays the entire city as a **magnificent merchant ship** made of the finest materials from across the known world. By listing the trading partners, Ezekiel isn't just giving a geography lesson; he is highlighting the scale of Tyre's **hubris** and the shock of its coming "shipwreck."

The Anatomy of the "Ship of State"

Ezekiel describes the city-ship using the best components from its neighbors, showing how Tyre had "perfected its beauty" (v. 3) by consuming the resources of others:

The Hull: Fir trees from Senir (v. 5).

The Mast: Cedar from Lebanon (v. 5).

The Oars: Oaks of Bashan (v. 6).

The Deck: Ivory inlaid in boxwood from

¹ The word of the Lord came again unto me, saying,

² Now, thou son of man, take up a lamentation for Tyre;

³ And say unto Tyre, O thou that art situate at the entry of the sea, which art a merchant of the people for many isles, Thus saith the Lord God; O Tyre, thou hast said, I am of perfect beauty.

⁴ Thy borders are in the midst of the seas, thy builders have perfected thy beauty. Ezekiel 27:1-4

⁵They have made all thy ship boards of fir trees of Senir: they have taken cedars from Lebanon to make masts for thee.

⁶Of the oaks of Bashan have they made thine oars; the company of the Ashurites have made thy benches of ivory, brought out of the isles of Chittim.

Ezekiel 27:5-6

Click to add Notes

⁷ Fine linen with brodered work from Egypt was that which thou spreadest forth to be thy sail; blue and purple from the isles of Elishah was that which covered thee.

⁸ The inhabitants of Zidon and Arvad were thy mariners: thy wise men, O Tyre, that were in thee, were thy pilots.

Ezekiel 27:7-8

⁹ *The ancients of Gebal and the wise men thereof were in thee thy calkers: all the ships of the sea with their mariners were in thee to occupy thy merchandise.*

¹⁰ *They of Persia and of Lud and of Phut were in thine army, thy men of war: they hanged the shield and helmet in thee; they set forth thy comeliness.*

Ezekiel 27:9-10

¹¹ The men of Arvad with thine army were upon thy walls round about, and the Gammadims were in thy towers: they hanged their shields upon thy walls round about; they have made thy beauty perfect.

¹² Tarshish was thy merchant by reason of the multitude of all kind of riches; with silver, iron, tin, and lead, they traded in thy fairs.

Ezekiel 27:11-12

¹³ Javan, Tubal, and Meshech, they were thy merchants: they traded the persons of men and vessels of brass in thy market.

¹⁴ They of the house of Togarmah traded in thy fairs with horses and horsemen and mules.

¹⁵ The men of Dedan were thy merchants; many isles were the merchandise of thine hand: they brought thee for a present horns of ivory and ebony.

Ezekiel 27:13-15

¹⁶ Syria was thy merchant by reason of the multitude of the wares of thy making: they occupied in thy fairs with emeralds, purple, and broidered work, and fine linen, and coral, and agate.

¹⁷ Judah, and the land of Israel, they were thy merchants: they traded in thy market wheat of Minnith, and Pannag, and honey, and oil, and balm.

Ezekiel 27:16-17

¹⁸ Damascus was thy merchant in the multitude of the wares of thy making, for the multitude of all riches; in the wine of Helbon, and white wool.

¹⁹ Dan also and Javan going to and fro occupied in thy fairs: bright iron, cassia, and calamus, were in thy market.

²⁰ Dedan was thy merchant in precious clothes for chariots.

Ezekiel 27:18-19

²¹ Arabia, and all the princes of Kedar, they occupied with thee in lambs, and rams, and goats: in these were they thy merchants.

²² The merchants of Sheba and Raamah, they were thy merchants: they occupied in thy fairs with chief of all spices, and with all precious stones, and gold.

²³ Haran, and Canneh, and Eden, the merchants of Sheba, Asshur, and Chilmad, were thy merchants.

Ezekiel 27:21-23

²⁴ These were thy merchants in all sorts of things, in blue clothes, and broidered work, and in chests of rich apparel, bound with cords, and made of cedar, among thy merchandise.

²⁵ The ships of Tarshish did sing of thee in thy market: and thou wast replenished, and made very glorious in the midst of the seas.

²⁶ Thy rowers have brought thee into great waters: the east wind hath broken thee in the midst of the seas.

Ezekiel 27:24-26

²⁷ Thy riches, and thy fairs, thy merchandise, thy mariners, and thy pilots, thy calkers, and the occupiers of thy merchandise, and all thy men of war, that are in thee, and in all thy company which is in the midst of thee, shall fall into the midst of the seas in the day of thy ruin.

²⁸ The suburbs shall shake at the sound of the cry of thy pilots.

Ezekiel 27:27-28

²⁹ And all that handle the oar, the mariners, and all the pilots of the sea, shall come down from their ships, they shall stand upon the land;

³⁰ And shall cause their voice to be heard against thee, and shall cry bitterly, and shall cast up dust upon their heads, they shall wallow themselves in the ashes:

Ezekiel 27:29-30

³¹ And they shall make themselves utterly bald for thee, and gird them with sackcloth, and they shall weep for thee with bitterness of heart and bitter wailing.

³² And in their wailing they shall take up a lamentation for thee, and lament over thee, saying, What city is like Tyre, like the destroyed in the midst of the sea?

Ezekiel 27:31-32

³³ When thy wares went forth out of the seas, thou filledst many people; thou didst enrich the kings of the earth with the multitude of thy riches and of thy merchandise.

³⁴ In the time when thou shalt be broken by the seas in the depths of the waters thy merchandise and all thy company in the midst of thee shall fall.

Ezekiel 27:33-34

³⁵ All the inhabitants of the isles shall be astonished at thee, and their kings shall be sore afraid, they shall be troubled in their countenance.

³⁶ The merchants among the people shall hiss at thee; thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt be any more.

Ezekiel 27:35-36