

This Morning

THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

a verse-by-verse study
THE JUDGMENT ON EDOM
Ch35

Pastor Barry

LIVE & ONLINE via TEAMS



"Ezekiel's prophecies masterfully transition from the dark, heavy realities of impending judgment to the sweeping, breathtaking glories of the Kingdom Age."

Pastor

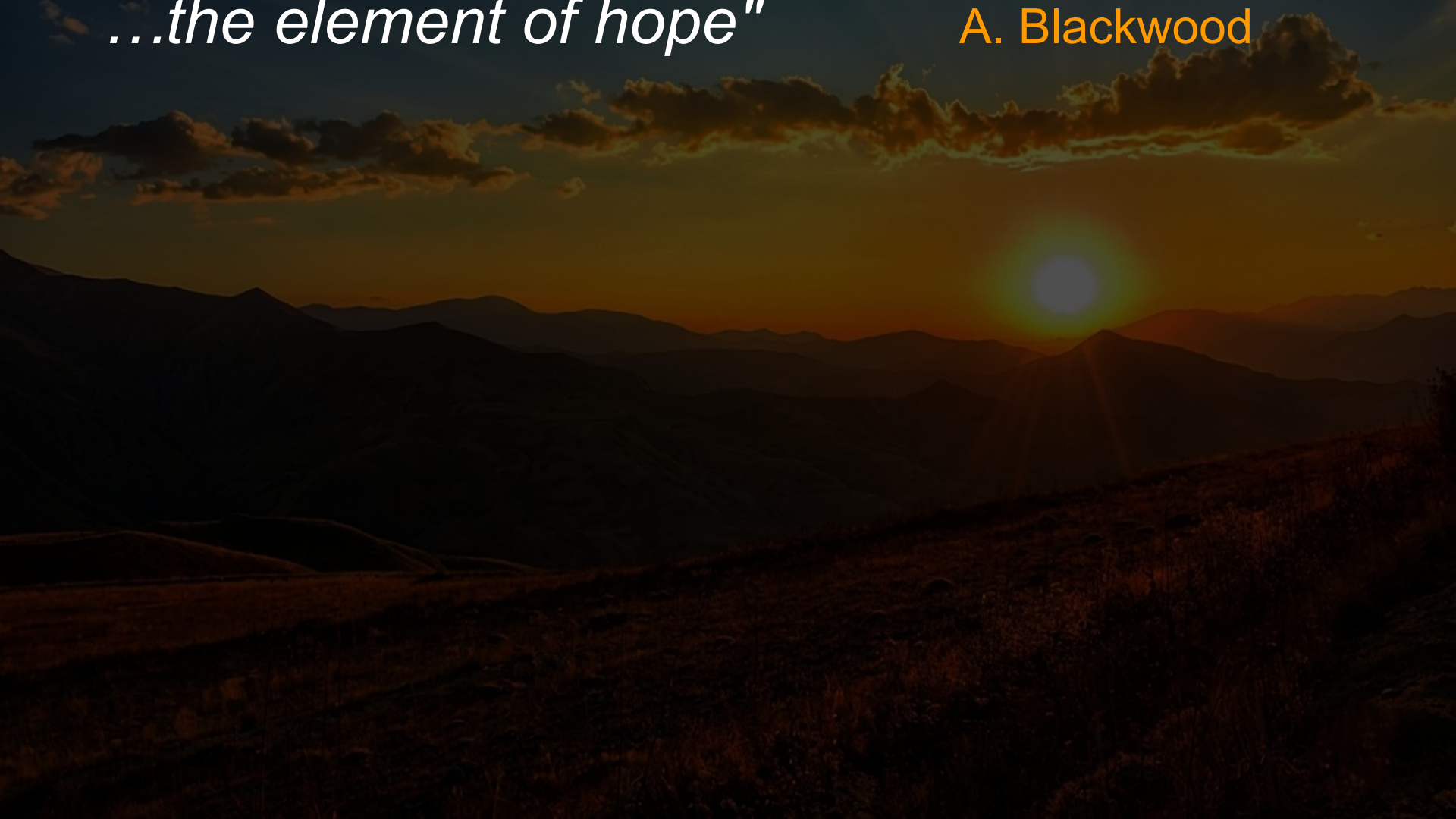
Chuck Smith



"Ezekiel adds something almost completely missing from modern thought..."

...the element of hope"

A. Blackwood



Chapters 33-39

- Ezekiel is recommissioned as a watchman Ch 33
but this time to shepherd a broken people.
- He prophesies against Israel's corrupt past leaders
and promises the True Shepherd Ch 34
- The physical restoration of the land Ch 35, 36
- and the spiritual resurrection of the nation via the
dry bones vision Ch 37
- The section concludes with the defeat of Gog and
Magog Ch 38,39
 - a prophetic glimpse into the future destruction of the
enemies of Israel as a demonstration of God's
unconditional covenant with His people

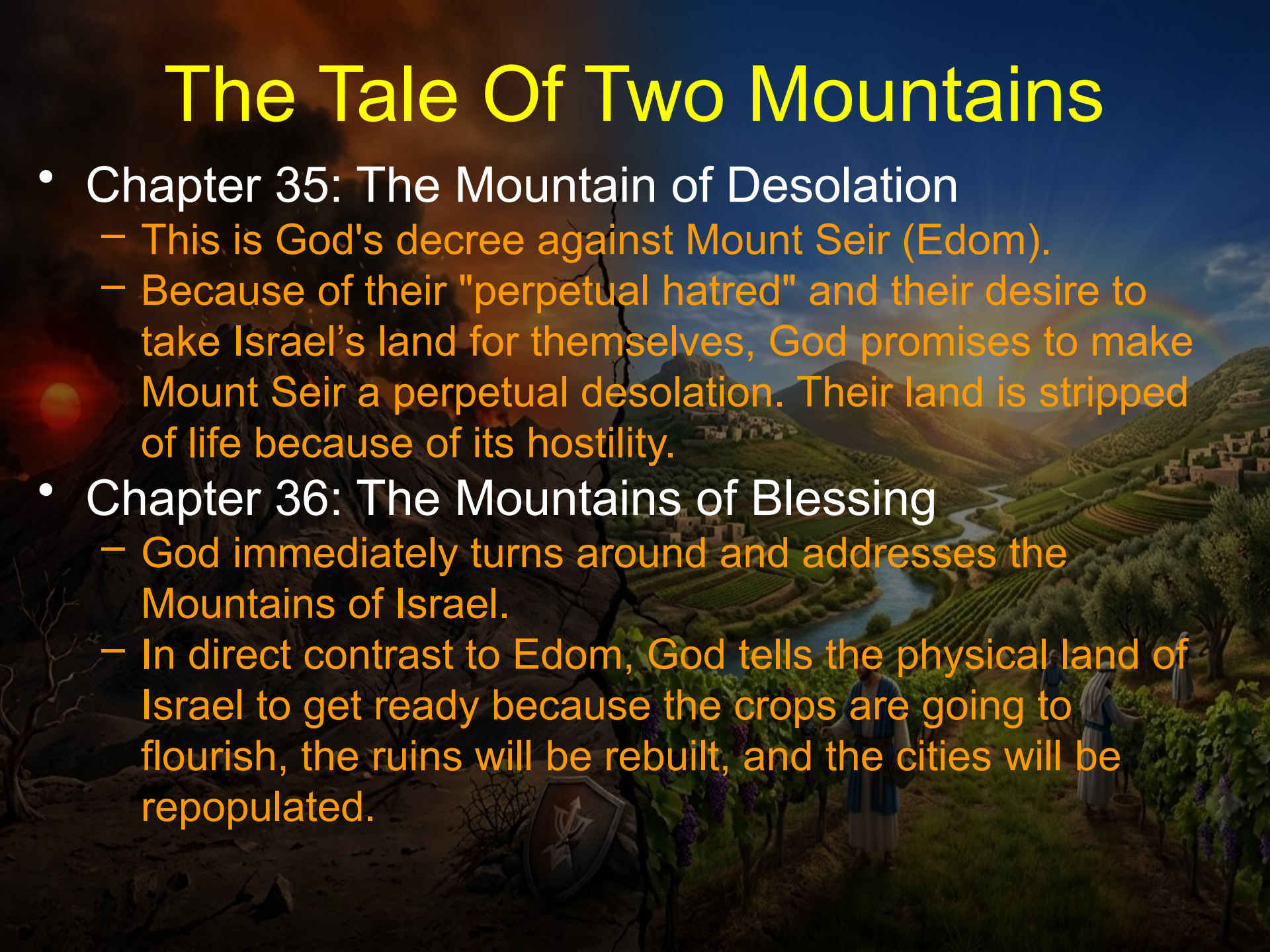
THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

Chapter 35 & 36

The Tale Of Two Mountains

The Tale Of Two Mountains

- Chapter 35: The Mountain of Desolation
 - This is God's decree against Mount Seir (Edom).
 - Because of their "perpetual hatred" and their desire to take Israel's land for themselves, God promises to make Mount Seir a perpetual desolation. Their land is stripped of life because of its hostility.
- Chapter 36: The Mountains of Blessing
 - God immediately turns around and addresses the Mountains of Israel.
 - In direct contrast to Edom, God tells the physical land of Israel to get ready because the crops are going to flourish, the ruins will be rebuilt, and the cities will be repopulated.



THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

Chapter 35

The Mountain of Desolation
(Edom)

Chapter 35

- Chapter 34 focused on the internal restoration and shepherding of Israel.
- The false shepherds were removed so the True Shepherd could come
- Chapter 35 now shifts the focus externally to the removal of Israel's historic, hostile enemies
 - specifically seen by targeting Mount Seir (Edom).



Chapter 35

- Ezekiel 35 acts as the crucial, defensive flip side to the glorious restoration promised to Israel in Chapter 34
- Before God's scattered flock can safely inhabit their promised land under the Covenant of Peace, their predatory borders must be permanently secured.
- By launching a fierce, unrelenting oracle of doom against Mount Seir—the ancestral home of the Edomites—God addresses the "perpetual hatred" of Israel's closest relatives who treacherously ambushed them during the Babylonian invasion and arrogantly sought to annex the vacated promised land.

Chapter 35

- In the grand narrative of Ezekiel, this chapter serves as a profound warning that God fiercely protects His covenant inheritance, explicitly reminding the surrounding empires that even when Israel is under divine discipline, the land is never up for grabs because "the LORD was there."
- Ultimately, the total desolation of Edom prepares the physical geography for Israel's environmental renewal in Chapter 36, ensuring that the restored kingdom will never again be threatened by the malicious joy of its neighbors.

Chapter 35

- Why is this judgment on Edom not included in Chapters 25–32?
- The Holy Spirit has deliberately chosen to place Edom's judgment in Chapter 35
 - ...completely separate from the judgments against the nations
- This is a profound remez (a hidden prophetic hint)
 - a much larger, global picture is at play!
- Nestled right in the middle of these chapters that outline the prophetic future of Israel (Ch33-39) sits Chapter 35 and the judgment on Edom.

Chapter 35

- Ezekiel is telling us that Israel cannot enjoy the "Covenant of Peace" (Chapter 34) or cultivate a revived land (Chapter 36) if their immediate borders are constantly plagued by the "perpetual hatred" of their closest neighbour.
- Furthermore, Ezekiel 38-39 cannot happen until the events of this chapter take place!



Verses 1-4

- **The Prophetic Decree Against Mount Seir**
- God commands Ezekiel to set his face against Mount Seir (Edom) and prophesy its total destruction.
- The Sovereign LORD declares Himself an enemy of Edom, promising to stretch out His hand, make the land a desolate waste, and destroy its cities.
 - See Romans 9:13



- ¹ Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,*
- ² Son of man, set thy face against mount Seir, and prophesy against it,*
- ³ And say unto it, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O mount Seir, I am against thee, and I will stretch out mine hand against thee, and I will make thee most desolate.*

⁴ I will lay thy cities waste, and thou shalt be desolate, and thou shalt know that I am the Lord.

Ezekiel 35:4

Verses 5-9

- **The Indictment: Perpetual Hatred and Bloodguilt**
- The core accusation against Edom is their "perpetual hatred" (ancient animosity tracing back to Esau and Jacob) and their betrayal of Israel.
- Edom is condemned for shedding the blood of the Israelites by the power of the sword during the time of Israel's calamity (the Babylonian siege).
- God pronounces a judgment of poetic justice: since Edom did not hate bloodshed, blood will pursue them, and the mountain will be filled with the slain.

⁵ Because thou hast had a perpetual hatred, and hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time that their iniquity had an end:

Ezekiel 35:5

- 6 Therefore, as I live, saith the Lord God, I will prepare thee unto blood, and blood shall pursue thee: since thou hast not hated blood, even blood shall pursue thee.
- 7 Thus will I make mount Seir most desolate, and cut off from it him that passeth out and him that returneth.

Ezekiel 35:6-7

- 8 And I will fill his mountains with his slain men: in thy hills, and in thy valleys, and in all thy rivers, shall they fall that are slain with the sword.
- 9 I will make thee perpetual desolations, and thy cities shall not return: and ye shall know that I am the Lord.

Verses 10-13

- **The Arrogance of Land-Grabbing**
- Edom is condemned for boasting, "These two nations and these two countries shall be mine" (referring to Israel and Judah), intending to take over the empty land.
- Edom completely ignored a vital reality: "whereas the LORD was there."
- They disregarded God's covenant ownership of the land!
- God vows to judge Edom according to the exact anger, envy, and hatred they showed toward His people.

- 10** Because thou hast said, These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess it; whereas the Lord was there:
- 11** Therefore, as I live, saith the Lord God, I will even do according to thine anger, and according to thine envy which thou hast used out of thy hatred against them; and I will make myself known among them, when I have judged thee.

12 And thou shalt know that I am the Lord, and that I have heard all thy blasphemies which thou hast spoken against the mountains of Israel, saying, They are laid desolate, they are given us to consume.

13 Thus with your mouth ye have boasted against me, and have multiplied your words against me: I have heard them.

Verses 14-15

- **Joyful Desolation and Global Vindication**
- God declares that while the whole earth rejoices in restoration, Edom will be made desolate.
- Because Edom rejoiced over the inheritance of the house of Israel when it was desolate, God will do the same to them.
- The chapter concludes with the ultimate purpose of this judgment: "Then they shall know that I am the LORD."



- ¹⁴ Thus saith the Lord God; When the whole earth rejoiceth, I will make thee desolate.
- ¹⁵ As thou didst rejoice at the inheritance of the house of Israel, because it was desolate, so will I do unto thee: thou shalt be desolate, O mount Seir, and all Idumea, even all of it: and they shall know that I am the Lord.

Edom & Prophecy

- The big question is, has this prophecy regarding Edom been fulfilled?
- Has Edom been destroyed?
- Are Israel's borders safe?
- What is the prophetic significance of Israel's current war with Hamas and Hezbollah?

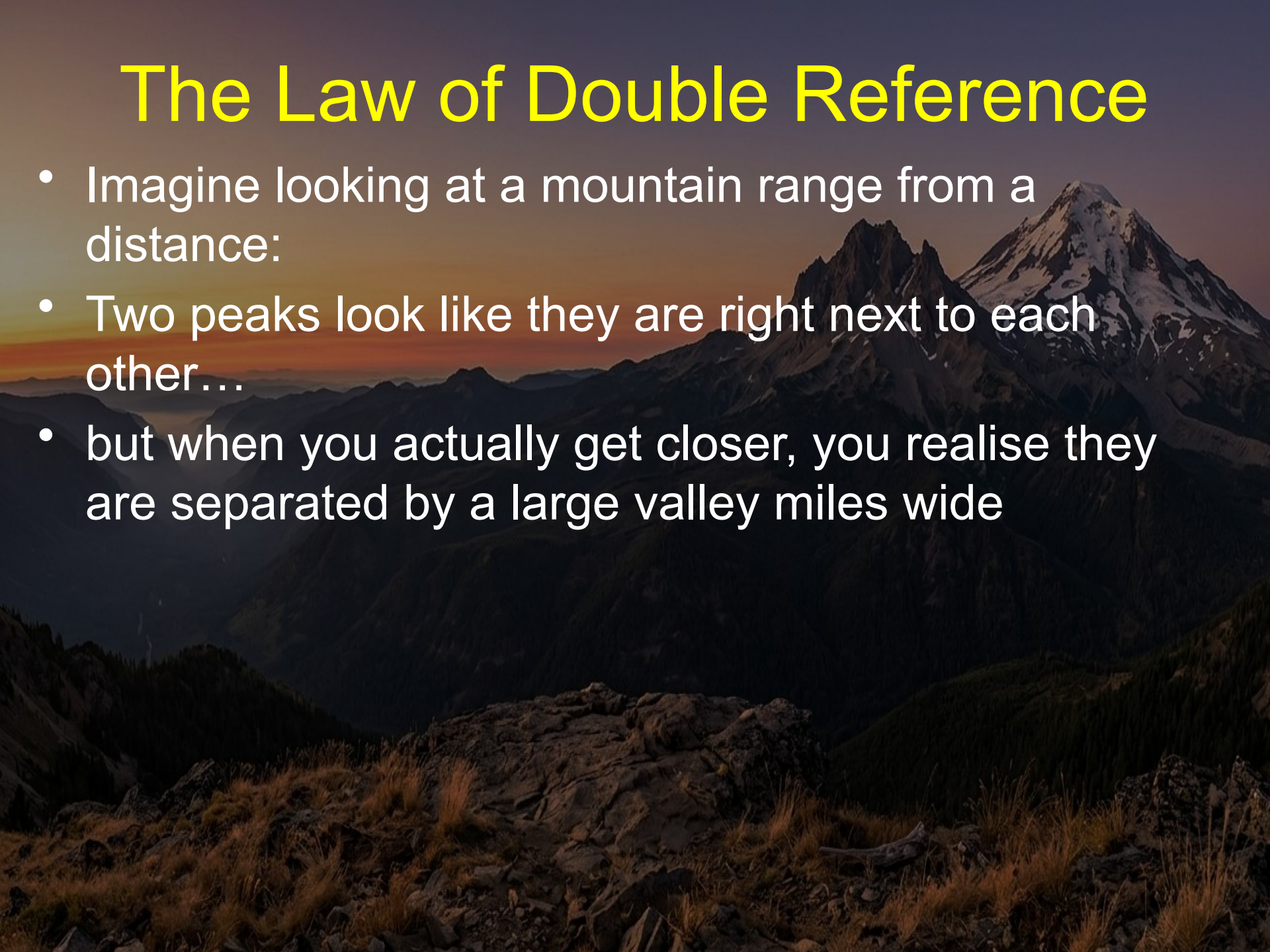


The Law of Double Reference

- Commentators refer to “The Law of Double Reference” which states that a single block or passage of Scripture can speak of two entirely different people, places, or events that are separated by a vast chasm of time, yet they are blended into a single picture with no indication of a time gap.
 - There are 24 of these ‘gaps’ in scripture

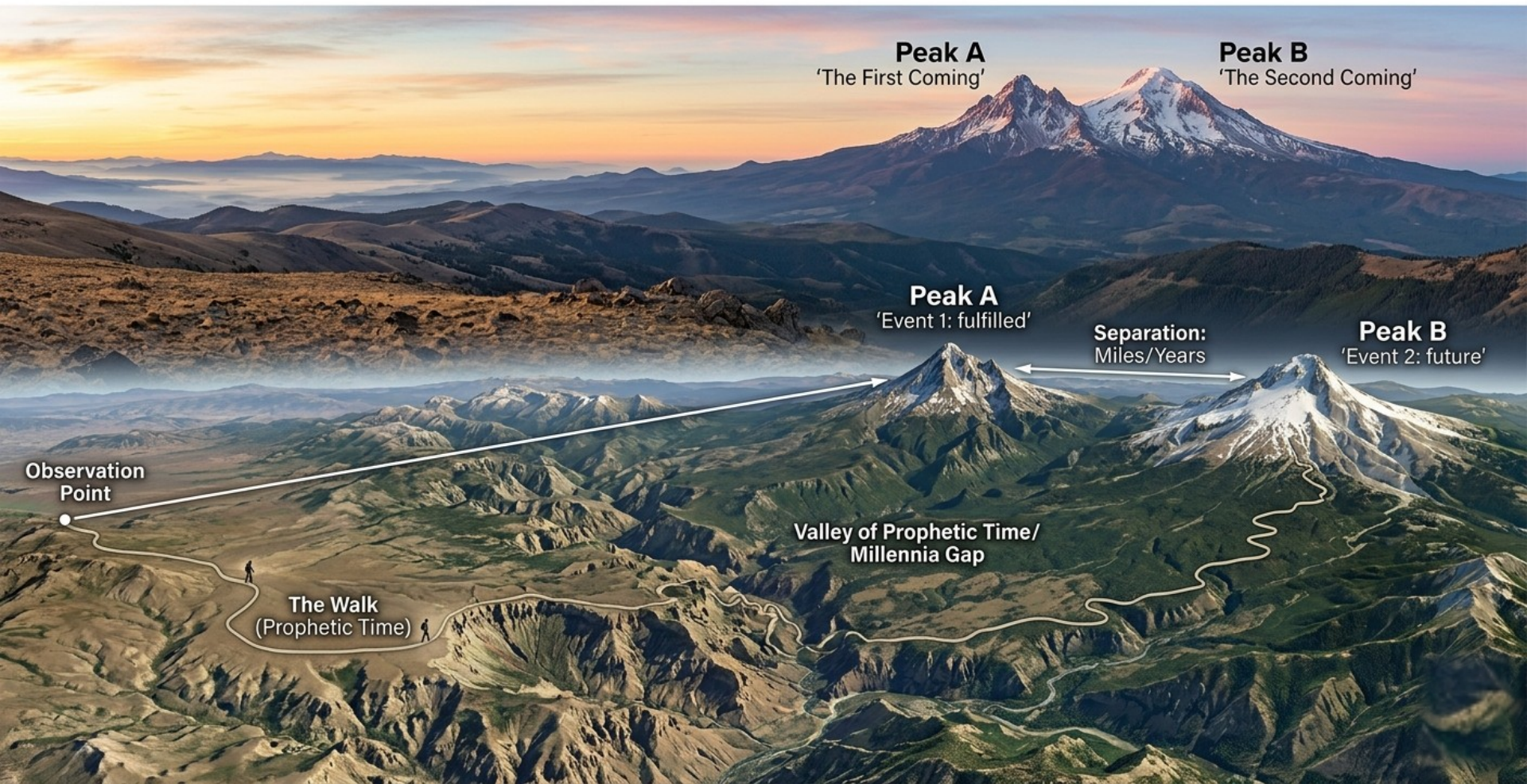
The Law of Double Reference

- Imagine looking at a mountain range from a distance:
- Two peaks look like they are right next to each other...
- but when you actually get closer, you realise they are separated by a large valley miles wide



The Law of Double Reference

DOUBLE REFERENCE: THE STEREOPTICON EFFECT



The Law of Double Reference

- Example: The First and Second Comings **Zech 9:9-10**
- **Verse 9:** *“Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey...”*
 - **Fulfilment:** This applies to Jesus’ First Coming on Palm Sunday.
- **Verse 10:** *“He shall speak peace to the nations; His dominion shall be from sea to sea...”*
 - **Fulfilment:** This applies to His Second Coming and the Millennial Kingdom.

Edom & Prophecy

- The Historical Fulfillment (The Near View)
- Commentators universally agree that Ezekiel 35 had a literal, historic fulfillment.
- Not long after Jerusalem fell, Edom itself was overrun by the Babylonians, and later, the Nabataean Arabs pushed the remaining Edomites out of Mount Seir into southern Judea (an area that became known as Idumea).
- By the time of the Roman Empire and the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70, the Edomites completely vanished as a distinct ethnic group.
 - King Herod was an Idumean

Edom & Prophecy

- The Eschatological Fulfillment (The Far View)
- While Edom as an ethnic people are gone, commentators suggest that Ezekiel 35 also speaks of a global, end-times judgment.
- In prophetic scripture, "Edom" or "Mount Seir" frequently acts as a type or archetype of the persistent, anti-Semitic hatred of the nations surrounding Israel.
- When we consider modern-day geography, Jordan—one of Israel's fiercest enemies—inhabits the land once known as Edom, and like the former inhabitants of the land, they too possess a perpetual hatred of God's people.

Edom & Prophecy

- The Eschatological Fulfillment (The Far View)
- What makes this fascinating (and hugely significant today) is a specific detail that we'll notice in Ezekiel 38-39!
- Ezekiel 38–39 records a coming conflict with Israel and what appears to be a Russian-led, Islamic invasion of Israel.
- When we look closely at the coalition listed in Ezekiel 38 (Magog, Persia, Cush, Put, Gomer, Togarmah), Edom, Moab & Ammon (modern day Jordan) are conspicuously missing!

Edom & Prophecy

- Daniel 11:41 states that when Antichrist invades the Middle East, *"these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon"* (modern-day Jordan).
- Because Jordan escapes the Antichrist's initial grasp, commentators believe that the historic ruins of Edom (such as Petra/Bozrah) will actually serve as the divine hiding place for the Jewish remnant fleeing the Antichrist during the Great Tribulation
 - Note Jesus' warning in Matthew 24 to "flee to the mountains" and Revelation 12's description of the woman being hid in the wilderness).

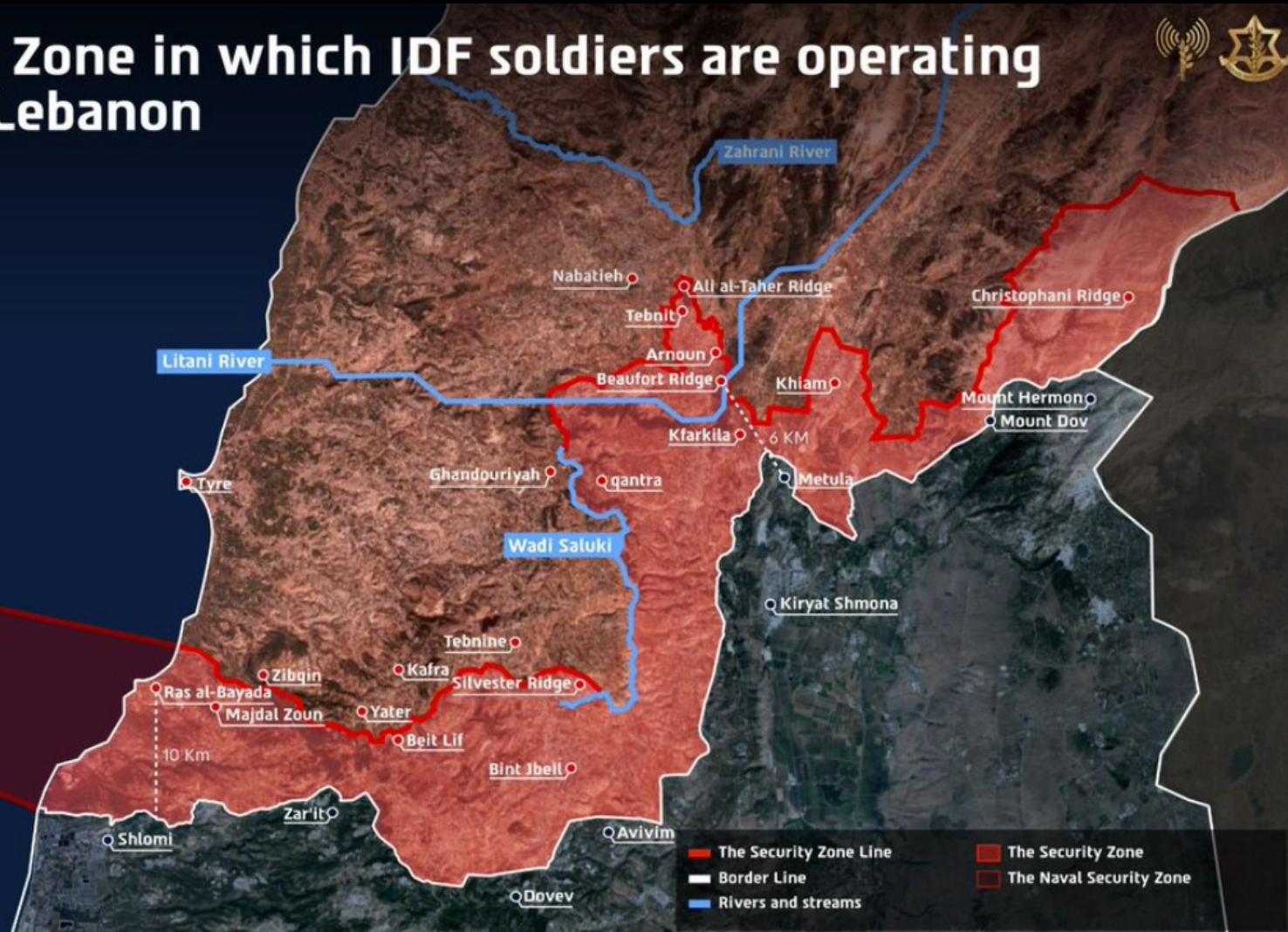


Edom & Prophecy

- If Jordan isn't in Ezekiel 38, how is the "perpetual hatred" of Ezekiel 35 ultimately judged?
- Commentators point to a separate, prior conflict before Ezekiel 38.
 - Many modern expositors point to Psalm 83 or Obadiah to explain this.
 - They argue that Israel's immediate, inner-ring neighbors (including Jordan/Edom, Palestinians, Lebanon, and Syria) will engage in a localised war with Israel before the 'outer-ring' invasion of Ezekiel 38.
- In this 'prior conflict', Israel's military completely neutralises the immediate border threats.
 - This creates the exact conditions required for Ezekiel 38:11 - Israel dwelling in safety, in an "unwalled land" without gates or bars.

Edom & Prophecy

The Security Zone in which IDF soldiers are operating in southern Lebanon



Edom & Prophecy

Hezbollah field commanders eliminated recently



Shaqif Sector commanders eliminated one after another

Eliminated



Commander
Nasser Shaqir

Eliminated



Deputy Commander
Ahmad Sablini

Nasser Unit commanders eliminated one after another

Eliminated



Commander
Haji Salameh

Eliminated



Deputy Commander
Mahdi Bazzi

Eliminated



**Successor to the
Deputy Commander**
Ashraf Salloum

Sector commanders responsible for directing attacks against the State of Israel and IDF soldiers

Eliminated



**Commander of the
Qana Sector**
Musallam Harb

Eliminated



**Commander of the
al-Khiam Sector**
Ali Khayekh

Eliminated



**Commander of the
Jibshit Sector**
Hussein Salami

Eliminated



**Commander of the
Hajir Sector**
Fuad Moussa

Eliminated



**Commander of the
Tyre Sector**
Kamil Younes

Eliminated



**Commander of the
Bint Jbeil Sector**
Ali Abbas

Edom & Prophecy

- While nations like Tyre or ancient Philistia had their specific 'day in court', the spirit of Edom—that ancient, unrelenting hatred toward Israel—perseveres all the way up to the doorstep of the Second Coming!

Prophetic Timeline

- 1) God will allow Israel to neutralize the immediate border threat against them. (Psalm 83)
 - Hamaz / Hezbollah / West Bank / Jordan
 - This is literally what we are seeing happening now!
- 2) Israel will then be able to be 'at peace'
- 3) A Russian led (?) coalition will launch a massive offensive against Israel
 - This is what we are given the details of in Ezekiel 38-39
- 4) However, 'Israel' (God!) will win a decisive victory!
- 5) This will then pave the way for a 7-year peace treaty with Israel and all around her
 - Brokered by Antichrist!
- 6) The covenant will be broken and Israel will be forced to flee to Edom! - Now no longer a threat **because of Ezekiel 35!**
- 7) Antichrist will then lead the armies of the world in a doomed attack on Israel – who will be delivered by Jesus!

THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

Chapter 36

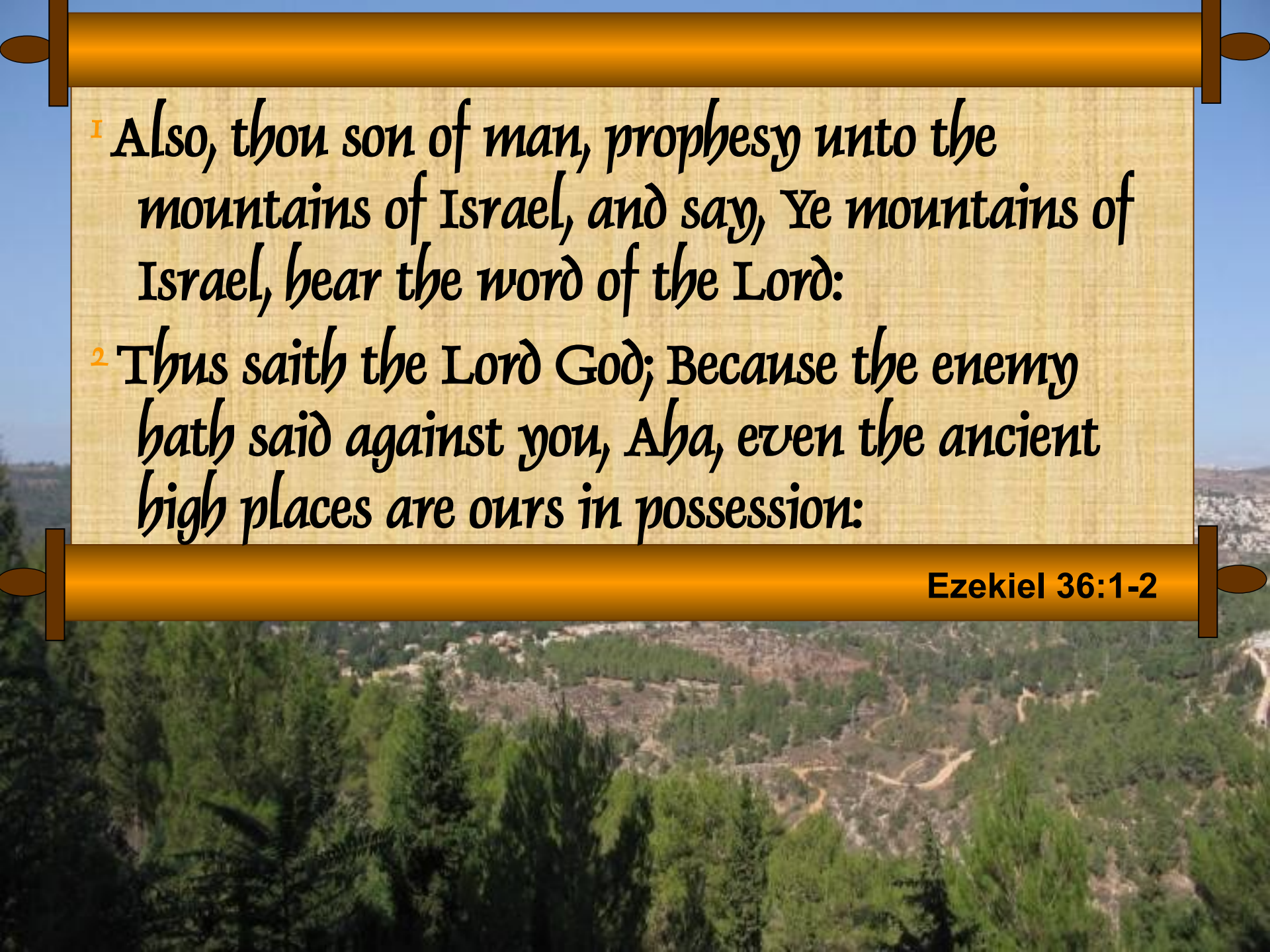
The Mountains of Blessing
(Israel)

The Rebirth of the Land

Verses 1–15

- God speaks to the dirt, rocks, and hills before He speaks to the people.
- He promises that the land will "shoot forth its branches" for His people who are about to return.
- It's a beautiful picture of creation preparing for the return of the covenant people.



- 
- An aerial photograph of a lush, green valley with a winding dirt road. The valley is surrounded by dense evergreen trees, and the background shows a hazy horizon under a clear sky. The image is framed by a yellow border with decorative elements.
- 1 Also, thou son of man, prophesy unto the mountains of Israel, and say, Ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord:*
 - 2 Thus saith the Lord God; Because the enemy hath said against you, Aha, even the ancient high places are ours in possession:*

Ezekiel 36:1-2

3 Therefore prophesy and say, Thus saith the Lord God; Because they have made you desolate, and swallowed you up on every side, that ye might be a possession unto the residue of the heathen, and ye are taken up in the lips of talkers, and are an infamy of the people:

Ezekiel 36:3

4 Therefore, ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord God; Thus saith the Lord God to the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys, to the desolate wastes, and to the cities that are forsaken, which became a prey and derision to the residue of the heathen that are round about;

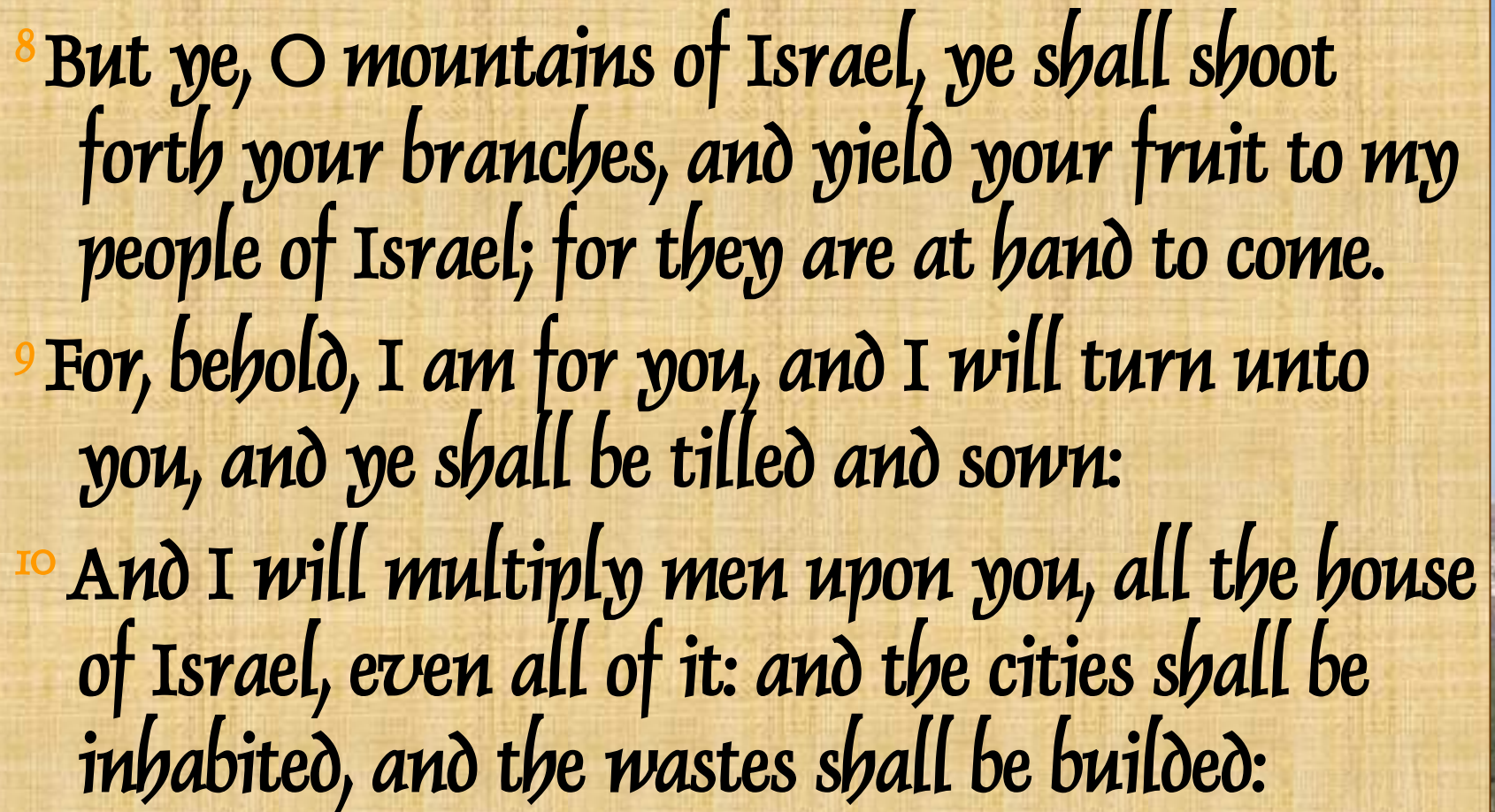
Ezekiel 36:4

5 Therefore thus saith the Lord God; Surely in the fire of my jealousy have I spoken against the residue of the heathen, and against all Idumea, which have appointed my land into their possession with the joy of all their heart, with despiteful minds, to cast it out for a prey.

Ezekiel 36:5

6 Prophecy therefore concerning the land of Israel, and say unto the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I have spoken in my jealousy and in my fury, because ye have borne the shame of the heathen:

7 Therefore thus saith the Lord God; I have lifted up mine hand, Surely the heathen that are about you, they shall bear their shame.

- 
- 8 But ye, O mountains of Israel, ye shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to my people of Israel; for they are at hand to come.
- 9 For, behold, I am for you, and I will turn unto you, and ye shall be tilled and sown:
- 10 And I will multiply men upon you, all the house of Israel, even all of it: and the cities shall be inhabited, and the wastes shall be builded:

11 And I will multiply upon you man and beast; and they shall increase and bring fruit: and I will settle you after your old estates, and will do better unto you than at your beginnings: and ye shall know that I am the Lord.

12 Yea, I will cause men to walk upon you, even my people Israel; and they shall possess thee, and thou shalt be their inheritance, and thou shalt no more henceforth bereave them of men.

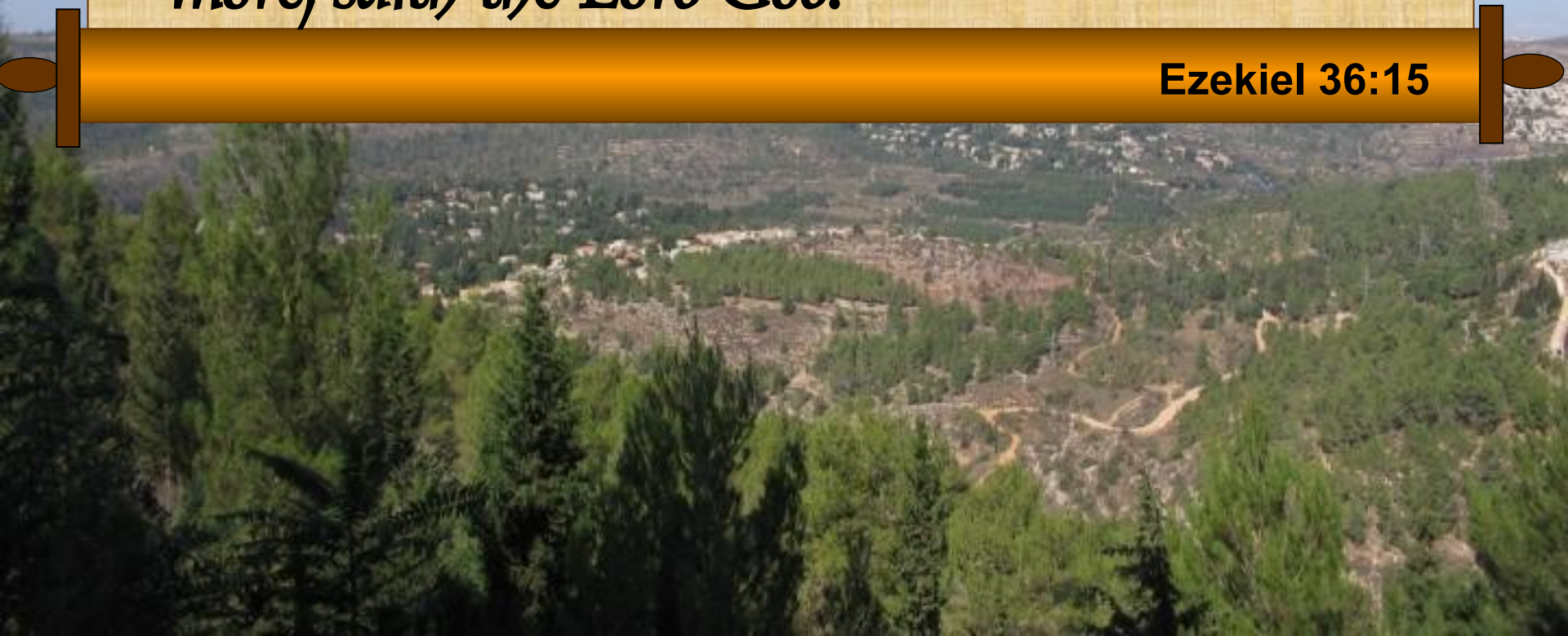
¹³ Thus saith the Lord God; Because they say unto you, Thou land devourrest up men, and hast bereaved thy nations;

¹⁴ Therefore thou shalt devour men no more, neither bereave thy nations any more, saith the Lord God.

Ezekiel 36:13-14

¹⁵ Neither will I cause men to hear in thee the shame of the heathen any more, neither shalt thou bear the reproach of the people any more, neither shalt thou cause thy nations to fall any more, saith the Lord God.

Ezekiel 36:15





The Rebirth of the Land

Verses 1–15

- **Phase 1: The Initial Awakening (1878–1882)**
- **The First Pioneer Settlements:**
 - In **1878**, a group of Jewish pioneers from Jerusalem left the Old City walls to establish **Petah Tikva** (which literally means "*The Opening of Hope*"). They attempted to farm the malarial swamps of the Yarkon basin.
- **The First Aliyah (1882):**
 - Following severe pogroms in Ukraine and Russia, the first major wave of Jewish immigrants arrived. They established *Moshavot* (agricultural villages) like Rosh Pinna in the Galilee and Zikhron Ya'akov on Mount Carmel. For the first time in millennia, Hebrew hands were physically clearing rocks, draining the swamps, and planting vineyards.

The Rebirth of the Land

Verses 1–15

- **Phase 2: The Practical Foundation (1880s–1910s)**
- **Baron Edmond de Rothschild's Intervention:**
 - The early farming attempts almost failed due to disease, harsh conditions, and lack of experience. Baron Rothschild, a wealthy French philanthropist, stepped in to bankroll the communities. He flew in French agronomists, introduced modern agricultural techniques, and established the region's first major wineries.
- **The Invention of the Kibbutz (1910):**
 - Pioneers established Degania near the Sea of Galilee, the very first kibbutz (collective farming community). They began systematically introducing heavy crop rotation, dairy farming, and reforestation.

The Rebirth of the Land

Verses 1–15

- **Phase 3: The "Supernatural" Explosion (Post-1948)**
- While the early decades laid the groundwork, the real agricultural explosion occurred after Israel became a nation in 1948.
 - Facing a massive influx of refugees and limited water, Israeli scientists revolutionised global agriculture by inventing drip irrigation (pioneered by Simcha Blass in the 1960s) and constructing the National Water Carrier.
 - This literally allowed them to farm the sand dunes of the Negev Desert.

The Rebirth of the Land

Verses 1–15

- *In 1867, the world's most famous travel writer declared this land dead. He said even the olive trees were deserting it. But God had the final word. Barely a decade after Twain packed his bags, the dirt woke up.*
- *Today, that exact 'mournful expanse' exports billions of dollars in citrus, dates, and technology to the entire world—just as Ezekiel 36 predicted. The mountains shot forth their branches because the people were coming home.“*

– Taylor & Francis

The Vindication of God's Name

Verses 16–23

- God explicitly states that He isn't restoring Israel because they deserve it; He is doing it for His "holy name's sake."
- When Israel was scattered, the surrounding nations presumed God was weak and unable to keep His promises
- The restoration is God proving His ultimate sovereignty to the world.

- 16** Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,
- 17** Son of man, when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own way and by their doings: their way was before me as the uncleanness of a removed woman.
- 18** Wherefore I poured my fury upon them for the blood that they had shed upon the land, and for their idols wherewith they had polluted it:

¹⁹ And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the countries: according to their way and according to their doings I judged them.

²⁰ And when they entered unto the heathen, whither they went, they profaned my holy name, when they said to them, These are the people of the Lord, and are gone forth out of his land.

Ezekiel 36:19-20

- As warned and foretold in Deuteronomy 28!

²¹ But I had pity for mine holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen, whither they went.

²² Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord God; **I do not this for your sakes,** O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went.

²³ And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the Lord, saith the Lord God, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.

Ezekiel 36:23

- God is going to undo the damage done by Israel's false representation on Him
 - The church are called to be ambassadors also...
 - How are you doing with that?

The New Covenant Promise

Verses 24–28

- God promises a three-fold spiritual transformation:
- Cleansing:
 - "I will sprinkle clean water on you..."
- Regeneration:
 - "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone... and give you a heart of flesh."
- Indwelling:
 - "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes."

24 For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.

25 **Then** will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

Ezekiel 36:24-25

- Don't miss the magnitude of these verses!
- v25 is a prerequisite to understanding Ch37!
- Israel will be regathered to their land first...
- Then (after that) their eyes will be opened spiritually

26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Ezekiel 36:26-27

²⁸ And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Ezekiel 36:28

- The promises to Abraham, Issac, Jacob, David etc will be fulfilled!
- Note the parallel with Rev 21:7:
 - *“He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son”*

The Reversal of Shame

Verses 29–32

- God declares that when He cleanses the people, the ruined cities will be inhabited and the desolate land will be tilled.
- Passersby who used to look at Israel as a wasteland will say: "This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden."
- The ultimate goal of God's restoration is to take what sin made a wasteland and return it to a state of abundance.
- It serves as a direct, physical refutation of Mount Seir's boast in Chapter 35.
- Edom wanted to take the land for themselves, but God turns it into a paradise for His covenant people.

- 29 I will also save you from all your uncleannesses: and I will call for the corn, and will increase it, and lay no famine upon you.*
- 30 And I will multiply the fruit of the tree, and the increase of the field, that ye shall receive no more reproach of famine among the heathen.*

Ezekiel 36:29-30

31 Then shall ye remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall lothe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations.

32 Not for your sakes do I this, saith the Lord God, be it known unto you: be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel.

33 Thus saith the Lord God; In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all your iniquities I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded.

34 And the desolate land shall be tilled, whereas it lay desolate in the sight of all that passed by.

Ezekiel 36:33-34

35 And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are become fenced, and are inhabited.

36 Then the heathen that are left round about you shall know that I the Lord build the ruined places, and plant that that was desolate: I the Lord have spoken it, and I will do it.

Ezekiel 36:35-36

37 Thus saith the Lord God; I will yet for this be enquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock.

38 As the holy flock, as the flock of Jerusalem in her solemn feasts; so shall the waste cities be filled with flocks of men: and they shall know that I am the Lord.

Ezekiel 36:37-38

Jordan River – North of Galilee



Hills between Nazareth & Galilee



More fruit – Bananas



Sea of Galilee



Sea of Galilee



‘Fruitful Field’ – Isaiah 32:15





THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

To be continued..

Calvary Leatherhead

(aka Disciples Church)

A group of people, mostly young adults, are seen from behind, standing in a line with their arms around each other's shoulders. They are outdoors, surrounded by green trees. In the background, a large, stylized sign reads 'SUMMER CAMP' in orange and teal letters with white outlines. The scene is bright and festive.

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THE JUDGMENT ON EDOM
Ch35

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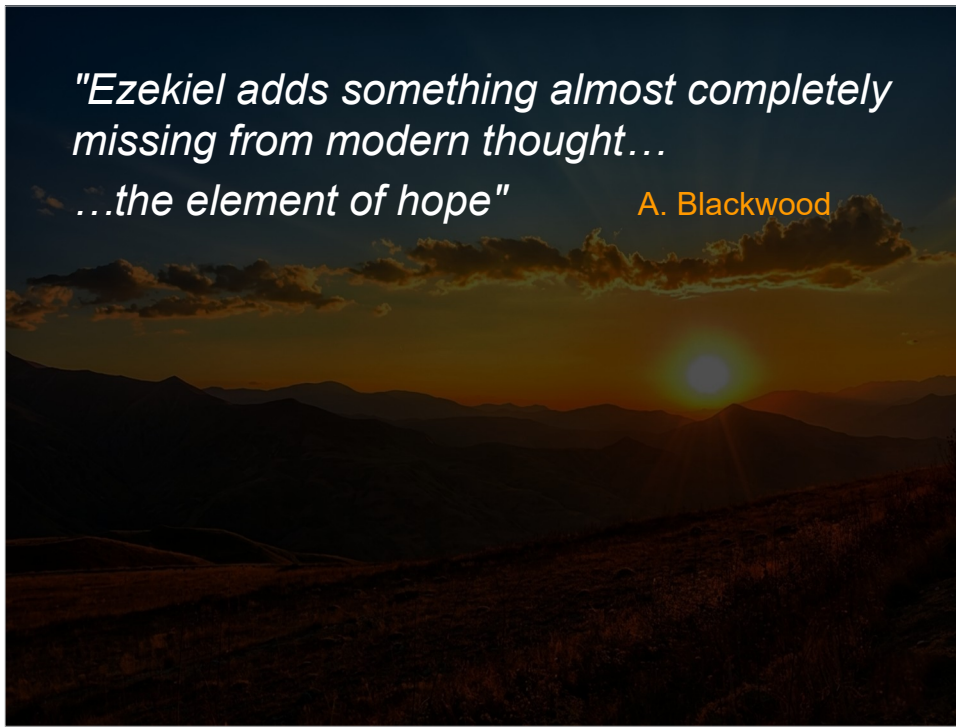
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Chapter 35 & 36

The Tale Of Two Mountains

The Tale Of Two Mountains

- Chapter 35: The Mountain of Desolation
 - This is God's decree against Mount Seir (Edom).
 - Because of their "perpetual hatred" and their desire to take Israel's land for themselves, God promises to make Mount Seir a perpetual desolation. Their land is stripped of life because of its hostility.
- Chapter 36: The Mountains of Blessing
 - God immediately turns around and addresses the Mountains of Israel.
 - In direct contrast to Edom, God tells the physical land of Israel to get ready because the crops are going to flourish, the ruins will be rebuilt, and the cities will be repopulated.

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THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

Chapter 35

The Mountain of Desolation
(Edom)

Chapter 35

- Chapter 34 focused on the internal restoration and shepherding of Israel.
- The false shepherds were removed so the True Shepherd could come
- Chapter 35 now shifts the focus externally to the removal of Israel's historic, hostile enemies
 - specifically seen by targeting Mount Seir (Edom).

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Chapter 35

- Ezekiel 35 acts as the crucial, defensive flip side to the glorious restoration promised to Israel in Chapter 34
- Before God's scattered flock can safely inhabit their promised land under the Covenant of Peace, their predatory borders must be permanently secured.
- By launching a fierce, unrelenting oracle of doom against Mount Seir—the ancestral home of the Edomites—God addresses the "perpetual hatred" of Israel's closest relatives who treacherously ambushed them during the Babylonian invasion and arrogantly sought to annex the vacated promised land.

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Chapter 35

- In the grand narrative of Ezekiel, this chapter serves as a profound warning that God fiercely protects His covenant inheritance, explicitly reminding the surrounding empires that even when Israel is under divine discipline, the land is never up for grabs because "the LORD was there."
- Ultimately, the total desolation of Edom prepares the physical geography for Israel's environmental renewal in Chapter 36, ensuring that the restored kingdom will never again be threatened by the malicious joy of its neighbors.

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Chapter 35

- Why is this judgment on Edom not included in Chapters 25–32?
- The Holy Spirit has deliberately chosen to place Edom's judgment in Chapter 35
 - ...completely separate from the judgments against the nations
- This is a profound remez (a hidden prophetic hint)
 - a much larger, global picture is at play!
- Nestled right in the middle of these chapters that outline the prophetic future of Israel (Ch33-39) sits Chapter 35 and the judgment on Edom.

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Chapter 35

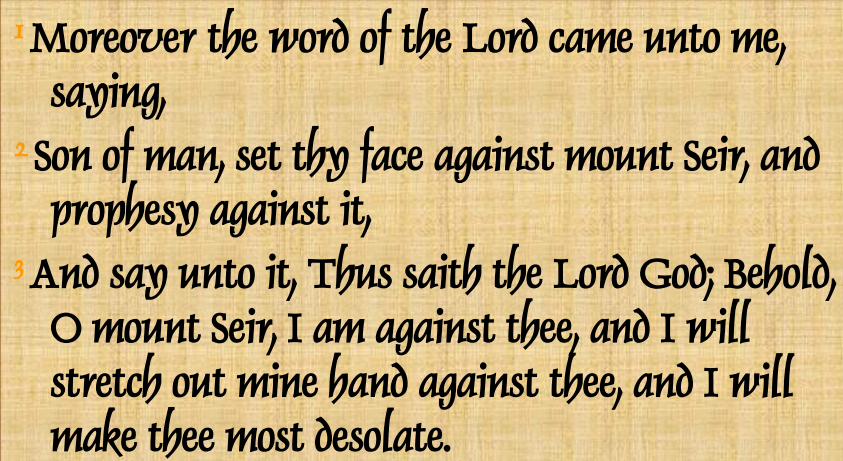
- Ezekiel is telling us that Israel cannot enjoy the "Covenant of Peace" (Chapter 34) or cultivate a revived land (Chapter 36) if their immediate borders are constantly plagued by the "perpetual hatred" of their closest neighbour.
- Furthermore, Ezekiel 38-39 cannot happen until the events of this chapter take place!

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Verses 1-4

- **The Prophetic Decree Against Mount Seir**
- God commands Ezekiel to set his face against Mount Seir (Edom) and prophesy its total destruction.
- The Sovereign LORD declares Himself an enemy of Edom, promising to stretch out His hand, make the land a desolate waste, and destroy its cities.
 - See Romans 9:13

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- 
- ¹ Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,
 - ² Son of man, set thy face against mount Seir, and prophesy against it,
 - ³ And say unto it, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O mount Seir, I am against thee, and I will stretch out mine hand against thee, and I will make thee most desolate.

Ezekiel 35:1-3

A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem

⁴ I will lay thy cities waste, and thou shalt be desolate, and thou shalt know that I am the Lord.

Ezekiel 35:4

A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem

Verses 5-9

- **The Indictment: Perpetual Hatred and Bloodguilt**
- The core accusation against Edom is their "perpetual hatred" (ancient animosity tracing back to Esau and Jacob) and their betrayal of Israel.
- Edom is condemned for shedding the blood of the Israelites by the power of the sword during the time of Israel's calamity (the Babylonian siege).
- God pronounces a judgment of poetic justice: since Edom did not hate bloodshed, blood will pursue them, and the mountain will be filled with the slain.

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⁵ Because thou hast had a perpetual hatred, and hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time that their iniquity had an end:

Ezekiel 35:5

**A year or so after the destruction of
Jerusalem**

- ⁶ Therefore, as I live, saith the Lord God, I will prepare thee unto blood, and blood shall pursue thee: since thou hast not hated blood, even blood shall pursue thee.
- ⁷ Thus will I make mount Seir most desolate, and cut off from it him that passeth out and him that returneth.

Ezekiel 35:6-7

A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem

⁸ And I will fill his mountains with his slain men: in thy hills, and in thy valleys, and in all thy rivers, shall they fall that are slain with the sword.

⁹ I will make thee perpetual desolations, and thy cities shall not return: and ye shall know that I am the Lord.

Ezekiel 35:8-9

A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem

Verses 10-13

- **The Arrogance of Land-Grabbing**
- Edom is condemned for boasting, "These two nations and these two countries shall be mine" (referring to Israel and Judah), intending to take over the empty land.
- Edom completely ignored a vital reality: "whereas the LORD was there."
- They disregarded God's covenant ownership of the land!
- God vows to judge Edom according to the exact anger, envy, and hatred they showed toward His people.

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10 Because thou hast said, These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess it; whereas the Lord was there:

11 Therefore, as I live, saith the Lord God, I will even do according to thine anger, and according to thine envy which thou hast used out of thy hatred against them; and I will make myself known among them, when I have judged thee.

Ezekiel 35:10-11

A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem

- ¹² And thou shalt know that I am the Lord, and that I have heard all thy blasphemies which thou hast spoken against the mountains of Israel, saying, They are laid desolate, they are given us to consume.
- ¹³ Thus with your mouth ye have boasted against me, and have multiplied your words against me: I have heard them.

Ezekiel 35:12-13

A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem

Verses 14-15

- **Joyful Desolation and Global Vindication**
- God declares that while the whole earth rejoices in restoration, Edom will be made desolate.
- Because Edom rejoiced over the inheritance of the house of Israel when it was desolate, God will do the same to them.
- The chapter concludes with the ultimate purpose of this judgment: "Then they shall know that I am the LORD."

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¹⁴ Thus saith the Lord God; When the whole earth rejoiceth, I will make thee desolate.

¹⁵ As thou didst rejoice at the inheritance of the house of Israel, because it was desolate, so will I do unto thee: thou shalt be desolate, O mount Seir, and all Idumea, even all of it: and they shall know that I am the Lord.

Ezekiel 35:13-15

A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem

Edom & Prophecy

- The big question is, has this prophecy regarding Edom been fulfilled?
- Has Edom been destroyed?
- Are Israel's borders safe?
- What is the prophetic significance of Israel's current war with Hamas and Hezbollah?

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The Law of Double Reference

- Commentators refer to “The Law of Double Reference” which states that a single block or passage of Scripture can speak of two entirely different people, places, **or events** that are separated by a vast chasm of time, yet they are blended into a single picture with no indication of a time gap.
 - There are 24 of these ‘gaps’ in scripture

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The Law of Double Reference

- Imagine looking at a mountain range from a distance:
- Two peaks look like they are right next to each other...
- but when you actually get closer, you realise they are separated by a large valley miles wide

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The Law of Double Reference

DOUBLE REFERENCE: THE STEREOPTICON EFFECT



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The Law of Double Reference

- Example: The First and Second Comings **Zech 9:9-10**
- **Verse 9:** *“Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey...”*
 - **Fulfilment:** This applies to Jesus’ First Coming on Palm Sunday.
- **Verse 10:** *“He shall speak peace to the nations; His dominion shall be from sea to sea...”*
 - **Fulfilment:** This applies to His Second Coming and the Millennial Kingdom.

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Edom & Prophecy

- The Historical Fulfillment (The Near View)
- Commentators universally agree that Ezekiel 35 had a literal, historic fulfillment.
- Not long after Jerusalem fell, Edom itself was overrun by the Babylonians, and later, the Nabataean Arabs pushed the remaining Edomites out of Mount Seir into southern Judea (an area that became known as Idumea).
- By the time of the Roman Empire and the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70, the Edomites completely vanished as a distinct ethnic group.
 - King Herod was an Idumean

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Edom & Prophecy

- The Eschatological Fulfillment (The Far View)
- While Edom as an ethnic people are gone, commentators suggest that Ezekiel 35 also speaks of a global, end-times judgment.
- In prophetic scripture, "Edom" or "Mount Seir" frequently acts as a type or archetype of the persistent, anti-Semitic hatred of the nations surrounding Israel.
- When we consider modern-day geography, Jordan—one of Israel's fiercest enemies—inhabits the land once known as Edom, and like the former inhabitants of the land, they too possess a perpetual hatred of God's people.

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Edom & Prophecy

- The Eschatological Fulfillment (The Far View)
- What makes this fascinating (and hugely significant today) is a specific detail that we'll notice in Ezekiel 38-39!
- Ezekiel 38–39 records a coming conflict with Israel and what appears to be a Russian-led, Islamic invasion of Israel.
- When we look closely at the coalition listed in Ezekiel 38 (Magog, Persia, Cush, Put, Gomer, Togarmah), Edom, Moab & Ammon (modern day Jordan) are conspicuously missing!

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Edom & Prophecy

- Daniel 11:41 states that when Antichrist invades the Middle East, *"these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon"* (modern-day Jordan).
- Because Jordan escapes the Antichrist's initial grasp, commentators believe that the historic ruins of Edom (such as Petra/Bozrah) will actually serve as the divine hiding place for the Jewish remnant fleeing the Antichrist during the Great Tribulation
 - Note Jesus' warning in Matthew 24 to "flee to the mountains" and Revelation 12's description of the woman being hid in the wilderness).

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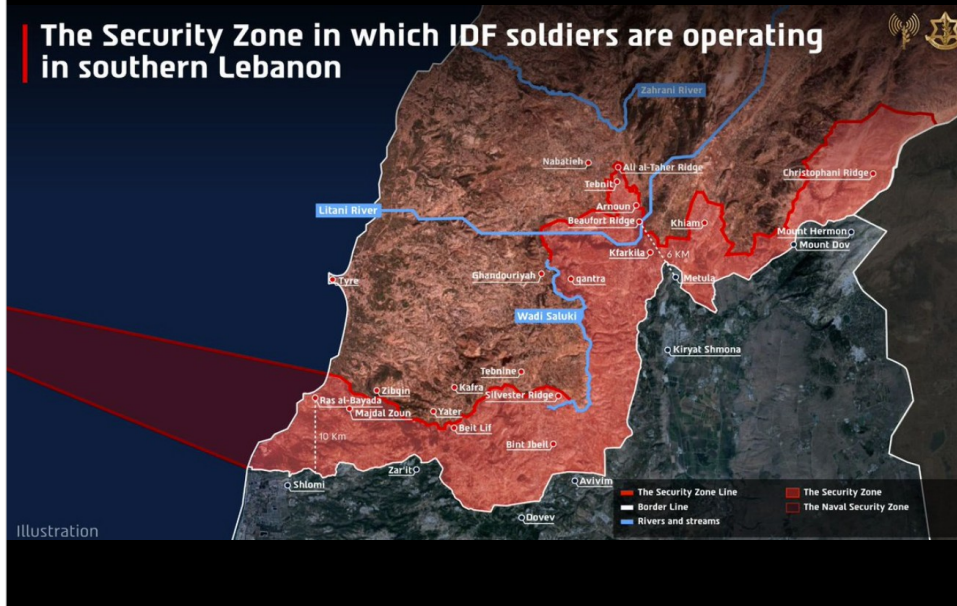
Edom & Prophecy

- If Jordan isn't in Ezekiel 38, how is the "perpetual hatred" of Ezekiel 35 ultimately judged?
- Commentators point to a separate, prior conflict before Ezekiel 38.
 - Many modern expositors point to Psalm 83 or Obadiah to explain this.
 - They argue that Israel's immediate, inner-ring neighbors (including Jordan/Edom, Palestinians, Lebanon, and Syria) will engage in a localised war with Israel before the 'outer-ring' invasion of Ezekiel 38.
- In this 'prior conflict', Israel's military completely neutralises the immediate border threats.
 - This creates the exact conditions required for Ezekiel 38:11 - Israel dwelling in safety, in an "unwalled land" without gates or bars.

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Edom & Prophecy

The Security Zone in which IDF soldiers are operating in southern Lebanon



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Edom & Prophecy

Hezbollah field commanders eliminated recently



Shaqif Sector commanders eliminated one after another

 	 
Commander Nasser Shaqir	Deputy Commander Ahmad Sablini

Nasser Unit commanders eliminated one after another

 	 	 
Commander Hajj Salameh	Deputy Commander Mahdi Bazzi	Successor to the Deputy Commander Ashraf Salloum

Sector commanders responsible for directing attacks against the State of Israel and IDF soldiers

 	 	 	 	 	 
Commander of the Dana Sector Musallam Harb	Commander of the al-Khiyam Sector Ali Khayekh	Commander of the Jibshit Sector Hussein Salami	Commander of the Hajir Sector Fuad Moussa	Commander of the Tyre Sector Kamil Younes	Commander of the Bint Jbeil Sector Ali Abbas

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Edom & Prophecy

- While nations like Tyre or ancient Philistia had their specific 'day in court', the spirit of Edom—that ancient, unrelenting hatred toward Israel—perseveres all the way up to the doorstep of the Second Coming!

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Prophetic Timeline

- 1) God will allow Israel to neutralize the immediate border threat against them. (Psalm 83)
 - Hamaz / Hezbollah / West Bank / Jordan
 - This is literally what we are seeing happening now!
- 2) Israel will then be able to be 'at peace'
- 3) A Russian led (?) coalition will launch a massive offensive against Israel
 - This is what we are given the details of in Ezekiel 38-39
- 4) However, 'Israel' (God!) will win a decisive victory!
- 5) This will then pave the way for a 7-year peace treaty with Israel and all around her
 - Brokered by Antichrist!
- 6) The covenant will be broken and Israel will be forced to flee to Edom! - Now no longer a threat because of Ezekiel 35!
- 7) Antichrist will then lead the armies of the world in a doomed attack on Israel – who will be delivered by Jesus!

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THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

Chapter 36

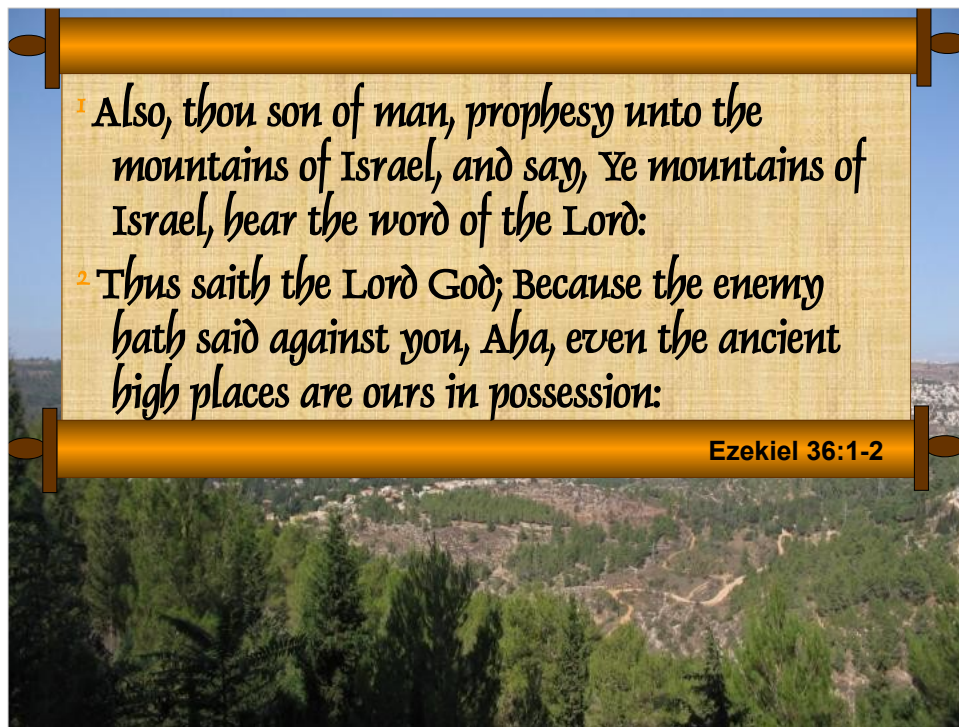
The Mountains of Blessing
(Israel)

The Rebirth of the Land

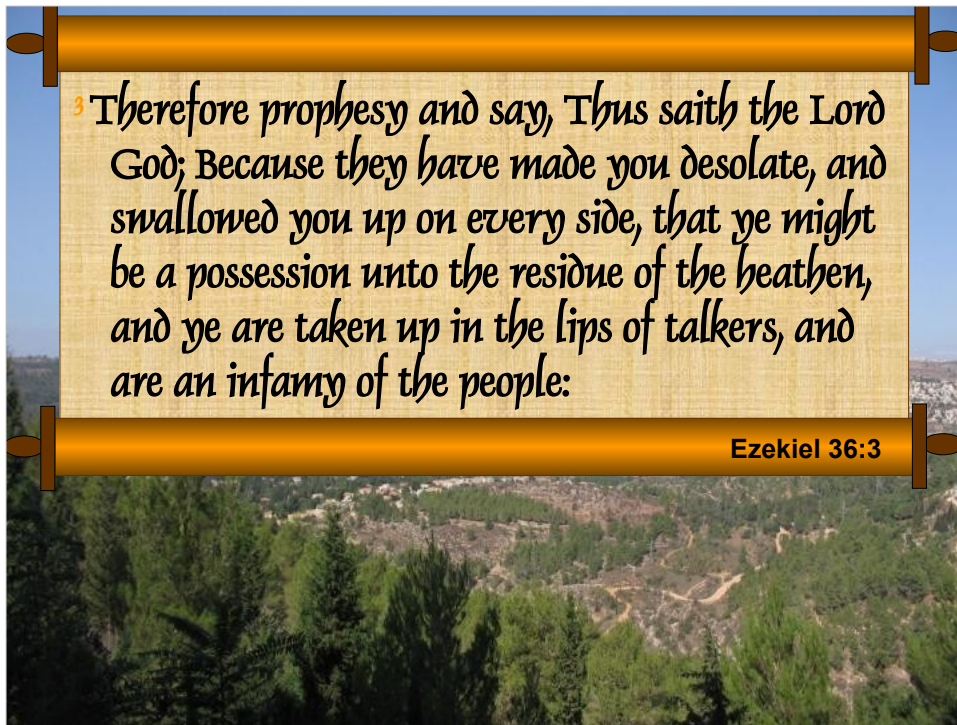
Verses 1–15

- God speaks to the dirt, rocks, and hills before He speaks to the people.
- He promises that the land will "shoot forth its branches" for His people who are about to return.
- It's a beautiful picture of creation preparing for the return of the covenant people.

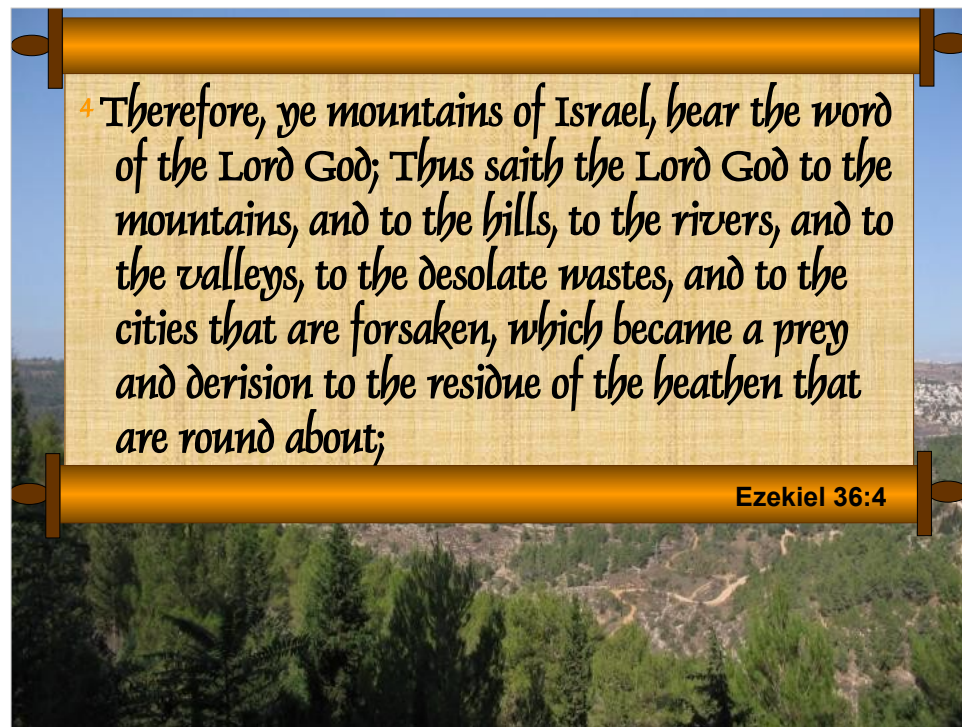
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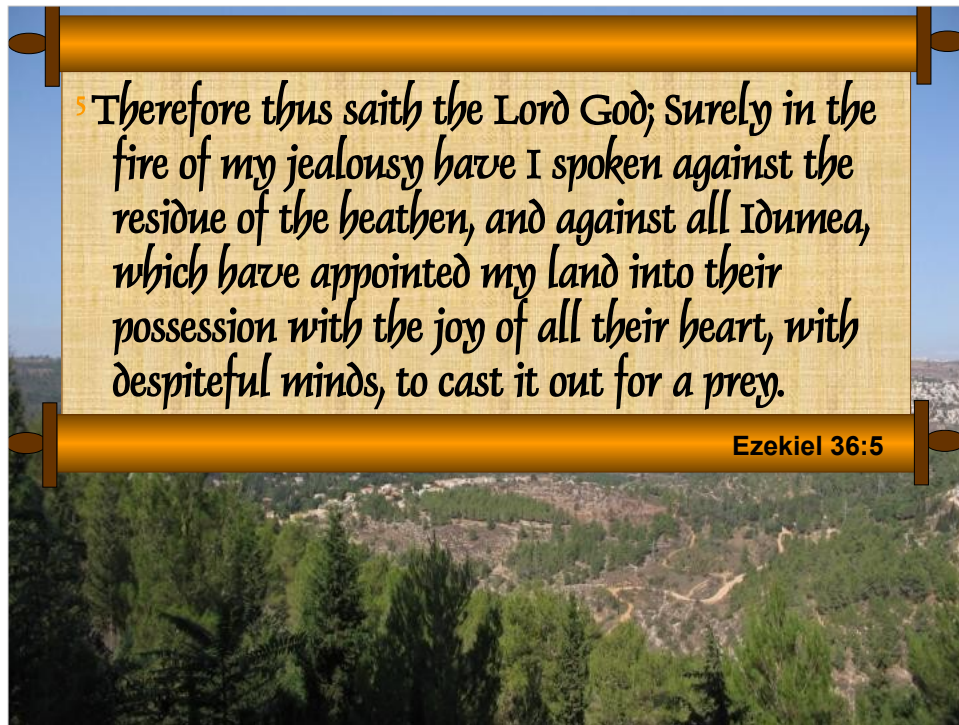
A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem



A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem



A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem



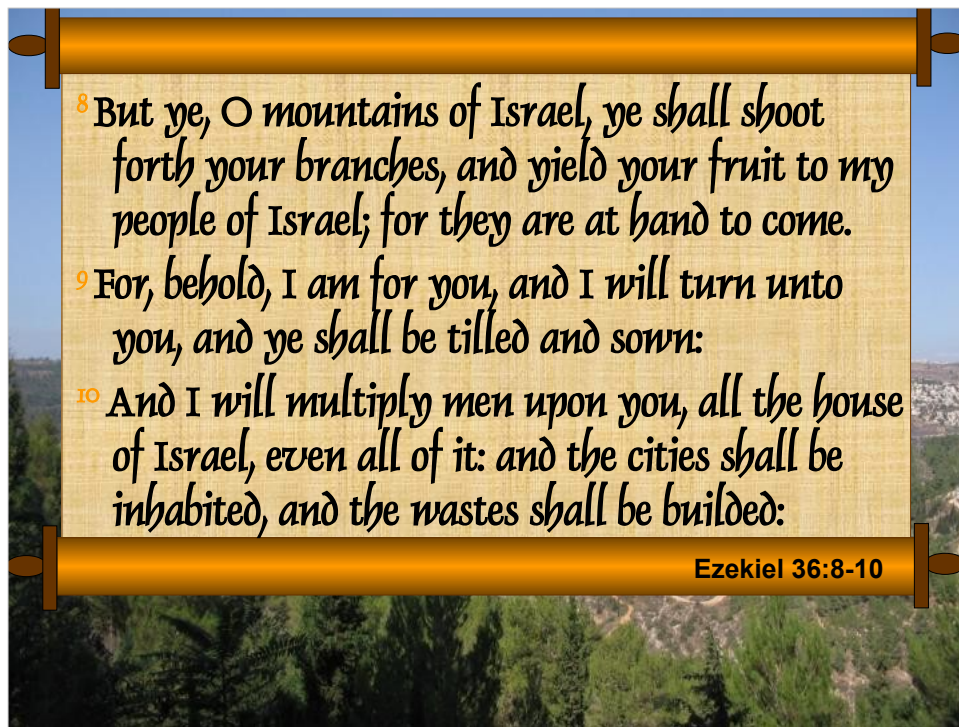
A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem

⁶ Prophecy therefore concerning the land of Israel, and say unto the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I have spoken in my jealousy and in my fury, because ye have borne the shame of the heathen:

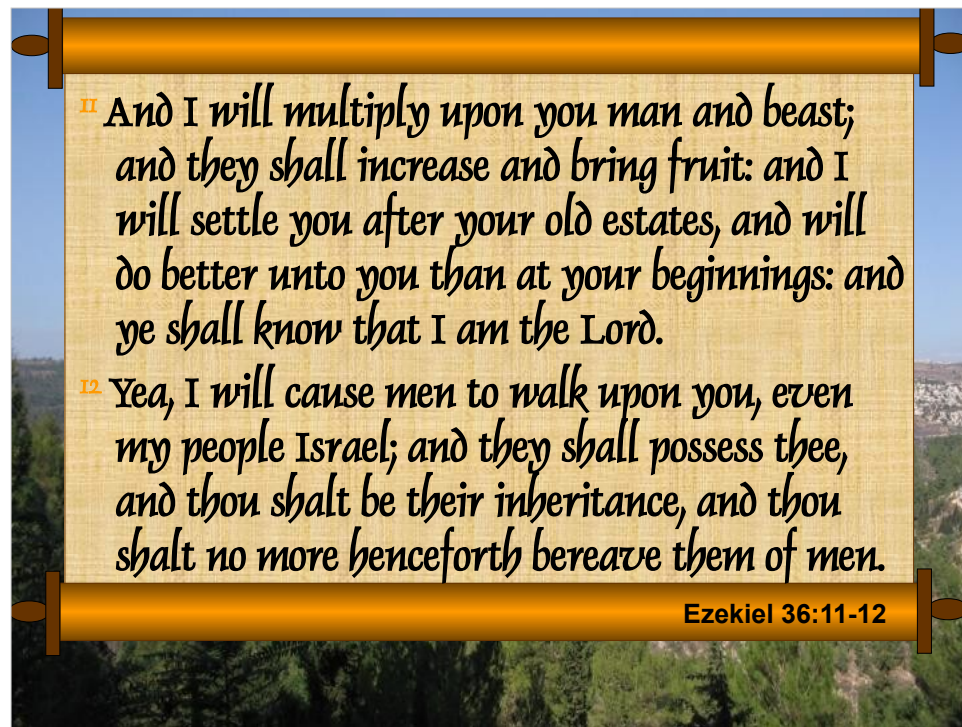
⁷ Therefore thus saith the Lord God; I have lifted up mine hand, Surely the heathen that are about you, they shall bear their shame.

Ezekiel 36:6-7

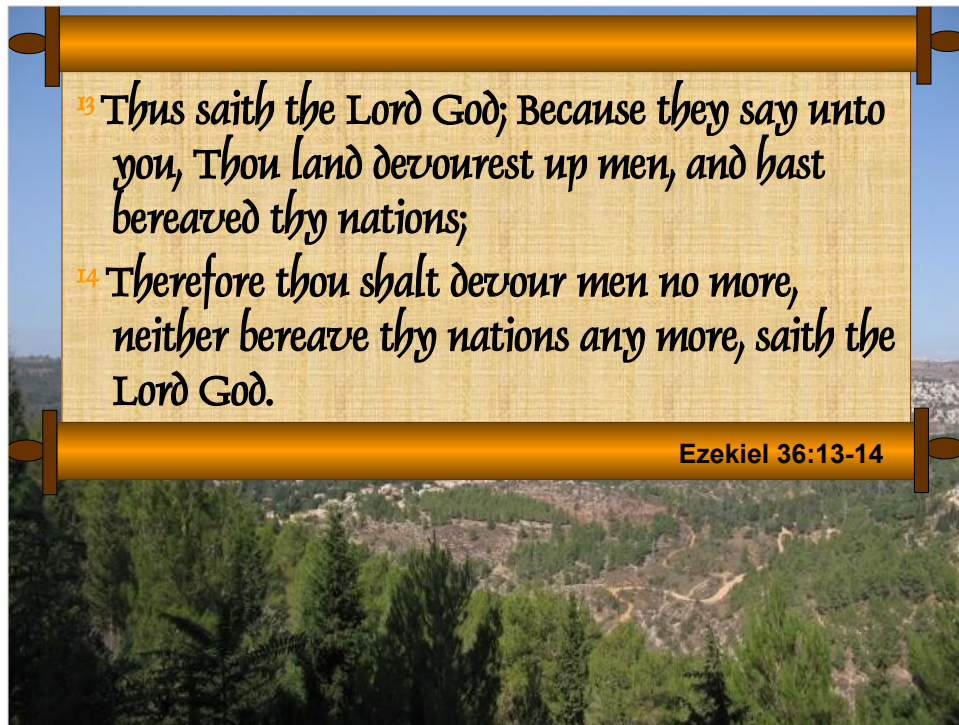
A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem



**A year or so after the destruction of
Jerusalem**



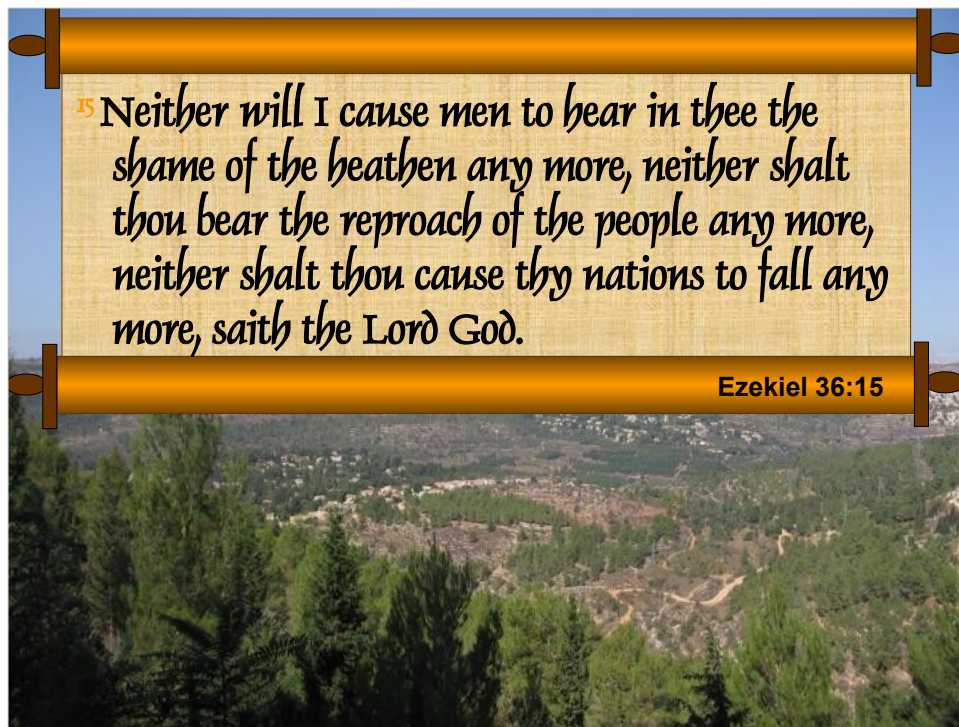
A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem



¹³ Thus saith the Lord God; Because they say unto you, Thou land devourest up men, and hast bereaved thy nations;
¹⁴ Therefore thou shalt devour men no more, neither bereave thy nations any more, saith the Lord God.

Ezekiel 36:13-14

**A year or so after the destruction of
Jerusalem**



A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem



View from Yad Vashem

The Rebirth of the Land

Verses 1–15

- **Phase 1: The Initial Awakening (1878–1882)**
- **The First Pioneer Settlements:**
 - In **1878**, a group of Jewish pioneers from Jerusalem left the Old City walls to establish **Petah Tikva** (which literally means "*The Opening of Hope*"). They attempted to farm the malarial swamps of the Yarkon basin.
- **The First Aliyah (1882):**
 - Following severe pogroms in Ukraine and Russia, the first major wave of Jewish immigrants arrived. They established *Moshavot* (agricultural villages) like Rosh Pinna in the Galilee and Zikhron Ya'akov on Mount Carmel. For the first time in millennia, Hebrew hands were physically clearing rocks, draining the swamps, and planting vineyards.

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The Rebirth of the Land

Verses 1–15

- **Phase 2: The Practical Foundation (1880s–1910s)**
- **Baron Edmond de Rothschild's Intervention:**
 - The early farming attempts almost failed due to disease, harsh conditions, and lack of experience. Baron Rothschild, a wealthy French philanthropist, stepped in to bankroll the communities. He flew in French agronomists, introduced modern agricultural techniques, and established the region's first major wineries.
- **The Invention of the Kibbutz (1910):**
 - Pioneers established Degania near the Sea of Galilee, the very first kibbutz (collective farming community). They began systematically introducing heavy crop rotation, dairy farming, and reforestation.

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The Rebirth of the Land

Verses 1–15

- **Phase 3: The "Supernatural" Explosion (Post-1948)**
- While the early decades laid the groundwork, the real agricultural explosion occurred after Israel became a nation in 1948.
 - Facing a massive influx of refugees and limited water, Israeli scientists revolutionised global agriculture by inventing drip irrigation (pioneered by Simcha Blass in the 1960s) and constructing the National Water Carrier.
 - This literally allowed them to farm the sand dunes of the Negev Desert.

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The Rebirth of the Land

Verses 1–15

- *In 1867, the world's most famous travel writer declared this land dead. He said even the olive trees were deserting it. But God had the final word. Barely a decade after Twain packed his bags, the dirt woke up.*
- *Today, that exact 'mournful expanse' exports billions of dollars in citrus, dates, and technology to the entire world—just as Ezekiel 36 predicted. The mountains shot forth their branches because the people were coming home.*

– Taylor & Francis

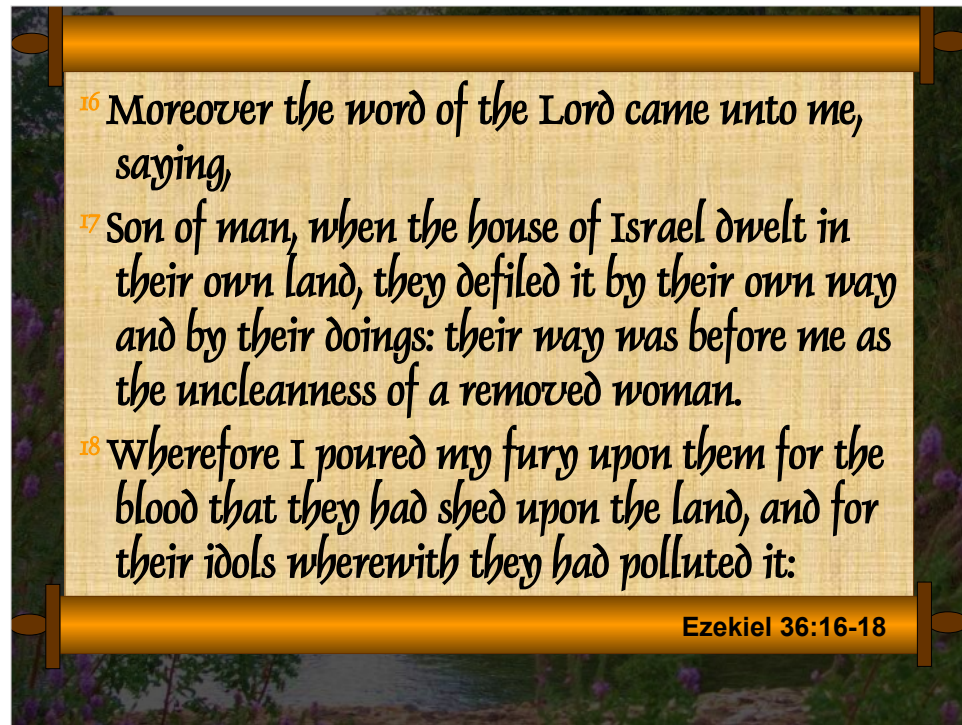
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The Vindication of God's Name

Verses 16–23

- God explicitly states that He isn't restoring Israel because they deserve it; He is doing it for His "holy name's sake."
- When Israel was scattered, the surrounding nations presumed God was weak and unable to keep His promises
- The restoration is God proving His ultimate sovereignty to the world.

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A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem

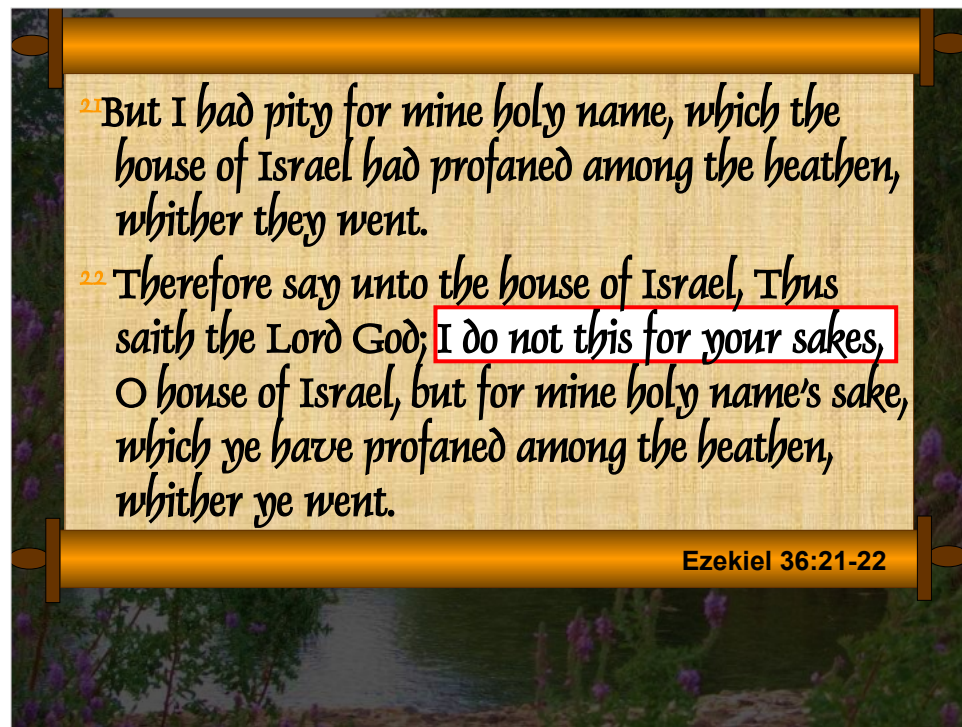
¹⁹ And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the countries: according to their way and according to their doings I judged them.

²⁰ And when they entered unto the heathen, whither they went, they profaned my holy name, when they said to them, These are the people of the Lord, and are gone forth out of his land.

Ezekiel 36:19-20

- As warned and foretold in Deuteronomy 28!

A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem



A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem

²³ And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the Lord, saith the Lord God, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.

Ezekiel 36:23

- God is going to undo the damage done by Israel's false representation on Him
 - The church are called to be ambassadors also...
 - How are you doing with that?

A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem

The New Covenant Promise

Verses 24–28

- God promises a three-fold spiritual transformation:
- Cleansing:
 - "I will sprinkle clean water on you..."
- Regeneration:
 - "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone... and give you a heart of flesh."
- Indwelling:
 - "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes."

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²⁴ For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.

²⁵ Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.


Ezekiel 36:24-25

- Don't miss the magnitude of these verses!
- v25 is a prerequisite to understanding Ch37!
- Israel will be regathered to their land first...
- Then (after that) their eyes will be opened spiritually

²⁶ A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

²⁷ And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Ezekiel 36:26-27



²⁸ And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Ezekiel 36:28

- The promises to Abraham, Issac, Jacob, David etc will be fulfilled!
- Note the parallel with Rev 21:7:
 - *“He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son”*

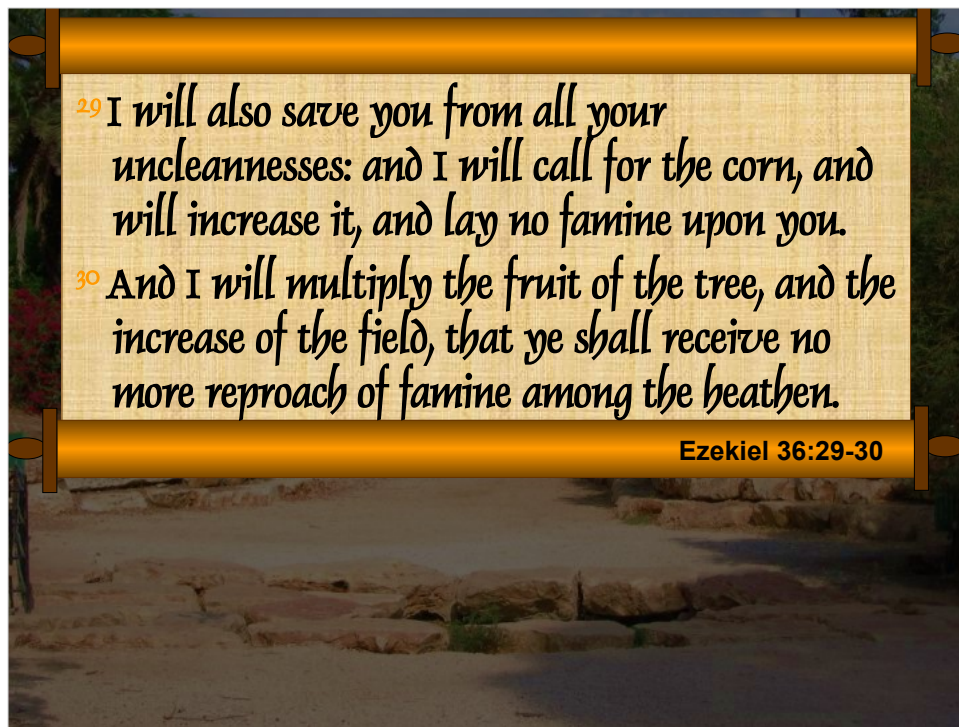
A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem

The Reversal of Shame

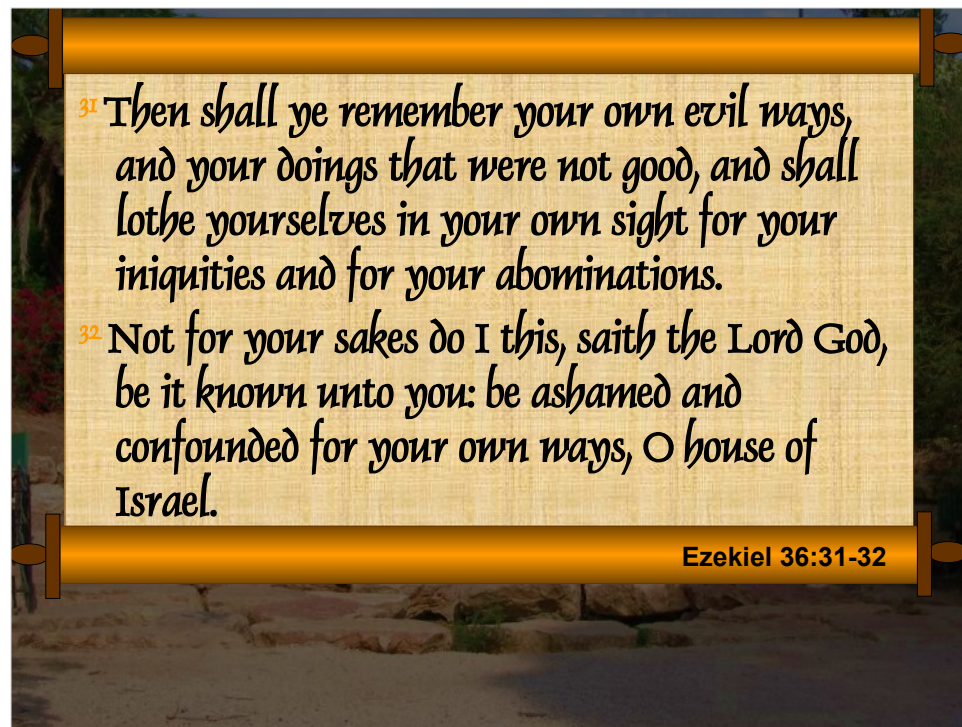
Verses 29–32

- God declares that when He cleanses the people, the ruined cities will be inhabited and the desolate land will be tilled.
- Passersby who used to look at Israel as a wasteland will say: "This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden."
- The ultimate goal of God's restoration is to take what sin made a wasteland and return it to a state of abundance.
- It serves as a direct, physical refutation of Mount Seir's boast in Chapter 35.
- Edom wanted to take the land for themselves, but God turns it into a paradise for His covenant people.

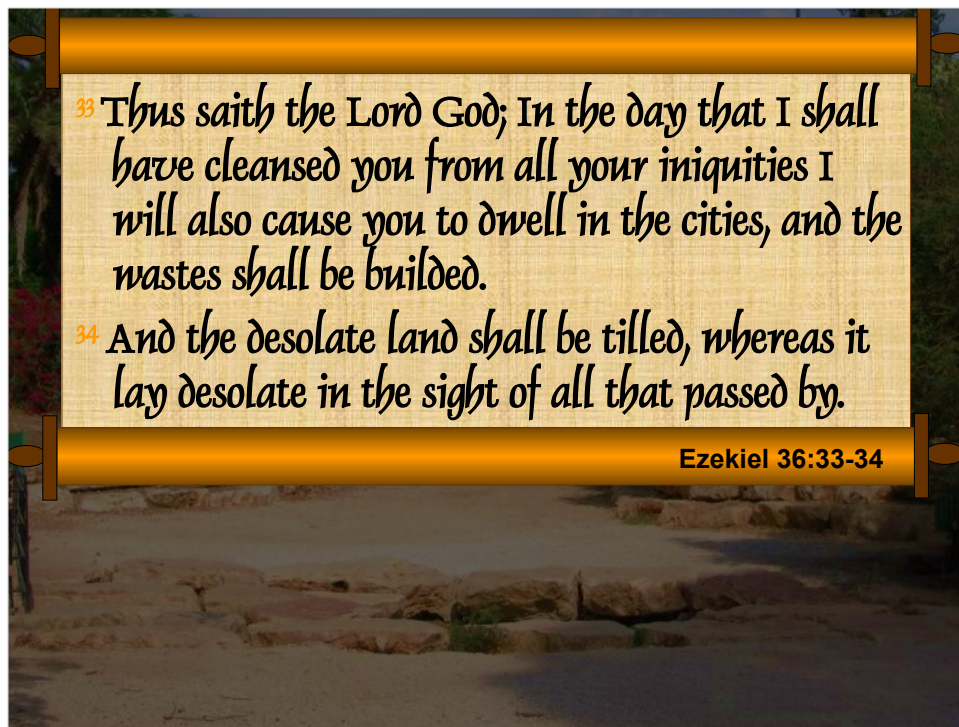
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A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem



**A year or so after the destruction of
Jerusalem**



A year or so after the destruction of Jerusalem

³⁵ And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are become fenced, and are inhabited.

³⁶ Then the heathen that are left round about you shall know that I the Lord build the ruined places, and plant that that was desolate: I the Lord have spoken it, and I will do it.

Ezekiel 36:35-36

37 Thus saith the Lord God; I will yet for this be enquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock.

38 As the holy flock, as the flock of Jerusalem in her solemn feasts; so shall the waste cities be filled with flocks of men: and they shall know that I am the Lord.

Ezekiel 36:37-38

Jordan River – North of Galilee



Hills between Nazareth & Galilee



More fruit – Bananas



Sea of Galilee



Sea of Galilee



'Fruitful Field' – Isaiah 32:15







THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

To be continued..

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(aka Disciples Church)



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