

First Mount Zion Baptist Church

Wednesday Bible Study

November 13, 2024

Ezekiel 27:1-28:26

Presenters: Rev Carolyn Taylor and Rev Gillis M Taylor

Overview: The prophet Ezekiel received his messages from God through a series of visions. Ezekiel was also an exile, he was carried away from Judah around 597 B.C. In the fifth year of his captivity God called him to prophecy to rebellious nations for more than 25 years Ezekiel faithfully carried God's message. One of the great contributions of the book of Ezekiel is the doctrine of personal accountability.

Summary: God judges Tyre, it was central to trade and commerce throughout the Mediterranean. In chapter 26, God declared destruction against Tyre. God laments over Tyre. Why would God lament over a city He is going to destroy? The tragedy is God created something beautiful and yet Tyre left humility and became arrogant. God also Judges the king of Tyre, in this case it is about pride and self glorification.

Background: Chapter 27 begins with God commanding Ezekiel to mourn for Tyre, describing its prosperity and prestige as a metaphor of a perfect ship. Various aspects of this ship, its construction, crew, and adornments, symbolize the city's affluence, beauty, and the skillful people who contributed to Tyre's success. Chapter 28 serves as a profound reminder of the downfall of pride and the necessity of humility before the Lord. Regardless of worldly wisdom or wealth, the fate of the prideful is sealed by God's righteous judgment. Yet, in God's justice, there is also mercy and restoration for those who acknowledge His sovereignty.

Themes: Chapter 27, prophecy, judgment, loss, economic prosperity, pride, downfall; Chapter 28, divine judgment, the fall of prideful leaders, consequences of arrogance and self-glorification, the sovereignty of God.

Chapter 27: Now, thou son of man, take up a lamentation for Tyre

1. How does Ezekiel 27 speak to the dangers of excessive pride and self-reliance?

2. In what ways does the lament over Tyre resonate with modern examples of fallen empires or businesses?

3. What disaster did Ezekiel predict would bring an end to Tyre in these verses? (Ezekiel 27:25-36)

4. What role does humility play in preventing the downfall experienced by Tyre?

5. All of the things in verse 31 are outward demonstrations of _____?

Chapter 28: “Because thine heart is lifted up and thou hast said, “I am a god, I sit in the seat of God in the midst of the seas,”

6. What aspects of the Prince of Tyre's behavior led to his downfall?

7. How does Ezekiel's description of the King of Tyre parallel traditional views of Satan's fall?

8. How can you apply the lessons of humility from this chapter in your daily life?

9. How can the church today heed the warnings found in Ezekiel 28?

10. How does the promise of Israel's restoration provide hope in the face of judgment?

The work of community, love, reconciliation, restoration is the work we cannot leave up to politicians. This is the work we are all called to do ~ Shane Claiborne

When we learn from experience, the scars of sin can lead us to restoration and a renewed intimacy with God ~ Charles Stanley