

~TYRE (1174)

[Rock]

- The principal Phoenician seaport, identified with present-day **es-Sur**, situated about 50 kilometers (30 miles) North of Mount Carmel and 35 kilometers (22 miles) South-Southwest of Sidon. **Tyre** was an ancient city.
- The pronouncement of **Tyre**! Howl, you ships of Tarshish! for it has been despoiled from being a port, from being a place to enter in. From the land of Kittim it has been revealed to them. (**Isaiah 23:1**)
- Is this your city that was exultant from days of long ago, from her early times? Her feet used to bring her far away to reside as an alien. (**Isaiah 23:7**)
- But just when it was founded as a colony by the Sidonians is not known. It is first mentioned after the conquest of the Promised Land in about **1467 B.C.E.**, and at that time it was a fortified city.
- This mention of **Tyre** was in connection with the boundaries of Asher's tribal territory. From the start, and all through its history, **Tyre** apparently remained outside Israel's borders as an independent neighbor.
- Then the fifth lot came out for the tribe of the sons of Asher by their families. (**Joshua 19:24**)
- And the boundary went back to Ramah and as far as the fortified city of **Tyre**. And the boundary went back to Hosah, and its terminations came to be at the sea in the region of Achzib. (**Joshua 19:29**)
- Then they came to the fortress of **Tyre** and all the cities of the Hivites and of the Canaanites and came to the terminating point in the Negeb of Judah at Beer-sheba. (**2 Samuel 24:7**)
- Friendly relations existed at times between **Tyre** and Israel, notably during the reigns of David and Solomon. Skilled **Tyrian** workmen engaged in building David's royal palace with cedar timber sent by Hiram the king of **Tyre**.

- Then they came to the fortress of **Tyre** and all the cities of the Hivites and of the Canaanites and came to the terminating point in the Negeb of Judah at Beer-sheba. (**2 Samuel 24:7**)
- And Hiram the king of **Tyre** proceeded to send messengers to David and cedar timbers and builders of walls and workers in wood to build him a house. (**1 Chronicles 14:1**)
- The **Tyrians** also supplied David with cedar later used in the temples construction.
- Then David said; This is the house of Yehowah the true God, and this is an altar for burnt offering for Israel. (**1 Chronicles 22:1**)
- David now said to bring together the alien residents that were in the land of Israel, and then he set them as stone hewers to hew squared stones for building the house of the true God. (**1 Chronicles 22:2**)
- And iron in great quantity for nails for the doors of the gates and for clamps David prepared, and also copper in such quantity as to be beyond weighing. (**1 Chronicles 22:3**)
- And also cedar timbers without number, for the Sidonians and the Tyrians brought in cedar timbers in great quantity to David. (**1 Chronicles 22:4**)
- After David's death King Hiram of **Tyre** furnished Solomon with materials and assistance for the construction of the temple and other government buildings.
- And Hiram the king of **Tyre** proceeded to send his servants to Solomon, for he had heard that it was he that they had anointed as king in place of his father, for a lover of David Hiram had always proved to be. (**1 Kings 5:1**)
- In turn Solomon sent to Hiram, saying; (**1 Kings 5:2**)
- You yourself well know that David my father was not able to build a house to the name of Yehowah his God because of the warfare with which they surrounded him, until Yehowah put them under the soles of his feet. (**1 Kings 5:3**)

- **And now Yehowah my God has given me rest all around. There is no resister, and there is nothing bad happening. (1 Kings 5:4)**
- **And here I am thinking of building a house to the name of Yehowah my God, just as Yehowah promised to David my father, saying; Your son whom I shall put upon your throne in place of you, he is the one that will build the house to my name. (1 Kings 5:5)**
- **And now command that they cut for me cedars from Lebanon, and my servants themselves will prove to be with your servants, and the wages of your servants I shall give to you according to all that you may say, for you yourself well know that there is among us no one knowing how to cut trees like the Sidonians. (1 Kings 5:6)**
- **And it came about that as soon as Hiram heard the words of Solomon, he began to rejoice greatly, and he went on to say; Blessed is Yehowah today in that he has given David a wise son over this numerous people! (1 Kings 5:7)**
- **Accordingly Hiram sent to Solomon, saying; I have heard what you sent to me. For my part, I shall do all your delight in the matter of timbers of cedar trees and timbers of juniper trees. (1 Kings 5:8)**
- **My servants themselves will bring them down out of Lebanon to the sea. I, for my part, shall put them in log rafts to go by sea clear to the place that you will send me notice of, and I shall certainly have them broken up there, and you, for your part, will carry them, and you, for your part, will do my delight by giving the food for my household. (1 Kings 5:9)**
- **So Hiram became a giver of timbers of cedar trees and timbers of juniper trees to Solomon according to all his delight. (1 Kings 5:10)**
- **And his own house Solomon built in thirteen years, so that he finished all his own house. (1 Kings 7:1)**
- **And he proceeded to build the House of the Forest of Lebanon a hundred cubits in its length, and fifty cubits in its width, and thirty cubits in its height, upon four rows of pillars of cedarwood, and there were beams of cedarwood upon the pillars. (1 Kings**

7:2)

- **And it was paneled in with cedarwood above upon the girders that were upon the forty-five pillars. There were fifteen to a row. (1 Kings 7:3)**
- **As for framed windows, there were three rows, and there was an illumination opening opposite an illumination opening in three tiers. (1 Kings 7:4)**
- **And all the entrances and the doorposts were squared with the frame, and also the forefront of the illumination opening opposite an illumination opening in three tiers. (1 Kings 7:5)**
- **And the Porch of Pillars he made fifty cubits in its length, and thirty cubits in its width, and another porch was in front of them with pillars and a canopy in front of them. (1 Kings 7:6)**
- **As for the Porch of the Throne where he would do judging, he made the porch of judgment, and they covered it in with cedarwood from the floor to the rafters. (1 Kings 7:7)**
- **As regards the house of his where he was to dwell, at the other courtyard, it was away from the house belonging to the Porch. It proved to be like this in workmanship. And there was a house like this Porch that he proceeded to build for Pharaoh's daughter, whom Solomon had taken. (1 Kings 7:8)**
- **Further, Solomon sent to Hiram the king of Tyre, saying; Just as you dealt with David my father and you kept sending him cedarwood to build himself a house in which to dwell. (2 Chronicles 2:3)**
- **Here I am building a house to the name of Yehowah my God to sanctify it to him, to burn perfumed incense before him, with the constant layer bread and burnt offerings in the morning and in the evening, on the Sabbaths and on the new moons and at the festival seasons of Yehowah our God. To time indefinite this will be upon Israel. (2 Chronicles 2:4)**
- **And the house that I am building will be great, for our God is greater than all the other gods. (2 Chronicles 2:5)**
- **And who could retain power to build him a house? For the**

heavens and the heaven of the heavens cannot contain him, and who am I that I should build him a house except for making sacrificial smoke before him? (2 Chronicles 2:6)

- And now send me a skillful man to work in gold and in silver and in copper and in iron and in wool dyed reddish purple and crimson and blue thread, and knowing how to cut engravings, along with the skillful ones that are with me in Judah and in Jerusalem, whom David my father has prepared. (2 Chronicles 2:7)
- And send me timbers of cedar, juniper and algum from Lebanon, for I myself well know that your servants are experienced at cutting down the trees of Lebanon, and here my servants are together with your servants. (2 Chronicles 2:8)
- Even for preparing timbers for me in great number, for the house that I am building will be great, yes, in a wonderful way. (2 Chronicles 2:9)
- And, look! To the gatherers of wood, the cutters of the trees, I do give wheat as food for your servants, twenty thousand cors, and barley twenty thousand cors, and wine twenty thousand baths, and oil twenty thousand baths. (2 Chronicles 2:10)
- At that Hiram the king of Tyre said the word in writing and sent it to Solomon. Because Yehowah loved his people he has constituted you king over them. (2 Chronicles 2:11)
- And Hiram went on to say; Blessed be Yehowah the God of Israel, who made the heavens and the earth, because he has given to David the king a wise son, experienced in discretion and understanding, who will build a house to Yehowah and a house for his kingship. (2 Chronicles 2:12)
- And now I do send a skillful man, experienced in understanding, belonging to Hiram-abi. (2 Chronicles 2:13)
- The son of a woman of the sons of Dan but whose father was a man of Tyre, experienced, to work in gold and in silver, in copper, in iron, in stones and in timbers, in wool dyed reddish purple, in blue thread and in fine fabric and in crimson and at cutting every sort of engraving and at designing every sort of device that may be given to him along with your own skillful men and the skillful

men of my lord David your father. (2 Chronicles 2:14)

- A half-Israelite son of a **Tyrian** worker in copper, who himself was a skilled craftsman, was employed in the construction of the temple.
- And King Solomon proceeded to send and fetch Hiram out of **Tyre**. (1 Kings 7:13)
- He was the son of a widowed woman from the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a **Tyrian** man, a worker in copper, and he was full of the wisdom and the understanding and the knowledge for doing every sort of work in copper. Accordingly he came to King Solomon and began to do all his work. (1 Kings 7:14)
- And now I do send a skillful man, experienced in understanding, belonging to Hiram-abi. (2 Chronicles 2:13)
- The son of a woman of the sons of Dan but whose father was a man of **Tyre**, experienced, to work in gold and in silver, in copper, in iron, in stones and in timbers, in wool dyed reddish purple, in blue thread and in fine fabric and in crimson and at cutting every sort of engraving and at designing every sort of device that may be given to him along with your own skillful men and the skillful men of my lord David your father. (2 Chronicles 2:14)
- For their assistance the **Tyrians** were paid with wheat, barley, oil, and wine.
- And Solomon, for his part, gave Hiram twenty thousand cor measures of wheat as food supplies for his household and twenty cor measures of beaten-out oil. That was what Solomon kept giving Hiram year by year. (1 Kings 5:11)
- And Yehowah, for his part, gave Solomon wisdom, just as he had promised him, and there came to be peace between Hiram and Solomon, and both of them proceeded to conclude a covenant. (1 Kings 5:12)
- And now the wheat and the barley, the oil and the wine that my lord has promised, let him send to his servants. (2 Chronicles 2:15)

- In addition, Solomon gave the king of **Tyre** 20 cities, though the **Tyrian** monarch was not overly pleased with the gift.
- And it came about at the end of twenty years, in which Solomon built the two houses, the house of Yehowah and the house of the king. (**1 Kings 9:10**)
- Hiram the king of **Tyre** had himself assisted Solomon with timbers of cedar trees and timbers of juniper trees and with gold as much as he delighted in, that at that time King Solomon proceeded to give to Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee. (**1 Kings 9:11**)
- Accordingly Hiram went out from **Tyre** to see the cities that Solomon had given him, and they were not just right in his eyes. (**1 Kings 9:12**)
- So he said; What sort of cities are these that you have given me, my brother? And they came to be called the Land of Cabul down to this day. (**1 Kings 9:13**)
- **Tyre** in time became one of the great sea powers of the ancient world, and her mariners and commercial fleet of **Tarshish** ships were famous for their voyages to faraway places.
- Solomon and the king of **Tyre** cooperated in a joint shipping venture for the importing of precious things including gold from Ophir.
- And there was a fleet of ships that King Solomon made in Ezion-geber, which is by Eloth, upon the shore of the Red Sea in the land of Edom. (**1 Kings 9:26**)
- And Hiram kept sending in the fleet of ships his own servants, seamen, having a knowledge of the sea, along with the servants of Solomon. (**1 Kings 9:27**)
- And they proceeded to go to Ophir and take from there four hundred and twenty talents of gold and bring it in to King Solomon. (**1 Kings 9:28**)
- And Hiram's fleet of ships that carried gold from Ophir also brought from Ophir timbers of algar trees in very great amount and precious stones. (**1 Kings 10:11**)

- For the king had a fleet of ships of Tarshish on the sea along with Hiram's fleet of ships. Once every three years the fleet of ships of Tarshish would come carrying gold and silver, ivory, and apes and peacocks. (**1 Kings 10:22**)
- For ships belonging to the king were going to Tarshish with the servants of Hiram. Once every three years ships of Tarshish would come in, carrying gold and silver, ivory, and apes and peacocks. (**2 Chronicles 9:21**)
- In all the dealings the **Tyrians** had with Israel, there is no indication that, as a people, they were interested in the worship of Yehowah, their association was particularly a commercial one.
- Racially they were Canaanites, and religiously they practiced a form of Baal worship, their chief deities being Melkart and Astarte or Ashtoreth. When Ethbaal was king of the Sidonians, including **Tyre**, his daughter Jezebel married Ahab, the king of the northern kingdom of Israel. Jezebel was infamous in her determination to blot out the worship of Yehowah.
- And as for Ahab the son of Omri, he became king over Israel in the thirty-eighth year of Asa the king of Judah, and Ahab the son of Omri continued to reign over Israel in Samaria twenty-two years. (**1 Kings 16:29**)
- And it came about that, as if it were the most trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, he now took as wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal the king of the Sidonians and began to go and serve Baal and to bow down to him. (**1 Kings 16:31**)
- Hence it came about that when Jezebel cut off Yehowah's prophets, Obadiah proceeded to take a hundred prophets and keep them hid by fifties in a cave, and he supplied them bread and water. (**1 Kings 18:4**)
- Has not my lord been told what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of Yehowah, how I kept some of the prophets of Yehowah hid, a hundred men by fifties in a cave, and kept supplying them bread and water? (**1 Kings 18:13**)
- And now send, collect together all Israel to me at Mount Carmel and also the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four

hundred prophets of the sacred pole, who are eating at the table of Jezebel. (**1 Kings 18:19**)

.. Condemned By God

- It was not, however, for the personal wickedness of Jezebel and her daughter Athaliah that **Tyre** came under heavy divine condemnation. **Tyre** grew to be very great at the expense of other peoples, including Israel.
- She was a manufacturer of metal objects, glass-ware, and purple dyes and was a trading center for the overland caravans as well as a great import-export depot.
- Along with this industrial and commercial growth came riches, conceit, and pride. Her merchants and tradesmen boasted of being princes and honorable ones of the earth.
- Who is it that has given this counsel against **Tyre**, the bestower of crowns, whose merchants were princes, whose tradesmen were the honorable ones of the earth? (**Isaiah 23:8**)
- **Tyre** in time also developed an attitude of opposition to Yehowah and conspired with neighboring nations against God's people.
- For, look! Your very enemies are in an uproar, and the very ones intensely hating you have raised their head. (**Psalms 83:2**)
- Against your people they cunningly carry on their confidential talk, and they conspire against your concealed ones. (**Psalms 83:3**)
- They have said; Come and let us efface them from being a nation, that the name of Israel may be remembered no more. (**Psalms 83:4**)
- For with the heart they have unitedly exchanged counsel, against you they proceeded to conclude even a covenant. (**Psalms 83:5**)
- The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, Moab and the Hagrites. (**Psalms 83:6**)
- Gebal and Ammon and Amalek, Philistia together with the inhabitants of **Tyre**. (**Psalms 83:7**)

- Also, Assyria itself has become joined with them, they have become an arm to the sons of Lot. (**Psalms 83:8**)
- So it was her bold defiance of Yehowah that eventually brought upon the city adverse judgment, downfall, and destruction.
- In the latter part of the **Ninth Century B.C.E**, Yehowah took note of this city's arrogant attitude. He therefore warned her that she would be paid back in kind for robbing his people of the gold, silver, and many other desirable things that she had used to beautify her temples. There was also to be an accounting for **Tyre's** having sold God's people into slavery.
- And, also, what do you have to do with me, O **Tyre** and Sidon and all you regions of Philistia? Is it the treatment that you are giving me as a reward? And if you are giving such treatment to me, swiftly, speedily I shall pay back your treatment upon your heads. (**Joel 3:4**)
- Because you men have taken my own silver and my own gold, and you have brought my own desirable good things into your temples. (**Joel 3:5**)
- And the sons of Judah and the sons of Jerusalem you have sold to the sons of the Greeks, for the purpose of removing them far from their own territory. (**Joel 3:6**)
- Here I am arousing them to come from the place where you have sold them, and I will pay back your treatment upon your own heads. (**Joel 3:7**)
- And I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the sons of Judah, and they must sell them to the men of Sheba, to a nation far away, for Yehowah himself has spoken it. (**Joel 3:8**)
- This is what Yehowah has said; On account of three revolts of **Tyre**, and on account of four, I shall not turn it back, on account of their handing over a complete body of exiles to Edom, and because they did not remember the covenant of brothers. (**Amos 1:9**)
- And I will send a fire onto the wall of **Tyre**, and it must devour her dwelling towers. (**Amos 1:10**)

- Later the prophet Isaiah recorded a further pronouncement against **Tyre**, which indicated that she would be forgotten for seventy years.
- The pronouncement of **Tyre**! Howl, you ships of Tarshish! For it has been despoiled from being a port, from being a place to enter in. From the land of Kittim it has been revealed to them. (**Isaiah 23:1**)
- Be silent, you inhabitants of the coastland. The merchants from Sidon, the ones crossing over the sea, they have filled you. (**Isaiah 23:2**)
- And on many waters has been the seed of Shihor, the harvest of the Nile, her revenue, and it came to be the profit of the nations. (**Isaiah 23:3**)
- Be ashamed, O Sidon, because the sea, O you stronghold of the sea, has said; I have not had birth pains, and I have not given birth, nor have I brought up young men, raised up virgins. (**Isaiah 23:4**)
- Just as at the report pertaining to Egypt, people will likewise be in severe pains at the report on **Tyre**. (**Isaiah 23:5**)
- Cross over to Tarshish, howl, you inhabitants of the coastland. (**Isaiah 23:6**)
- Is this your city that was exultant from days of long ago, from her early times? Her feet used to bring her far away to reside as an alien. (**Isaiah 23:7**)
- Who is it that has given this counsel against **Tyre**, the bestower of crowns, whose merchants were princes, whose tradesmen were the honorable ones of the earth? (**Isaiah 23:8**)
- Yehowah of armies himself has given this counsel, to profane the pride of all beauty, to treat with contempt all the honorable ones of the earth. (**Isaiah 23:9**)
- Cross over your land like the Nile River, O daughter of Tarshish. There is no shipyard any longer. (**Isaiah 23:10**)

- His hand he has stretched out over the sea, he has caused kingdoms to be agitated. Yehowah himself has given a command against Phoenicia, to annihilate her strongholds. ([Isaiah 23:11](#))
- And he says; You must never again exult, O oppressed one, the virgin daughter of Sidon. Get up, cross over to Kittim itself. Even there it will not be restful for you. ([Isaiah 23:12](#))
- Look! The land of the Chaldeans. This is the people, Assyria did not prove to be the one, they founded her for the desert haunters. They have erected their siege towers, they have stripped bare her dwelling towers, one has set her as a crumbling ruin. ([Isaiah 23:13](#))
- Howl, you ships of Tarshish, for your stronghold has been despoiled. ([Isaiah 23:14](#))
- And it must occur in that day that **Tyre** must be forgotten seventy years, the same as the days of one king. At the end of seventy years it will happen to Tyre as in the song of a prostitute. ([Isaiah 23:15](#))
- Take a harp, go around the city, O forgotten prostitute. Do your best at playing on the strings, make your songs many, in order, that you may be remembered. ([Isaiah 23:16](#))
- And it must occur at the end of seventy years that Yehowah will turn his attention to **Tyre**, and she must return to her hire and commit prostitution with all the kingdoms of the earth upon the surface of the ground. ([Isaiah 23:17](#))
- And her profit and her hire must become something holy to Yehowah. It will not be stored up, nor be laid up, because her hire will come to be for those dwelling before Yehowah, for eating to satisfaction and for elegant covering. ([Isaiah 23:18](#))
- Years thereafter the prophet Jeremiah included **Tyre** among those nations that were singled out to drink the wine of Yehowah's rage.
- Therefore this is what Yehowah of armies has said; For the reason that you did not obey my words. ([Jeremiah 25:8](#))
- Here I am sending and I will take all the families of the north, is

the utterance of Yehowah, even sending to Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and I will bring them against this land and against its inhabitants and against all these nations round about, and I will devote them to destruction and make them an object of astonishment and something to whistle at and places devastated to time indefinite. (Jeremiah 25:9)

- **And I will destroy out of them the sound of exultation and the sound of rejoicing, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the sound of the hand mill and the light of the lamp. (Jeremiah 25:10)**
- **And all this land must become a devastated place, an object of astonishment, and these nations will have to serve the king of Babylon seventy years. (Jeremiah 25:11)**
- **And it must occur that when seventy years have been fulfilled I shall call to account against the king of Babylon and against that nation, is the utterance of Yehowah, their error, even against the land of the Chaldeans, and I will make it desolate wastes to time indefinite. (Jeremiah 25:12)**
- **And I will bring in upon that land all my words that I have spoken against it, even all that is written in this book that Jeremiah has prophesied against all the nations. (Jeremiah 25:13)**
- **For even they themselves, many nations and great kings, have exploited them as servants, and I will repay them according to their activity and according to the work of their hands. (Jeremiah 25:14)**
- **For this is what Yehowah the God of Israel said to me; Take this cup of the wine of rage out of my hand, and you must make all the nations to whom I am sending you drink it. (Jeremiah 25:15)**
- **And they must drink and shake back and forth and act like crazed men because of the sword that I am sending among them. (Jeremiah 25:16)**
- **And I proceeded to take the cup out of the hand of Yehowah and to make all the nations drink to whom Yehowah had sent me. (Jeremiah 25:17)**

- And all the kings of **Tyre** and all the kings of Sidon and the kings of the island that is in the region of the sea. (**Jeremiah 25:22**)
- And you must say to them; This is what Yehowah of armies, the God of Israel, has said; Drink and get drunk and puke and fall so that you cannot get up because of the sword that I am sending among you. (**Jeremiah 25:27**)
- This is what Yehowah has said to me; Make for yourself bands and yoke bars, and you must put them upon your neck. (**Jeremiah 27:2**)
- And you must send them to the king of Edom and to the king of Moab and to the king of the sons of Ammon and to the king of **Tyre** and to the king of Sidon by the hand of the messengers who are coming to Jerusalem to Zedekiah the king of Judah. (**Jeremiah 27:3**)
- And you must give them a command for their masters, saying; This is what Yehowah of armies, the God of Israel, has said, this is what you should say to your masters. (**Jeremiah 27:4**)
- I myself have made the earth, mankind and the beasts that are upon the surface of the earth by my great power and by my stretched-out arm, and I have given it to whom it has proved right in my eyes. (**Jeremiah 27:5**)
- And now I myself have given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and even the wild beasts of the field I have given him to serve him. (**Jeremiah 27:6**)
- And all the nations must serve even him and his son and his grandson until the time even of his own land comes, and many nations and great kings must exploit him as a servant. (**Jeremiah 27:7**)
- This is what Yehowah has said; Look! Waters are coming up from the north and have become a flooding torrent. And they will flood the land and what fills it, the city and those inhabiting it. And the men will certainly cry out, and everyone dwelling in the land must howl. (**Jeremiah 47:2**)
- At the sound of the stamping of the hoofs of his stallions, at the

rattling of his war chariots, the turmoil of his wheels, the fathers will actually not turn around to the sons, because of the dropping down of their hands. (**Jeremiah 47:3**)

- On account of the day that is coming to despoil all the Philistines, to cut off from **Tyre** and from Sidon every survivor that was helping. For Yehowah is despoiling the Philistines, who are the remaining ones from the island of Caphtor. (**Jeremiah 47:4**)
- Since the nations mentioned in the prophecy of Jeremiah were to serve the king of Babylon seventy years.
- Therefore this is what Yehowah of armies has said; For the reason that you did not obey my words. (**Jeremiah 25:8**)
- Here I am sending and I will take all the families of the north, is the utterance of Yehowah, even sending to Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and I will bring them against this land and against its inhabitants and against all these nations round about, and I will devote them to destruction and make them an object of astonishment and something to whistle at and places devastated to time indefinite. (**Jeremiah 25:9**)
- And I will destroy out of them the sound of exultation and the sound of rejoicing, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the sound of the hand mill and the light of the lamp. (**Jeremiah 25:10**)
- And all this land must become a devastated place, an object of astonishment, and these nations will have to serve the king of Babylon seventy years. (**Jeremiah 25:11**)
- This suggests that both the prophecy of Isaiah and that of Jeremiah related to Nebuchadnezzar's campaign against **Tyre**.
- Also through Ezekiel, a contemporary of Jeremiah, Yehowah pointed to calamity for **Tyre** at the hands of Nebuchadnezzar.
- And all this land must become a devastated place, an object of astonishment, and these nations will have to serve the king of Babylon seventy years. (**Jeremiah 25:11**)

- Though **Tyre** had been compared to a pretty ship with multicolored sails and deck coverings and a prow inlaid with ivory, she would sink in the open sea.
- And you must say to **Tyre**, O you who are dwelling at the entrances of the sea, the tradeswoman of the peoples for many islands, this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; O **Tyre**, you yourself have said; I am perfect in prettiness. (**Ezekiel 27:3**)
- In the heart of the seas are your territories. Your own builders have perfected your prettiness. (**Ezekiel 27:4**)
- Out of juniper timbers from Senir they built for you all the planks. A cedar from Lebanon they took to make a mast upon you. (**Ezekiel 27:5**)
- Out of massive trees from Bashan they made your oars. Your prow they made with ivory in cypress wood, from the islands of Kittim. (**Ezekiel 27:6**)
- Linen in various colors from Egypt your cloth expanse happened to be, in order for it to serve as your sail. Blue thread and wool dyed reddish purple from the islands of Elishah are what your deck covering proved to be. (**Ezekiel 27:7**)
- The inhabitants of Sidon and of Arvad themselves became rowers for you. Your skilled ones, O **Tyre**, happened to be in you, they were your sailors. (**Ezekiel 27:8**)
- Even old men of Gebal and her skilled ones happened to be in you as caulkers for your seams. All the ships of the sea and their mariners themselves proved to be in you, in order to exchange articles of merchandise. (**Ezekiel 27:9**)
- Persians and Ludim and men of Put, they happened to be in your military force, your men of war. Shield and helmet they hung up in you. They were the ones that caused your splendor. (**Ezekiel 27:10**)
- The sons of Arvad, even your military force, were upon your walls all around, and valorous men were the ones that happened to be in your own towers. Their circular shields they hung up on your walls all around. They themselves perfected your prettiness.

(Ezekiel 27:11)

- **Tarshish was your merchant because of the abundance of all sorts of valuable things. For its silver, iron, tin and lead, your stores were given. (Ezekiel 27:12)**
- **Javan, Tubal and Meshech themselves were your traders. For the souls of mankind and articles of copper your articles of exchange were given. (Ezekiel 27:13)**
- **From the house of Togarmah there were horses and steeds and mules, for which your stores were given. (Ezekiel 27:14)**
- **The sons of Dedan were your traders, many islands were merchants in your employ, horns of ivory and ebony they have paid back as gift to you. (Ezekiel 27:15)**
- **Edom was your merchant because of the abundance of your works. For turquoise, wool dyed reddish purple and material of various colors and fine fabric and corals and rubies, your stores were given in exchange. (Ezekiel 27:16)**
- **Judah and the land of Israel themselves were your traders. For the wheat of Minnith and special foodstuff and honey and oil and balsam, your articles of exchange were given. (Ezekiel 27:17)**
- **Damascus was your merchant in the abundance of your works, because of the abundance of all your valuable things, with the wine of Helbon and the wool of reddish gray. (Ezekiel 27:18)**
- **Vedan and Javan from Uzal, for your stores they gave. Iron in wrought works, cassia and cane, for your articles of exchange they proved to be. (Ezekiel 27:19)**
- **Dedan was your trader in garments of woven material for riding. (Ezekiel 27:20)**
- **The Arabs and all the chieftains of Kedar themselves were merchants in your employ. In male lambs and rams and he-goats, in them they were your merchants. (Ezekiel 27:21)**
- **The traders of Sheba and Raamah themselves were your traders, for the finest of all sorts of perfumes and for all sorts of precious stones and gold, your stores were given. (Ezekiel 27:22)**

- Haran and Canneh and Eden, the traders of Sheba, Asshur and Chilmad were your traders. ([Ezekiel 27:23](#))
- They were your traders in gorgeous garments, in wraps of blue material and material of various colors and in carpets of two-colored stuff, in ropes twined and solidly made, in your trading center. ([Ezekiel 27:24](#))
- The ships of Tarshish were your caravans for your articles of exchange, so that you get filled and become very glorious in the heart of the open sea. ([Ezekiel 27:25](#))
- Into vast waters those rowing you have brought you. The east wind itself has broken you in the heart of the open sea. ([Ezekiel 27:26](#))
- Your valuable things and your stores, your articles of exchange, your mariners and your sailors, the caulkers of your seams and those exchanging your articles of merchandise and all your men of war, who are in you and in all your congregation, who are in the midst of you, they will fall in the heart of the open sea in the day of your downfall. ([Ezekiel 27:27](#))
- At the sound of the outcry of your sailors the open country will rock. ([Ezekiel 27:28](#))
- And all those handling an oar, mariners, all the sailors of the sea, will certainly go down from their ships, upon the land they will stand. ([Ezekiel 27:29](#))
- And over you they will certainly let themselves be heard with their voice and will cry out bitterly. And they will bring up dust upon their heads. In the ashes they will wallow. ([Ezekiel 27:30](#))
- And they will have to make themselves bald with a baldness for you, and gird on sackcloth and weep over you in bitterness of soul, with bitter wailing. ([Ezekiel 27:31](#))
- And for you in their lamentation they will certainly lift up a dirge and chant over you, Who is like **Tyre**, like her that has been brought to silence in the midst of the sea? ([Ezekiel 27:32](#))
- When your stores went forth from the open sea, you satisfied

- many peoples. With the abundance of your valuable things and your articles of exchange you made earth's kings rich. (**Ezekiel 27:33**)
- Now you have been broken by the open sea, in the depths of the waters. As for your articles of exchange and all your congregation, in the midst of you they have fallen. (**Ezekiel 27:34**)
 - All the inhabitants of the islands, in amazement they will certainly stare at you, and their kings themselves will have to shudder in horror. Faces must become perturbed. (**Ezekiel 27:35**)
 - As for merchants among the peoples, they will certainly whistle over you. Sudden terrors are what you must become, and you will be no more to time indefinite. (**Ezekiel 27:36**)
 - **Tyre's king**, apparently the line of **Tyrian** rulers, haughtily boasted; I am a god. In the seat of god I have seated myself. But he was to be removed as profane and destroyed by fire.
 - Son of man, say to the leader of **Tyre**, This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; For the reason that your heart has become haughty, and you keep saying; I am a god. In the seat of god I have seated myself, in the heart of the open sea, whereas an earthling man is what you are, and not a god, and you keep making your heart like the heart of god. (**Ezekiel 28:2**)
 - Look! You are wiser than Daniel. There are no secrets that have proved a match for you. (**Ezekiel 28:3**)
 - By your wisdom and by your discernment you have made wealth for your own self, and you keep getting gold and silver in your storehouses. (**Ezekiel 28:4**)
 - By the abundance of your wisdom, by your sales goods, you have made your wealth abound, and your heart began to be haughty because of your wealth. (**Ezekiel 28:5**)
 - Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; For the reason that you make your heart like the heart of god. (**Ezekiel 28:6**)

- **Therefore here I am bringing upon you strangers, the tyrants of the nations, and they will certainly draw their swords against the beauty of your wisdom and profane your beaming splendor. (Ezekiel 28:7)**
- **Down to the pit they will bring you, and you must die the death of someone slain in the heart of the open sea. (Ezekiel 28:8)**
- **Will you without fail say; I am god, before the one killing you, whereas you are a mere earthling man, and not a god, in the hand of those profaning you? (Ezekiel 28:9)**
- **The deaths of uncircumcised ones you will die by the hand of strangers, for I myself have spoken, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah. (Ezekiel 28:10)**
- **And the word of Yehowah continued to occur to me, saying; (Ezekiel 28:11)**
- **Son of man, lift up a dirge concerning the king of Tyre, and you must say to him; This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; You are sealing up a pattern, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. (Ezekiel 28:12)**
- **In Eden, the garden of God, you proved to be. Every precious stone was your covering, ruby, topaz and jasper, chrysolite, onyx and jade, sapphire, turquoise and emerald, and of gold was the workmanship of your settings and your sockets in you. In the day of your being created they were made ready. (Ezekiel 28:13)**
- **You are the anointed cherub that is covering, and I have set you. On the holy mountain of God you proved to be. In the midst of fiery stones you walked about. (Ezekiel 28:14)**
- **You were faultless in your ways from the day of your being created until unrighteousness was found in you. (Ezekiel 28:15)**
- **Because of the abundance of your sales goods they filled the midst of you with violence, and you began to sin. And I shall put you as profane out of the mountain of God, and I shall destroy you, O cherub that is covering, from the midst of the fiery stones. (Ezekiel 28:16)**
- **Your heart became haughty because of your beauty. You**

brought your wisdom to ruin on account of your beaming splendor. Onto the earth I will throw you. Before kings I will set you, for them to look upon you. (**Ezekiel 28:17**)

- Owing to the abundance of your errors, because of the injustice of your sales goods, you have profaned your sanctuaries. And I shall bring forth a fire from the midst of you. It is what must devour you. And I shall make you ashes upon the earth before the eyes of all those seeing you. (**Ezekiel 28:18**)
- As for all those knowing you among the peoples, they will certainly stare in amazement at you. Sudden terrors are what you must become, and you will be no more to time indefinite. (**Ezekiel 28:19**)

.. Destruction Of City

- In the course of Nebuchadnezzar's long siege against **Tyre**, the heads of his soldiers were made bald from the chafing of their helmets, and their shoulders were **rubbed bare** from carrying materials used in the construction of siegeworks.
- Since Nebuchadnezzar received no **wages** for serving as His instrument in executing judgment upon **Tyre**, Yehowah promised to compensate him with the wealth of Egypt.
- Now it came about in the twenty-seventh year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, that the word of Yehowah occurred to me, saying; (**Ezekiel 29:17**)
- Son of man, Nebuchadnezzar himself, the king of Babylon, made his military force perform a great service against **Tyre**. Every head was one made bald, and every shoulder was one rubbed bare. But as for wages, there proved to be none for him and his military force from **Tyre** for the service that he had performed against her. (**Ezekiel 29:18**)
- Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Here I am giving to Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon the land of Egypt, and he must carry off its wealth and make a big spoil of it and do a great deal of plundering of it. and it must become wages for his military force. (**Ezekiel 29:19**)
- As his compensation for service that he did against her I have

given him the land of Egypt, because they acted for me, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah. ([Ezekiel 29:20](#))

- According to the Jewish historian Josephus, the siege lasted 13 years [[Against Apion, I, 156, 21](#)], and it cost the Babylonians a great deal. Secular history does not record exactly how thorough or effective Nebuchadnezzar's efforts were. But the loss in lives and property to the Tyrians must have been great.
- For this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Here I am bringing against **Tyre** Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon from the north, a king of kings, with horses and war chariots and cavalymen and a congregation, even a multitudinous people. ([Ezekiel 26:7](#))
- Your dependent towns in the field he will kill even with the sword, and he must make against you a siege wall and throw up against you a siege rampart and raise up against you a large shield. ([Ezekiel 26:8](#))
- And the strike of his attack engine he will direct against your walls, and your towers he will pull down, with his swords. ([Ezekiel 26:9](#))
- Owing to the heaving mass of his horses their dust will cover you. Owing to the sound of cavalryman and wheel and war chariot your walls will rock, when he comes in through your gates, as in the cases of entering into a city opened by breaches. ([Ezekiel 26:10](#))
- With the hoofs of his horses he will trample down all your streets. Your people he will kill even with the sword, and to the earth your own pillars of strength will go down. ([Ezekiel 26:11](#))
- And they will certainly spoil your resources and plunder your sales goods, and tear down your walls, and your desirable houses they will pull down. And your stones and your woodwork and your dust they will place in the very midst of the water. ([Ezekiel 26:12](#))
- When the Israelites returned from Babylonian exile, however, the **Tyrians** were able to assist in supplying cedar timbers from Lebanon for a second temple, and they resumed their trade with the rebuilt city of Jerusalem.

- And they proceeded to give money to the cutters and to the craftsmen, and eatables and drink and oil to the Sidonians and the **Tyrians**, to bring cedar timbers from Lebanon to the sea at Joppa, according to the permission granted by Cyrus the king of Persia to them. (**Ezra 3:7**)
- And the **Tyrians** themselves dwelt in the city, bringing in fish and every sort of merchandise and making sales on the Sabbath to the sons of Judah and in Jerusalem. (**Nehemiah 13:16**)
- **Tyres** conflict with Nebuchadnezzar, though great, was not to be the complete end for **Tyre**. A later prophetic pronouncement indicated that, though **Tyre** would build a rampart and pile up silver and gold, Yehowah himself would destroy her completely.
- And **Tyre** proceeded to build a rampart for herself, and to pile up silver like dust and gold like the mire of the streets. (**Zechariah 9:3**)
- Look! Yehowah himself will dispossess her, and into the sea he will certainly strike down her military force, and in the fire she herself will be devoured. (**Zechariah 9:4**)
- Nearly 200 years after Zechariah's prophecy was given, it was fulfilled. In **332 B.C.E.** Alexander the Great marched his army across Asia Minor and, in his sweep southward, paused long enough to give his attention to **Tyre**.
- When the city refused to open its gates, Alexander in his rage had his army scrape up the ruins of the mainland city and throw it into the sea, thus building a causeway out to the island city, all of this in fulfillment of prophecy.
- And they will certainly bring the walls of **Tyre** to ruin and tear down her towers, and I will scrape her dust away from her and make her a shining, bare surface of a crag. (**Ezekiel 26:4**)
- With his naval forces holding the **Tyrian** ships bottled up in their harbor, Alexander set about constructing the highest siege towers ever used in ancient wars. Finally, after seven months the 46-m-high (150 feet) walls were breached.

- In addition to the 8,000 military men killed in battle, 2,000 prominent leaders were killed as a reprisal, and 30,000 inhabitants were sold into slavery.

· · Mentioned In The Greek Scriptures

- Despite the city's total destruction by Alexander, it was rebuilt during the Seleucid period, and in the **First Century C.E.** it was a prominent port of call on the Mediterranean.
- During Jesus great Galilean ministry, a number of people from around **Tyre** and Sidon came to hear his message and to be cured of their diseases.
- Even from Jerusalem and from Idumea and from across the Jordan and around **Tyre** and Sidon, a great multitude, on hearing of how many things he was doing, came to him. (**Mark 3:8**)
- And he told his disciples to have a little boat continually at his service so that the crowd might not press upon him. (**Mark 3:9**)
- For he cured many, with the result that all those who had grievous diseases were falling upon him to touch him. (**Mark 3:10**)
- And he came down with them and took his station on a level place, and there was a great crowd of his disciples, and a great multitude of people from all of Judea and Jerusalem and the maritime country of **Tyre** and Sidon, who came to hear him and be healed of their sicknesses. (**Luke 6:17**)
- Even those troubled with unclean spirits were cured. (**Luke 6:18**)
- And all the crowd were seeking to touch him, because power was going out of him and healing them all. (**Luke 6:19**)
- Some months later Jesus personally visited the region around **Tyre**, on which occasion he cured the demon-possessed child of a Syrophoenician woman.
- Leaving there, Jesus now withdrew into the parts of **Tyre** and Sidon. (**Matthew 15:21**)
- And, look! A Phoenician woman from those regions came out and

- cried aloud, saying; Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David. My daughter is badly demonized. (**Matthew 15:22**)
- But he did not say a word in answer to her. So his disciples came up and began to request him; Send her away, because she keeps crying out after us. (**Matthew 15:23**)
 - In answer he said; I was not sent forth to any but to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. (**Matthew 15:24**)
 - When the woman came she began doing obeisance to him, saying; Lord, help me! (**Matthew 15:25**)
 - In answer he said; It is not right to take the bread of the children and throw it to little dogs. (**Matthew 15:26**)
 - She said; Yes, Lord, but really the little dogs do eat of the crumbs falling from the table of their masters. (**Matthew 15:27**)
 - Then Jesus said in reply to her; O woman, great is your faith! Let it happen to you as you wish. And her daughter was healed from that hour on. (**Matthew 15:28**)
 - Crossing country from there, Jesus next came near the sea of Galilee, and, after going up into the mountain, he was sitting there. (**Matthew 15:29**)
 - From there he rose up and went into the regions of **Tyre** and Sidon. And he entered into a house and did not want anyone to get to know it. Yet he could not escape notice. (**Mark 7:24**)
 - But immediately a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit heard about him and came and prostrated herself at his feet. (**Mark 7:25**)
 - The woman was a Grecian, a Syrophoenician nationally, and she kept asking him to expel the demon from her daughter. (**Mark 7:26**)
 - But he began by saying to her; First let the children be satisfied, for it is not right to take the bread of the children and throw it to the little dogs. (**Mark 7:27**)
 - In reply, however, she said to him; Yes, sir, and yet the little

dogs underneath the table eat of the crumbs of the little children.
([Mark 7:28](#))

- At that he said to her; Because of saying this, go, the demon has gone out of your daughter. ([Mark 7:29](#))
- So she went away to her home and found the young child laid on the bed and the demon gone out. ([Mark 7:30](#))
- Now coming back out of the regions of **Tyre** he went through Sidon to the sea of Galilee up through the midst of the regions of Decapolis. ([Mark 7:31](#))
- Jesus observed that, had he performed in **Tyre** and Sidon the powerful works that he did in Chorazin and Bethsaida, the pagans of **Tyre** and Sidon would have been more responsive than those Jews.
- Then he started to reproach the cities in which most of his powerful works had taken place, because they did not repent: ([Matthew 11:20](#))
- Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! Because if the powerful works had taken place in **Tyre** and Sidon that took place in you, they would long ago have repented in sackcloth and ashes. ([Matthew 11:21](#))
- Consequently I say to you, it will be more endurable for **Tyre** and Sidon on Judgment Day than for you. ([Matthew 11:22](#))
- Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! Because if the powerful works that have taken place in you had taken place in **Tyre** and Sidon, they would long ago have repented sitting in sackcloth and ashes. ([Luke 10:13](#))
- Consequently it will be more endurable for **Tyre** and Sidon in the judgment than for you. ([Luke 10:14](#))