

יְחֶזְקֵאל YEchezkel

EZEKIEL 25

Judgments Against Neighboring Nations Ammon, Moab, Edom, the Philistines

SESSION 8 BEGINS HERE



The Babylonian king, Nebuchadnezzar, had conquered the Southern Kingdom of Judah and deported some of the best and brightest of the Jews to Babylon itself. This included the prophet Daniel.

The illustration to the left is an artist's rendition of a dream he had, a dream which only Daniel could interpret. In a broad sense, the image in the dream represents the "times of the Gentiles," which began with the Babylonian Kingdom and will end with the downfall of the Revived Roman Empire.

At the time of Nebuchadnezzar's dream, the Jews were in exile in Babylon. That would change when Cyrus the Great conquered Babylon and gave the Jews an opportunity to return to Israel and rebuild their Temple.

The dream also represented the Greek Empire under Alexander the Great, followed by the Roman Empire, the Divided Roman Empire. Finally, we see an "end of days" reconstituted Roman Empire (perhaps the European Union) which will be crushed by Christ's Kingdom.

Figure 2: Babylonian Empire

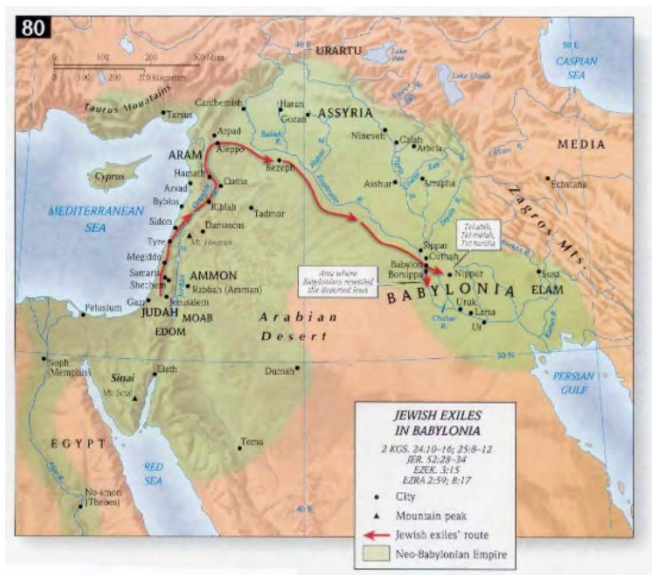


Figure 4: Greek Empire Under Alexander the Great



Figure 3: Medo-Persian Empire



Figure 5: Roman Empire Under Augustus



The map of the Roman Empire shows many of the nations that are key players in end-time events. They comprise what could be called “the prophetic world,” the nations that are mentioned in the Bible. The United States is not specifically mentioned as part of the prophetic world.

The next image is a map showing Israel and the surrounding nations. Notice the size of Israel, located on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea. About the size of New Jersey, it is dwarfed by its Arab neighbors.

Figure 6: Israel and Surrounding Nations



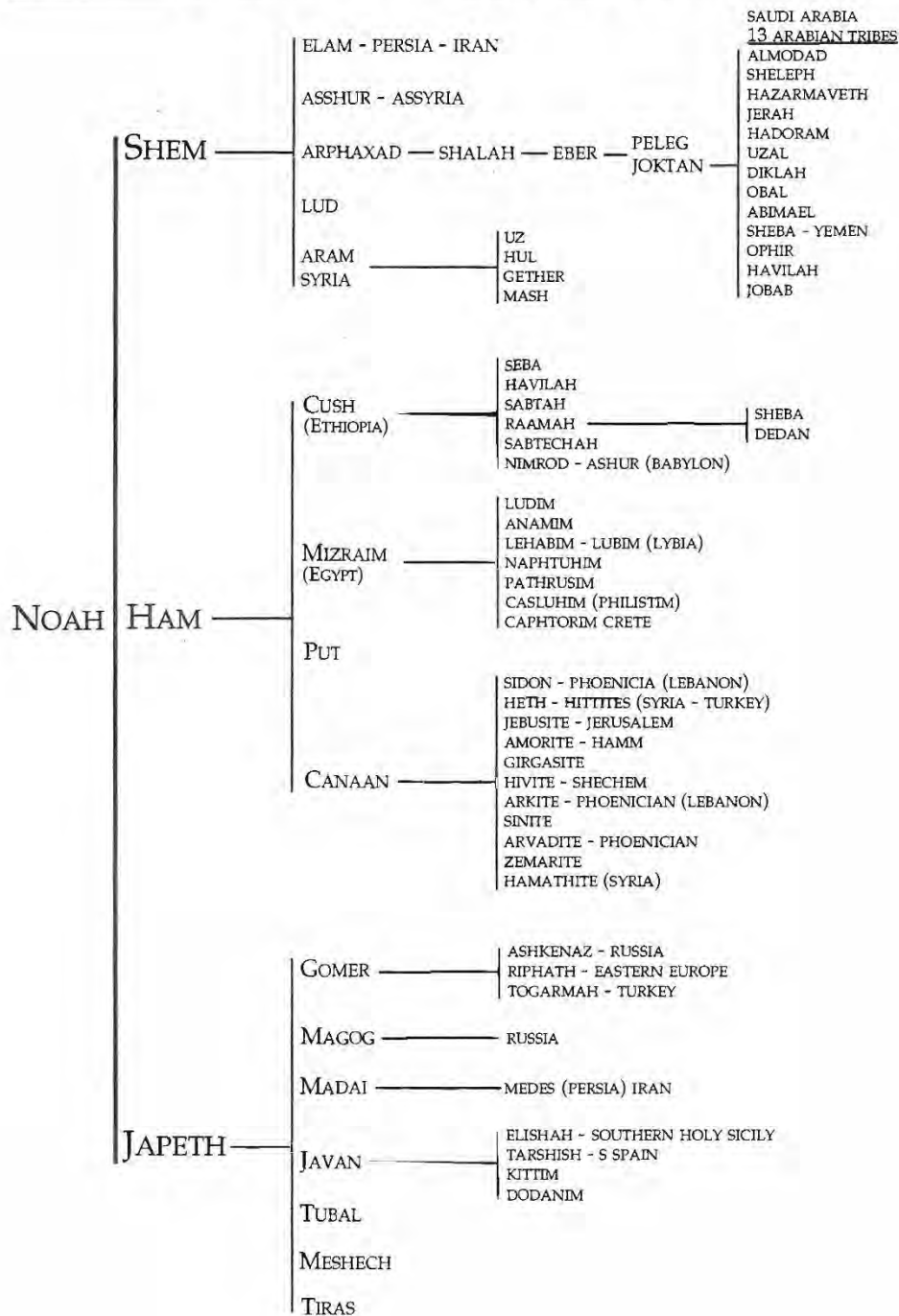
Dr. Billye Brim, *Judgment of the Nations for How They Treat Israel*

The first mention of the nations (Heb: *goyim*) is in Genesis 10. After the flood, the chapter lists the sons of Noah's three sons: Shem, Ham, and Yapheth. Seventy foundational nations are listed.³¹

³¹ Dr. Billye Brim, *Judgment of the Nations for How They Treat Israel* (Branson, MO: AGCF, 2010), 5.

THE TABLE OF THE NATIONS ACCORDING TO GENESIS 10

FROM THE 3 SONS OF NOAH: SHEM, HAM, AND JAPETH



Dr. Billye Brim, *Judgment of the Nations for How They Treat Israel*

The Lord's will for them was, "*Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth*" (Gen. 9:1). Under Nimrod (Gen. 10:8-11), the nations rebelled at Babel (Gen. 11). Three hundred and forty years after the flood, they had not scattered but were bunched up on the plain of Shinar (Babylon). The Babylonian System began with this rebellion.

The LORD judged them, confused their language, and scattered them throughout the earth. In Genesis 12, He introduced His separated nation, Israel. Israel was separated *from* the nations and *unto* God with the call of *revealing God to the nations*. In God's revelation to the church regarding Israel in Romans Chapters 9, 10, and 11, He avers that He does not change His mind regarding this calling. "*For the gifts and the calling of God are not repented of*" (Rom. 11:29). Nations, as nations, therefore are judged as to how they treat the chosen nation with the call to reveal God to them.³²

Genesis 12: 1-3 KJV

Gen. 12:1 ¶ Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

Gen. 12:2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

Gen. 12:3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

The Creator always has His plan in mind. Israel is the first step and the only vehicle of God's Glory: the only vehicle of the revelation of God and His Glory into the earth: the vehicle through which He must legally bring a Redeemer.

Notice that in the judgments pronounced in Chapter 25, the Just God defines the cause for the judgments (in verses 3, 6, 12 and 15) saying, "*Because ...*"

Proverbs 26:2 KJV ¶ As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, so the curse **causeless** shall not come.

Prophecies Against the Nations

In chapter 25, Ezekiel prophesies against several nations surrounding Israel. (Keep in mind that these prophecies come at a time when Israel is in captivity in Babylon.) Israel had ceased to exist as an independent nation. Even so, God was planning a judgment on surrounding nations for how they treated Israel. Some of these prophecies were fulfilled right away; some will not come about until later in time.

With some prophecies, there is what I call "fillment" and "fulfillment." For example, Isaiah's prophecy that "a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son" happened in his time, but was later fulfilled at the birth of Jesus Christ. Sometimes there is a more immediate "fillment" and a later "fulfillment" of a prophecy.

³² Brim, 5-6.

Ammon and Moab

- These are the names of the children of Lot by his daughters.
- This is also the ancient territory in what is now Jordan. (Jordan's capital is Amman.)

Ezekiel 25:2-3, 6-8 יְהוֹקָאֵל JPS 1917

2 בן-אָדָם, שִׁים פָּנֶיךָ אֶל-בְּנֵי עַמּוֹן; וְהִנָּבֵא, עֲלֵיהֶם. **'Son of man**, set thy face toward the children of **Ammon**, and prophesy against them;

3 וְאָמַרְתָּ לְבְנֵי עַמּוֹן, שְׁמְעוּ דְבַר-אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה: כֹּה-אָמַר אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה יַעַן אָמַרְתָּ הָאֵחָ אֶל-מִקְדָּשִׁי כִּי-נִחָל, וְאֶל-אֲדֹמַת יִשְׂרָאֵל כִּי נִשְׁמָה, וְאֶל-בֵּית יְהוּדָה, כִּי הָלְכוּ בְּגוֹלָה. **Ammon**: Hear the word of the Lord GOD: Thus saith the Lord GOD: Because thou saidst: Aha! against My sanctuary, when it was profaned, and against the land of Israel, when it was made desolate, and against the house of Judah, when they went into captivity;

6 וְכִי כֹה אָמַר, אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה, יַעַן מִחָאֵךְ יָד, וּרְקַעְךָ בְּרִגְלִי; וַתִּשְׁמַח בְּכָל-שְׂאֲטוֹךְ בְּנַפְשִׁי, אֶל-אֲדֹמַת יִשְׂרָאֵל. **Lord GOD**: Because thou hast clapped thy hands, and stamped with the feet, and rejoiced with all the disdain of thy soul against the land of Israel;

7 לָכֵן הִנְנִי נֹטִיתִי אֶת-יָדִי עָלֶיךָ, וְנִתַּתִּיךָ לְבַג (לְבָז) לְגוֹיִם, וְהִכַּרְתִּיךָ מִן-הָעַמִּים, וְהָאֲבִדְתִּיךָ מִן-הָאֲרָצוֹת; אֲשַׁמְדֶּךָ, וַיָּדַעְתָּ כִּי-אֲנִי יְהוָה. **therefore, behold, I stretch out My hand upon thee, and will deliver thee for a spoil to the nations; and I will cut thee off from the peoples, and I will cause thee to perish out of the countries; I will destroy thee, and thou shalt know that I am the LORD. {P}**

8 כֹּה אָמַר, אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה: יַעַן, אָמַר מוֹאָב וְשֵׁעִיר, הִנֵּה כָכָל-הַגּוֹיִם, בֵּית יְהוּדָה. **Thus saith the Lord GOD: Because that Moab and Seir do say: Behold, the house of Judah is like unto all the nations,**

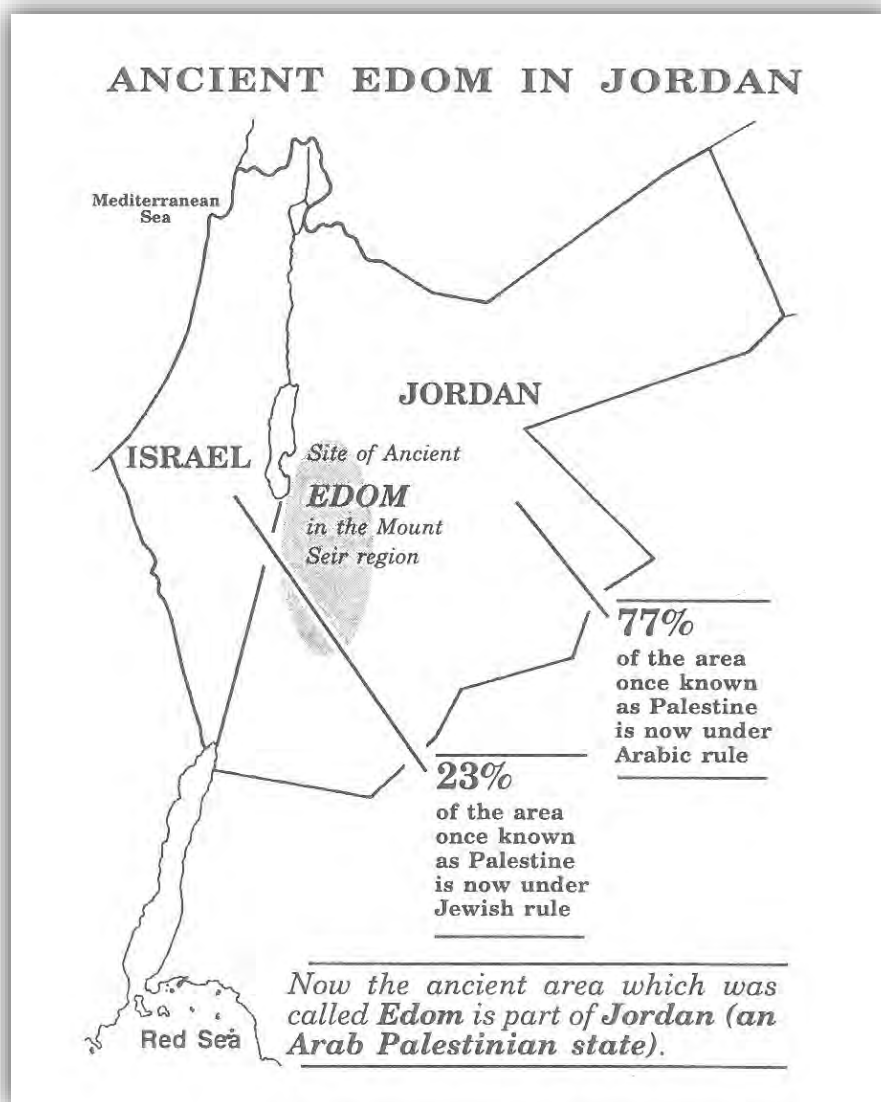
Edom

- This is the name of the children of Esau.
- This is also the ancient territory just south of Ammon and Moab.

“Edom,” Britannica.com.

Edom, ancient land bordering ancient Israel, in what is now southwestern Jordan, between the Dead Sea and the Gulf of Aqaba ... Edom and Moab were later conquered by the Nabataeans, and the Edomites migrated to southern Judaea, where they were known in New Testament times as Idumaeans.³³

- A rather widely accepted idea among religious Jews is that Edom equates with Rome. I do not see this, but it could be.



³³ “Edom,” Britannica.com. Accessed May 25, 2021. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Edom>

Ezekiel 25:12-13 יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ JPS 1917

12 Thus saith the Lord GOD: Because that **Edom** hath dealt against the house of Judah by taking vengeance, and hath greatly offended, and revenged himself upon them;

13 therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: I will stretch out My hand upon **Edom**, and will cut off man and beast from it ...

Genesis 36:1, 9 KJV

Gen. 36:1 ¶ Now these *are* the generations of Esau, who *is* Edom.

Gen. 36:9 ¶ And these *are* the generations of Esau the father of the Edomites in mount Seir:

The entire Middle East lay a barren wasteland for centuries until Israel came back onto the pages of world history with the beginnings of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Factors that contributed to the reemergence of the Middle East include: the discovery of oil, World War I, the eventual return of Israel.

The judgments of this chapter knew what I call a "fillment" with the scattering of Israel.

Verse 14, however seems to point to a time when Israel is strong again.

Ezekiel 25:14 יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ JPS 1917

14 And I will lay My vengeance upon **Edom** by the hand of My people Israel; and they shall do in **Edom** according to Mine anger and according to My fury; and they shall know my vengeance, saith the **Lord GOD**.

Philistines

- These are the foreign peoples who came by way of the Mediterranean Sea and settled in what is now known as Gaza.

Ezekiel 25:15-17 יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ JPS 1917

15 Thus saith the Lord GOD: Because the **Philistines** have dealt by revenge, and have taken vengeance

- בְּשֹׂאֵט בְּנַפְשׁ, לְמַשְׁחִית אֵיבֶת עוֹלָם. with disdain of soul to destroy, for the old hatred;
- 16 therefore thus saith the **Lord GOD**: Behold, I will stretch out My hand upon the **Philistines**, and I will cut off the Cherethites, and destroy the remnant of the sea-coast.
- 17 And I will execute great vengeance upon them with furious rebukes; and they shall know that I am the **LORD**, when I shall lay My vengeance upon them.' {P}

Hebrew Vocabulary

יְהוָה	<i>Yehovah</i>	
אֲדֹנֵי יְהוָה	<i>Adonai Yehovah</i>	
בֵּית יְהוּדָה	<i>Bet Yehudah</i>	House of Judah
גּוֹיִם	<i>goyim</i>	nations
מוֹאָב	<i>Moav or Moab</i>	
עַמּוֹן	<i>Ammon</i>	
אֶדוֹם	<i>Edom</i>	
פְּלִשְׁתִּים	<i>Pelishtim</i>	Philistines

SESSION 8 CONTINUES IN LESSON 14

יְחֶזְקֵאל YEchezkel

EZEKIEL 26-28 The Judgment of Tyre

SESSION 8 CONTINUES HERE

Tyre was a proud city-state whose leaders considered her rocky island fortress impregnable. But God pronounces judgment upon her, and history confirms that it happened just as God said it would. (See Appendix 15: "The Destruction of Tyre.")

Zidon is associated with Tyre in Scripture. (It is spelled "Sidon" in the New Testament.) Again, the LORD defines the reasons for judgment using "because."

Ezekiel 26

Ezekiel 26:1-3, 7 יְחֶזְקֵאל JPS 1917

- א וַיְהִי בַּעֲשָׂתֵי-עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה, בַּאֲחָד לַחֹדֶשׁ, הָיָה דְבַר-יְהוָה, אֵלַי לֵאמֹר.
1 And it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the first day of the month, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:
- ב בֶּן-אָדָם, יַעַן אֲשֶׁר-אָמְרָה צָר עַל-יְרוּשָׁלַם הָאֵת--נִשְׁבְּרָה דְלִתּוֹת הָעַמִּים, נִסְבָּה אֵלַי: אֲמַלְאָה, הַחֲרָבָה.
2 'Son of man, because that Tyre hath said against Jerusalem: aha, she is broken that was the gate of the peoples; she is turned unto me; I shall be filled with her that is laid waste;
- ג לָכֵן, כֹּה אָמַר אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה, הִנְנִי עֹלִידָה, צָר; וְהָעִלִיתִי עָלֶיךָ גּוֹיִם רַבִּים, כִּהְעֲלֹת הַיָּם לָגֵלְיוֹ.
3 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD: behold, I am against thee, O Tyre, and will cause many nations to come up against thee, as the sea causeth its waves to come up.
- ז כִּי כֹה אָמַר, אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה, הִנְנִי מְבִיא אֶל-צָר נְבוּכַדְרֶאצַּר מֶלֶךְ-בָּבֶל מִצָּפוֹן, מֶלֶךְ מַלְכִּים--בָּסוֹס וּבָרֶכֶב וּבַפָּרָשִׁים, וְקָהָל וְעַם-רַב.
7 For thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I will bring upon Tyre Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, king of kings, from the north, with horses, and with chariots, and with horsemen, and a company, and much people.

A Double-Kingdom System

The Prince of Tyre

In the following verse, God addresses one he calls “the Prince of Tyre.” He lifts himself up as a god, but God says he is only a man. The “Prince of Tyre” here is the prideful earthly ruler of Tyre.

Ezekiel 28

Ezekiel 28:2 יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל JPS 1917

2 **'Son of man**, say unto the prince of Tyre: Thus saith the Lord GOD: because thy heart is lifted up, and thou hast said: I am a god, I sit in the seat of God, in the heart of the seas; **yet thou art man, and not God**, though thou didst set thy heart as the heart of God--

ב בֶּן-אָדָם אָמַר לְנָגִיד צֹר כֹּה-
אָמַר אֲדֹנִי יְהוָה, יַעַן גָּבַהּ לִבִּי
וַתֹּאמֶר אֵל אֲנִי--מוֹשֵׁב אֱלֹהִים
יֹשְׁבִתִּי, בְּלֵב יָמִים; וְאַתָּה אָדָם
וְלֹא-אֵל, וַתִּתֵּן לִבִּי כֵלֵב
אֱלֹהִים.

The King of Tyre

The “king of Tyre” is a ruler over Tyre from the mid-heavens—he is not a man, but a spirit being. He is a “prince of the power of the air” (Ephesians 2:2) who rules down through the earthly ruler. The Greek word used for “power” here is *exousia*, meaning authority.

The description of this “king” reveals that he is Lucifer turned Satan. Lucifer means day star; Satan means adversary. He has been in Eden (28:13). He is a created being, not born in the manner of men (28:13, 15). He was the anointed cherub upon the holy mountain of God (28:14). He walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire (28:14). He was perfect in the day he was created until iniquity was found in him (28:15).

Ezekiel 28:11-15 יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל JPS 1917

11 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying:

יֹא וַיְהִי דְבַר-יְהוָה, אֵלַי לֵאמֹר.

12 **'Son of man**, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say unto him: Thus saith the Lord

יב בֶּן-אָדָם, שֵׂא קִינָה עַל-מֶלֶךְ
צֹר; וְאָמַרְתָּ לּוֹ, כֹּה אָמַר אֲדֹנִי

GOD: Thou seal most accurate, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty,

13 thou wast in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the carnelian, the topaz, and the emerald, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the carbuncle, and the smaragd, and gold; the workmanship of thy settings and of thy sockets was in thee, in the day that thou wast created they were prepared.

14 Thou wast the far-covering cherub; and I set thee, so that thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of stones of fire.

15 **תו** תָּמִים אָתָּה בְּדַרְכֶּיךָ, מִיּוֹם
הִבָּרְאָךְ, עַד-נִמְצָא עוֹלָתְךָ, בָּךְ.

Ezekiel 28:16-17 KJV

Ezek. 28:16 By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.

Ezek. 28:17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

Where did the iniquity come from?

God created an archangel. Lucifer made a devil out of himself. Lifted up in pride, he was the first ever to turn his God-given free will against God.

Isaiah 14 answers the question above. The original Hebrew has no punctuation. The translators added it. Question marks should have been used in verse 12 rather than exclamation marks.

Isaiah 14:7-15 KJV

Is. 14:7 The whole earth is at rest, *and* is quiet: they break forth into singing.

Is. 14:8 Yea, the fir trees rejoice at thee, *and* the cedars of Lebanon, *saying*, Since thou art laid down, no feller is come up against us.

Is. 14:9 Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet *thee* at thy coming: it stirreth up the dead for thee, *even* all the chief ones of the earth; it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations.

Right now, Satan is not in hell. He is in the heavenlies, with a seat in the heavenlies.

Compare Ezekiel 28:17—"I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee." I believe that dead evil rulers who had been beguiled by Satan are in cells in hell. The day will come when the very one who had beguiled them will himself show up, not to release them, but to face his own eternal punishment. In the following verses, they express their surprise at the fallen state of the one they had served in their lifetimes.

Is. 14:10 All they shall speak and say unto thee, Art thou also become weak as we? art thou become like unto us?

Is. 14:11 Thy pomp is brought down to the grave, *and* the noise of thy viols: the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee.

Is. 14:12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! *how* art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

Is. 14:13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

Is. 14:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

Is. 14:15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Besides recounting Satan's fall, Isaiah 14 reveals his evil influence on nations.

Revelation 20:7-8 gives another picture of his vile influence.

Revelation 20:1-10 KJV

Rev. 20:1 ¶ And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

Rev. 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Rev. 20:3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

Rev. 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and *I saw* the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received *his* mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

Rev. 20:5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

Rev. 20:6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

Rev. 20:7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

Rev. 20:8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

Rev. 20:9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

Rev. 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

The Ingathering

The Future Ingathering of the Jews Is Associated With the End-of-Days Judgment Upon Israel's Neighboring Nations.

Ezekiel 28:24-26 יְהוָה יִחְזָקֶאל JPS 1917

24 כֹּד וְלֹא-יִהְיֶה עוֹד לְבֵית יִשְׂרָאֵל, סָלוֹן מִמַּאִיר וְקוֹץ מִכָּאֵב, מִכָּל סְבִיבָתָם, הַשְּׂאִטִּים אוֹתָם; וַיָּדְעוּ, כִּי אֲנִי אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה. {פ} 24 And there shall be no more a pricking brier unto the house of Israel, nor a piercing thorn of any that are round about them, that did have them in disdain; and they shall know that I am the Lord GOD. {P}

25 כֹּה כַה-אָמַר, אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה, בִּקְבָצִי אֶת-בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל מִן-הָעַמִּים אֲשֶׁר נִפְצְוּ בָם, וְנִקְדָּשְׁתִּי בָם לְעֵינֵי הַגּוֹיִם; וַיָּשְׁבוּ, עַל-אֲדָמָתָם, אֲשֶׁר נָתַתִּי, לְעַבְדִּי לְיַעֲקֹב. 25 Thus saith the Lord GOD: When I shall have gathered the house of Israel from the peoples among whom they are scattered, and shall be sanctified in them in the sight of the nations, then shall they dwell in their own land which I gave to My servant Jacob.

26 כֹּו וַיָּשְׁבוּ עָלֶיהָ, לְבִטָּח, וּבְנוּ בָתִּים וְנִטְעוּ כַרְמִים, וַיָּשְׁבוּ לְבִטָּח: בַּעֲשׂוֹתִי שְׁפָטִים, בְּכָל 26 And they shall dwell safely therein, and shall build houses, and plant vineyards; yea, they shall dwell safely; when I have executed judgments upon

הַשְׂאֲטִים אֹתָם מִסְבִּיבוֹתָם-- all those that have them in disdain
 וַיֵּדְעוּ, כִּי אֲנִי יְהוָה round about them; and they shall know
 אֲלֵהֵיָהֶם. {P} that I am the LORD their God.'

Again, the Lord gives the promise of future blessing. God tells the end from the beginning.

“they shall know that I am the Lord God”

“they shall know that I am the LORD their God”

This phrase (in both forms) is often used in the Book of Ezekiel. It shows God’s purpose in the various blessings or judgments.

“My servant Jacob”

When God speaks about the physical descendants of Abraham, He often calls them “Jacob.” He doesn’t call them “Abraham.” Abraham had several other sons. He doesn’t call them “Isaac.” Isaac had another son, Esau. He calls them “Jacob,” for all of Jacob’s sons were the twelve tribes of Israel.

Hebrew Vocabulary

יְהוָה	Yehovah	
אֲדֹנֵי יְהוָה	Adonai Yehovah	
בֶּן-אָדָם	ben adam	son of man
בֵּית יְהוּדָה	bet Yehudah	House of Judah
גּוֹיִם	goyim	nations
דְּבַר-יְהוָה	d ^e var Yehovah	word of the LORD

SESSION 8 ENDS HERE

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