

The Book of Ezekiel

9

Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God's Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

Morning Study

This morning we continue our study of the book of **Ezekiel**, this time reading **chapters 25-35**.

These chapters are almost exclusively prophecies against the countries surrounding Judah, interrupted only in **chapter 33** with the news of the fall of Jerusalem and in **chapter 34** with a prophecy against "the shepherds of Israel."

These prophecies of this section include:

- A prophecy against Ammon (**25:1-7**)
- A prophecy against Moab (**25:8-11**)
- A prophecy against Edom (**25:12-14**)
- A prophecy against Philistia (**25:15-17**)
- A prophecy against Tyre (**26:1-28:19**)
- A prophecy against Sidon (**28:20-26**)
- A prophecy against Egypt (**29:1-32:32**)
- A second prophecy against Edom (**35:1-15**)

In **28:11-19**, the Lord directs Ezekiel to take up a "lament" concerning the king of Tyre. Yet many believe this prophecy to also be a behind-the-curtains look at the spiritual force that motivated the king – Satan himself.

It is important to understand, when reading this prophecy, that it really was directed to a natural king. All the words of the prophecy relate immediately to the king of Tyre, for the prophet is using the imagery of Eden and of pre-rebellion Heaven as a picture of what was going to happen to the natural king. But in doing so, the prophecy also addresses the origins of Satan – the true "power behind the throne." Like many prophecies in Scripture, this prophecy has a double-barrel meaning – a primary meaning directed to the natural king, and a secondary meaning directed to the power behind the natural king.

Let's now read the third section of **Ezekiel** – **chapters 25-35**.

Memory Verse

Surely the arm of the Lord is not too short to save,
nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities
have separated you from your God; your sins have
hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

Isaiah 59:1-2

Your Fishing Kit

This is the ninth verse in your fishing kit. **Isaiah 59:1-2** describes the terrible plight of a humanity separate from God. There is nothing wrong with God – his arm is “not too short to save” nor is “his ear too dull to hear.” The problem lies with us. Our sin has separated us from a holy God, creating a seemingly impassible chasm.

What wonderful news the Gospel is! That chasm was crossed in Christ! In Christ, God heard our cry and reached out with his arm to save us.

Here are the other verses in your “fishing kit”:

John 3:16	Proverbs 14:12	John 1:12	Matthew 10:32-33
John 3:18	Romans 5:8	John 3:3	1 Corinthians 10:13
John 3:36	1 John 4:10	John 5:24	1 John 5:10
Ephesians 1:7-8	Acts 2:38	John 6:37	1 John 5:11
Romans 3:23	Acts 3:19	John 10:10	1 John 5:12
Romans 6:23	Acts 4:12	John 10:28	Romans 2:4-5
Isaiah 53:5	John 14:6	Romans 10:9	Acts 17:30
Isaiah 53:6	1 John 1:8	Romans 10:13	John 14:1-3
Isaiah 59:1-2	1 John 1:9	2 Corinthians 5:17	John 16:33
Isaiah 54:6	1 John 1:10	2 Corinthians 5:21	Revelation 3:20

Store these verses in your heart. Memorize them until they have an “on the tip of your tongue” familiarity. You will find them of immeasurable value as you cooperate with the Lord in his mission of bringing the Gospel to this lost world.