

Ezekiel 21:1-32 **Sword of Yahweh in the hand of the king of Babylon
Against Judea & Jerusalem and the Ammonites**

Babylon, the Sword of God

¹ And the word of Yahweh (the Lord) came to me, saying,
² "Son of man, set your face toward Jerusalem, preach against the holy places, and prophesy against the land of Israel; ³ and say to the land of Israel,

'Thus says Yahweh (the Lord): "Behold, I am against you, and I will draw My sword out of its sheath and cut off both righteous and wicked from you.

⁴ Because I will cut off both righteous and wicked from you, therefore My sword shall go out of its sheath against all flesh from south to north, ⁵ that all flesh may know that I, Yahweh (the Lord), have drawn My sword out of its sheath; it shall not return anymore."

⁶ Sigh therefore, son of man, with a breaking heart, and sigh with bitterness before their eyes.

⁷ And it shall be when they say to you, 'Why are you sighing?' that you shall answer, 'Because of the news; when it comes, every heart will melt, all hands will be feeble, every spirit will faint, and all knees will be weak as water. Behold, it is coming and shall be brought to pass,' says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God)."

⁸ Again the word of Yahweh (the Lord) came to me, saying, ⁹ "Son of man, prophesy and say, 'Thus says the Lord!' Say:

'A sword, a sword is sharpened And also polished! ¹⁰ Sharpened to make a dreadful slaughter, Polished to flash like lightning! Should we then make mirth? It despises the scepter of My son, As it does all wood.

¹¹ And He has given it to be polished, That it may be handled; This sword is sharpened, and it is polished To be given into the hand of the slayer.'

¹² "Cry and wail, son of man; For it will be against My people, Against all the princes of Israel. Terrors including the sword will be against My people; Therefore strike your thigh.

¹³ "Because it is a testing, And what if the sword despises even the scepter? The scepter shall be no more," says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God).

¹⁴ "You therefore, son of man, prophesy, And strike your hands together. The third time let the sword do double damage. It is the sword that slays, The sword that slays the great men, That enters their private chambers.

¹⁵ I have set the point of the sword against all their gates, That the heart may melt and many may stumble. Ah! It is made bright; It is grasped for slaughter:

¹⁶ "Swords at the ready! Thrust right! Set your blade! Thrust left — Wherever your edge is ordered!

¹⁷ "I also will beat My fists together, And I will cause My fury to rest; I, Yahweh (the Lord), have spoken."

King of Babylon at fork of the road between Rabbah of the Ammonites and Jerusalem

¹⁸ The word of Yahweh (the Lord) came to me again, saying:

¹⁹ "And son of man, appoint for yourself two ways for the sword of the king of Babylon to go; both

of them shall go from the same land. Make a sign; put it at the head of the road to the city.

20 Appoint a road for the sword to go to Rabbah of the Ammonites, and to Judah, into fortified Jerusalem.

21 For the king of Babylon stands at the parting of the road, at the fork of the two roads, to use divination: he shakes the arrows, he consults the images, he looks at the liver.

22 In his right hand is the divination for Jerusalem: to set up battering rams, to call for a slaughter, to lift the voice with shouting, to set battering rams against the gates, to heap up a siege mound, and to build a wall.

23 And it will be to them like a false divination in the eyes of those who have sworn oaths with them; but he will bring their iniquity to remembrance, that they may be taken.

24 "Therefore thus says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God): 'Because you have made your iniquity to be remembered, in that your transgressions are uncovered, so that in all your doings your sins appear — because you have come to remembrance, you shall be taken in hand.

25 'Now to you, O profane, wicked prince of Israel, whose day has come, whose iniquity shall end, 26 thus says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God):

"Remove the turban, and take off the crown; Nothing shall remain the same. Exalt the humble, and humble the exalted.

27 Overthrown, overthrown, I will make it overthrown! It shall be no longer, Until He comes whose right it is, And I will give it to Him."

A Sword Against the Ammonites

28 "And you, son of man, prophesy and say, 'Thus says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God) concerning the Ammonites and concerning their reproach,' and say:

'A sword, a sword is drawn, Polished for slaughter, For consuming, for flashing —

29 While they see false visions for you, While they divine a lie to you, To bring you on the necks of the wicked, the slain Whose day has come, Whose iniquity shall end.

30 'Return it to its sheath. I will judge you In the place where you were created, In the land of your nativity.

31 I will pour out My indignation on you; I will blow against you with the fire of My wrath, And deliver you into the hands of brutal men who are skillful to destroy.

32 You shall be fuel for the fire; Your blood shall be in the midst of the land. You shall not be remembered, For I Yahweh (the Lord) have spoken."

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Facts Revealed:

Babylon, the Sword of God

✧ Ezekiel is a priest who was carried away captive by the Babylonians and is among the captives by the River Chebar. [Ezekiel 1:1-2]

✧ The message is to Jerusalem and the land of Israel. [Ezekiel 21:1-2]

✧ The time of grace has ended and the time for the Wrath of Yahweh has come.

✧ Yahweh has given the Children of Israel a thousand years from the time He brought them out of Egypt to be His People, waiting for them to repent of their sins and return to Him in truth, because He finds no pleasure in the death of sinners. [Ezekiel 18:32, 2 Peter 3:9]

- ✧ When the people of a land persist in their rebellion and refuse to be corrected Yahweh must bring it to an end in His wrath against evil. He did it in the days of Noah with the great flood, and in the judgment against Sodom and Gomorrah, and will again in the Great Tribulation.
- ✧ When Yahweh pours out His wrath on a land it kills the righteous as well as the wicked. [Ezekiel 21:3-4]
- ✧ The purpose is that all will know Yahweh is God over all of His creation. [Ezekiel 21:5]
- ✧ Ezekiel is commanded to sigh with a broken heart to let the people know that news of the destruction of Jerusalem is coming soon. [Ezekiel 21:6-7]
- ✧ Yahweh's sword of Wrath is prepared and ready to carry out His judgment on His people. [Ezekiel 21:8-17]

King of Babylon at fork of the road between Rabbah of the Ammonites and Jerusalem

- ✧ The sword of Yahweh is now in the hand of the king of Babylon and is now at the fork of the road between Rabbah of the Ammonites and Jerusalem of Judah. The king of Babylon is using enchantments to decide which to take first. [Ezekiel 21:18-23]
- ✧ Yahweh is directing His wrath by the king of Babylon **because** of the persistent sins and iniquities of His people in Jerusalem and Judea.
Yahweh will humble the exalted and exalt the humble. [Ezekiel 21:24-26]
- ✧ The land of Israel will be overthrown until the King of Righteousness comes to whom Yahweh will give it. [Ezekiel 21:27, Daniel 7:13-14, Isaiah 1:26-27]

A Sword Against the Ammonites [Ezekiel 21:28-32]

- ✧ The sword of Yahweh in the hand of the king of Babylon is set for the destruction of the Ammonites as well as Jerusalem.
- ✧ It will come while they are seeing false visions and using enchantments.
- ✧ Its purpose is to slay the wicked and end their iniquity.
- ✧ They will be delivered into the hands of brutal men.
- ✧ It is the vengeance of Yahweh.