



OUR CLAIM TO FAME

Studies in Ezekiel

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Growing in Spirit & Truth

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It All Goes Back in the Box

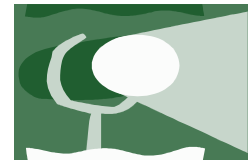
Introduction to Ezekiel 25-32

The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God’s pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God’s family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

When you play a board game you take all the pieces out, but at the end it all goes back in the box. That’s a lot like life—all we have left at the end on this earth simply goes back in the box (literally). The only thing that really matters it what goes with us into eternity because when death comes, the game here is over. That’s the message for all the nations around Israel in this week’s study. For twenty-five chapters God has been speaking to His people through Ezekiel, telling them that His hand of discipline is about to fall heavily on them. But in this section all of the pagan nations around Israel are informed of God’s judgment, as well as why that judgment is coming. God begins in Ezekiel 25 by addressing four of the surrounding nations—Ammon, Moab, Edom, and Philis-

tia. Their basic sin was that they abused God’s people, looking at their misfortune as an opportunity to take selfish advantage. God’s judgment would fall on them for this, showing that God will not allow anyone to hurt His people without retribution in the end. In the next part the prosperous seacoast nation of Tyre is examined. This was a place of great commerce, being strategically located as a gateway to the nations. Sadly, Tyre became very impressed with themselves and failed to give credit to God. As is shown in chapter 28 they were merely following the lead of the power behind their throne, Satan himself. He had been the covering angel for the throne of God but had become proud, and then fell from his exalted position.



Our claim to fame is found as we reflect the glory of God.

Similarly, Tyre would fall and all would be appalled at their devastation. Finally, Egypt and her allies are placed under God’s microscope and judgment on them is predicted. Their problem was that of trusting in their own strength, primarily due to the presence of the Nile River which provided great resources. They would be judged for misplaced trust and for failing God’s people when they turned to them. The fate of these seven nations shows that we must do whatever we can to avoid God’s judgment for it all goes back in the box.

Daily Study Questions for Ezekiel 25-32

(For answers to questions attend an ABF or go to www.celebrationnet.com, small groups, abf)

<p>1. Look at Ezek 25. What did each of the nations do wrong (v1-3, 8, 12, 15) and what would their judgment be (v4-7, 9-11, 13-14, 16-17)? What would be the result (v7, 11, 14, 17)?</p>	
<p>2. In Ezek 26 what did Tyre do wrong (v1-2) and what would God do to them (v3-6, 7-14, 19-21)? What effect would this have (v6, 15-18)?</p>	
<p>3. From Ezek 27 describe Tyre (v4-7, 8-11, 25). In what trades did they engage (v12-24) and what was their attitude (v3)? What would happen to them because of their pride (v26-36)? Apply.</p>	

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Ezekiel 25-32 Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. Using Ezek 28:1-10 describe the attitude of Tyre's leader (v2, 3-5, 6) and why was this wrong? What would happen to Tyre (v7-10)?

5. In 28:11-19 many believe this refers to Satan, the king (v12) supporting Tyre's leader. Describe him (v12-13), his duties (v14-15), his fall (v15-18) and his judgment (v18-19).

6. Looking at Ezek 28:20-24 what had Sidon, Tyre's neighbor, done wrong (v24) and what would God do to them (v22-23)?

7. According to Ezek 28:25-26 what would God do for Israel in the end (v25-26)? What would He do to all who had scorned them (v26) and why (v26)?

8. From 29:1-21 why would Egypt be judged (v3, 6-7, 9) and what would happen (v4-5, 8-9, 11-12)? Who would do this (v17-20), but what would happen in the end (v13-16, 21)?

9. Using 30:1-26 what sorrows lay ahead for Egypt (v4-8, 9-12, 13-19)? When Babylon defeated them who was responsible (v22-26)?

10. Looking at 31:1-18 whose fate did God tell Egypt to remember (v3)? How great were they (v3-9) and what did God do to them (v10-18)?

11. In 32:1-31 who will lie in their graves after God's judgment (v1-21, 22-23, 24-25, 26-28, 29, 30)? What does this say about how to live life?

12. Using this study list some of the attitudes that cause God's judgment, both presently and in the future. Write down some ways to avoid these in your life.

Scripture to Remember

“Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God.”

Ezekiel 28:16 (NIV)

Celebration Fellowship

Help—Hope—Healing

We're on the web

www.thehospitalchurch.com

Life Group Questions—Sheep Need a Guide (Ps 23:3b)

(Using questions based on today's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. Share about a time that stands out to you when you were “right”. Why does being “right” feel so good?
2. Read Psalm 23:3b. Discuss what it means to be practically “righteous”. How is this righteousness different from positional and eternal and why should we seek it?
3. Using Romans 12:1-2 talk about how to “present” your bodies to God and why this is basically a transfer of ownership. What happens to your will when you do this?
4. Once our will is submitted to God's will how do we keep from being conformed to the world (get practical)? As we do this, what are some ways to renew our mind?
5. Why is it okay to do what you want once you have presented yourself to God and are in the process of being transformed? Why must you filter this through the Word, the Spirit and wise counsel?
6. Which of the 3 key statements at the end means the most to you, and why?
7. Bring up anything else important to you from Sunday's message if there is time.