

EZEKIEL 35:1-15 – “JUDGMENT ON MOUNT SEIR”

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:30pm, H 106 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell # 714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column.

THE RESULTS ON MOUNT SEIR : (VS. 1-15)

Eze 35:1 Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

Eze 35:2 "Son of man, set your face against Mount Seir and prophesy against it,

Eze 35:3 and say to it, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, O Mount Seir, I am against you; I will stretch out My hand against you, And make you most desolate;

Eze 35:4 I shall lay your cities waste, And you shall be desolate. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.

Eze 35:5 "Because you have had an ancient hatred, and have shed the blood of the children of Israel by the power of the sword at the time of their calamity, when their iniquity came to an end, Eze 35:6 therefore, as I live," says the Lord GOD, "I will prepare you for blood, and blood shall pursue you; since you have not hated blood, therefore blood shall pursue you.

Eze 35:7 Thus I will make Mount Seir most desolate, and cut off from it the one who leaves and the one who returns.

INTERPRETATION

THE RESULTS ON MOUNT SEIR : (VS. 1-15)

Eze 35:1 Another feature of Israel's prosperity; those who exulted over Israel's humiliation, shall themselves be a "prey." Already stated in *Eze 25:12-14*; properly repeated here in full detail, as a commentary on *Eze 34:28*. The Israelites "shall be no more a prey"; but Edom, the type of their most bitter foes, shall be destroyed irrecoverably.

Eze 35:2 Mount Seir — that is, Idumea (*Gen 36:9*). Singled out as badly pre-eminent in its bitterness against God's people, to represent all their enemies everywhere and in all ages. So in *Isa 34:5*; *Isa 63:1-4*, Edom, the region of the greatest enmity towards God's people, is the ideal scene of the final judgments of all God's foes. "Seir" means "shaggy," alluding to its rugged hills and forests.

Eze 35:3 And say to it, thus says the Lord God,.... The prophet was not upon the spot, and could not direct his speech immediately to the Edomites; but he might send this prophecy to their ambassadors at Babylon; or in a letter to them in their own land, in the name of the Lord: **Behold, O Mount Seir, I am against you:** not the face of the prophet only, but the face of God himself was against them; and a terrible thing it is for any to have God to be against them, whether a nation, or a particular person. **I will stretch out mine hand against you;** which was able to reach them wherever they were: and which, being stretched out, cannot be turned back; and, where it lights, falls heavy indeed; namely, his mighty hand of power and wrath, that is, lift up his hand and strike powerfully; the consequence of which must be as follows: **and make you most desolate;** their land, cities, towns, and villages, all should be utterly laid waste; see *Rev 17:16*, so it follows

Eze 35:4: I shall lay your cities waste,.... Such as Dedan, Teman, Bozrah, (*Gen 36:33*) and other cities of Idumea mentioned in Scripture; and figuratively may design all within the jurisdiction of Rome, the several cities of the antichristian states, called "the cities of the nations"; which will fall at the pouring out of the vials, *Rev 16:19*, **and your shall be desolate;** thoroughly and entirely, and remain so: **Then you shall know that I am the Lord;** that has done all this; that the hand of God was in it; and that this is a punishment inflicted by him, for their sins after mentioned; but not that they should know the Lord spiritually and savingly, and so as to yield obedience to him, and own and acknowledge him to be their God; though this may be the case of a remnant among them; see *Rev 11:13*.

Eze 35:5 Because you have had an ancient (perpetual) hatred, and have shed the blood of the children of Israel by the power of the sword at the time of their calamity, when their iniquity came to an end. When by their punishment I called them from their iniquity.

Eze 35:6 therefore as I live, says the Lord GOD, I will prepare for blood, and blood shall pursue you: since you have not hated blood, therefore blood shall pursue you. Except or unless you repent your former cruelty.

Eze 35:7 Thus will I make Mount Seir most desolate,.... By shedding the blood of the inhabitants of it; and as Rome will be, when it will be utterly burnt with fire, as that city will, and the flesh of the whore also, and made desolate; and when all the vials shall be poured out on the antichristian states under her jurisdiction, *Rev 16:1*, **and cut off from it the one who leaves and the one who returns.** Every traveller that passes to and fro; it shall no more be frequented by merchants; nor will there be any merchandise any more in it, *Rev 18:11*

APPLICATION

In chapter 35 God decides the controversy between Edom and Israel, and condemns Mount Seir (a range of mountains, east of the African Rift Valley) to perpetual desolation, because of their continual hatred of Israel; and instead of delivering up Israel to Edom in the day that He chastises His people, it is Edom that shall bear the punishment of this hatred, when the whole earth shall rejoice. When God chastises His people, the world thinks to possess everything; whereas that chastisement is but the precursor of the world's judgment.

Read: Dt. 2:1-8; Jer. 49:7-22; Is. 63:1-6; Ez. 25:12-14; 34:28; Amos 1:11-12 (time of Isaiah); Obadiah (time of Jeremiah/Ezekiel)

Again, we see the purpose of the Lord in destroying Mount Seir – “then you shall know that I am the LORD”.

God's promised punishment was based on their ancient and perpetual hatred and their having caused bloodshed of the children of Israel. –Amos 1:11-12; Jer. 49:7-22

God will punish by attacking Edom –“Thus I will make Mount Seir most desolate”.

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Eze 35:8 And I will fill its mountains with the slain; on your hills and in your valleys and in all your ravines those who are slain by the sword shall fall.

Eze 35:9 I will make you perpetually desolate, and your cities shall be uninhabited; then you shall know that I am the LORD.

Eze 35:10 "Because you have said, 'These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess them,' although the LORD was there,

Eze 35:11 therefore, as I live," says the Lord GOD, "I will do according to your anger and according to the envy which you showed in your hatred against them; and I will make Myself known among them when I judge you.

Eze 35:12 Then you shall know that I am the LORD. I have heard all your blasphemies which you have spoken against the mountains of Israel, saying, 'They are desolate; they are given to us to consume.'

Eze 35:13 Thus with your mouth you have boasted against Me and multiplied your words against Me; I have heard them."

Eze 35:14 Thus says the Lord GOD: "The whole earth will rejoice when I make you desolate.

Eze 35:15 As you rejoiced because the inheritance of the house of Israel was desolate, so I will do to you; you shall be desolate, O Mount Seir, as well as all of Edom—all of it! Then they shall know that I am the LORD."

QUESTIONS:

- Do you think that Rebekeh/Jacob or Isaac/Esau were the more disobedient against the Lord?
- Where do Israel's forces say today is their most vulnerable place?
- Does God's Word ever show condemnation toward Jacob? How about Esau? Jacob have I loved and Esau have I hated!!!
- What were the main reasons that God gives as to why He will destroy Edom?
- Can we see in today's study an example of coveting or blaspheming that which is the Lord's? What was the result?
- How does God feel about rejoicing over God judging another?
- Any similarities between Esau and Ahithophel? Who was Eliam?

INTERPRETATION

Eze 35:8 And I will fill its mountains with the slain..... Not only Mount Seir, but all the rest of the mountains, in Idumea; where they shall flee for refuge, and the enemy shall pursue them, and slay them; and where their carcasses will fall in such numbers, as to cover the mountains with them; compare with this *Rev. 19:18, in your hills and in your valleys and in all your ravines those who are slain by the sword shall fall*: expressive of the greatness and universality of the slaughter, that it should be a general one everywhere; hence rivers and fountains are said to become blood, through the number of the slain, *Rev. 16:3*. Therefore, O shepherds, hear the word of the Lord. This is repeated *Eze 35:9* , I will make you perpetually desolate, and your cities shall be uninhabited; that is, to their former estate, then you shall know that I am the LORD.

Eze 35:10 Because you have said, These two nations (meaning Israel and Judah) and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess them; although the LORD was there: And so by fighting against God's people they should go about to put him out of his own possession.

Eze 35:11 therefore, as I live, says the Lord GOD, I will do according to your anger (as you have done unto them, so it will be done unto you – cruelly handled, and according to the envy which you showed in your hatred against them; and I will make Myself known among them when I judge you. Showing that when God punishes the enemies, the godly ought to consider that he has a care over them and so praise his name: and also that the wicked rage as though there were no God, till they feel his hand to their destruction.

Eze 35:12 They are desolate, they are given to us to consume – They rejoiced exulted in seeing Judea overrun; and they delighted in the prospect of completing the ruin, when the Babylonians had withdrawn from the land.

Eze 35:13 Thus with your mouth you have boasted against me - You have said you would enter into those lands, and take them for your inheritance; though you knew that God had promised them to the Israelites, and that you should never have them for your portion.

Eze 35:14 The whole earth will rejoice... - When the whole land shall rejoice in the restoration of the Jews, I will make you desolate. This may refer to the time of the Maccabees

Eze 35:15 . So will I do to you... Others shall rejoice in your downfall as you have rejoiced at their downfall. This whole chapter strongly inculcates this maxim: Do as you would be done by; and what you would not have done to you, do not to others. And from it we learn that every man may, in some sort, be said to make his own temporal good or evil; for as he does to others, God will take care to do to him, whether it be evil or good. Would you not be slandered or backbitten? Then do not slander nor backbite. Wouldst thou wish to live in peace? Then do not disturb the peace of others. Be merciful, and thou shalt obtain mercy.

*Create in me a clean heart, oh God
And renew a right spirit within me
Create in me a clean heart, oh God
And renew a right spirit within me*

*Cast me not away from Thy presence, oh Lord
And take not Thy holy spirit from me
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation
And renew a right spirit within me*

APPLICATION

Once again, we see the purpose of the Lord in making Edom perpetually desolate – “then you shall know that I am the LORD”.

Notice that Mount Seir made plans to possess the land of Israel! They ignored the presence of the Lord – “although the LORD was there” Ez. 48:35 – “THE LORD IS THERE!” Dt.31:6,8; Josh. 1:5; Mt. 28:20; Heb. 13:5 They showed hatred against Israel – not a good thing, the LORD will repay!

They blasphemed the LORD and were consumed with greed. DON'T EVER BOAST AGAINST THE LORD!!! “I HAVE HEARD THEM”

God heard their proclamations – He sees, He hears, He knows, their reactions which were directed against Him.

They rejoiced over the possible possession of the land of Israel. (Ps. 137:7)

The result was that the LORD will be involved!! He will insure that Mount Seir (Edom) will be desolate – “all of it!” “then they shall know that I am the LORD!” If you take a trip to Edom today, its desolation is proof that indeed God's prophesy has been fulfilled! God's Word always comes to pass.

Gn. 12:3 “I will bless those who bless you and I will curse those who curse you!” How do you feel about Israel today? Heb. 12:14-17!! Are there any roots of bitterness in your heart? Don't sacrifice the permanent blessings of the Lord for temporary pleasures!!! Do you know Godly sorrow?

1. Don't be filled with hatred! (v. 5) Esau hated his birthright; he hated his brother!
2. Don't shed another's blood! (v.5-6)
3. Don't covet or possess what is the Lord's! (v. 10; Is. 42:8) Do you ever ignore His presence?
4. Don't rejoice in another believer's desolation.