

# Ezekiel 21:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Son of man, prophesy, and say, Thus saith the LORD; Say, A sword, a sword is sharpened, and also furbished:

## Analysis

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**"Son of man, prophesy, and say, Thus saith the LORD; Say, A sword, a sword is sharpened, and also furbished:"** The poetic repetition "A sword, a sword" creates urgency and emphasis. "Sharpened" (chuddadah, חָדָדָה) and "furbished" (merutah, מְרֻתָּה, polished) indicate complete preparation for battle. The sword isn't dull or rusty but perfectly maintained, ready for maximum effectiveness. This preparation imagery emphasizes judgment's certainty—God's sword is ready, waiting only for appointed time to strike.

## Historical Context

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Babylon's military prowess was legendary—disciplined armies with well-maintained weapons. Ezekiel's sharpened, polished sword represents both Babylon's literal military readiness and God's perfect preparation of judgment instruments. When Babylon besieged Jerusalem (589-586 BC), their military efficiency fulfilled the sharpened sword imagery—no aspect of their invasion was unprepared or ineffective.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

1. How does the prepared sword (sharpened and polished) illustrate God's thorough readiness to execute judgment?
2. What does divine preparation of judgment instruments teach about sovereignty over historical forces?
3. In what ways should awareness of God's prepared judgment create urgency in evangelism?

## Interlinear Text

בָּנִי	אָדָם	הַנּוֹבֵא	אָמֵר	כִּי	אָמֵר	אָמֵן	כִּי	אָמֵר	אָמֵן
<b>Son</b>	<b>of man</b>	<b>prophecy</b>	<b>Say</b>	H3541	<b>Say</b>	H136	<b>Say</b>	<b>A sword</b>	
H1121	H120	H5012	H559		H559		H559		H2719

רַב	הַמִּזְבֵּחַ	יְגִמָּה	מְרוּטָה:
<b>A sword</b>	<b>is sharpened</b>	H1571	<b>and also furbished</b>

## Additional Cross-References

**Ezekiel 21:3** (Word): And say to the land of Israel, Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I am against thee, and will draw forth my sword out of his sheath, and will cut off from thee the righteous and the wicked.

**Ezekiel 21:28** (Word): And thou, son of man, prophesy and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD concerning the Ammonites, and concerning their reproach; even say thou, The sword, the sword is drawn: for the slaughter it is furbished, to consume because of the glittering: