

Ezekiel 26:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Tyrus, and will cause many nations to come up against thee, as the sea causeth his waves to come up.

Analysis

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Tyrus announces divine opposition. The phrase I am against thee is one of Scripture's most terrifying statements—God Himself as enemy. And will cause many nations to come up against thee, as the sea causeth his waves to come up predicts successive invasions. Like waves relentlessly pounding a shore, nations will repeatedly attack Tyre. This was fulfilled through Babylonian siege (585-572 BC), then later conquest by Alexander the Great (332 BC). The wave metaphor is appropriate for the island city—judgment will come from the sea they dominated.

Historical Context

Nebuchadnezzar besieged mainland Tyre for 13 years (585-572 BC) but gained little plunder as Tyre moved to the island. Alexander the Great later built a causeway to the island and destroyed it utterly (332 BC). Successive invasions over centuries fulfilled this prophecy, demonstrating that divine judgments may take generations to complete fully.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What does it mean to have God declare 'I am against thee'?
2. How do successive judgments demonstrate God's patience and thoroughness?
3. Why does maritime judgment appropriately target a maritime power?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	לְכִי	כִּי	אָמַר	אָדָן	יְהִי	הַתְּבִיב	עַל
H3651	H3541	Therefore thus saith	the Lord	GOD	H2005	H5921	
		H559	H136	H3069			
צָר		קָפָעַל	וְת	עַל	יְהִי	אָדָן	
Behold I am against thee O Tyrus		to come up		H5921		nations	
H6865		H5927				H1471	
בְּבִים		קָפָעַל	וְת	בְּבִים		לְגַלְיוֹן	
and will cause many		to come up		against thee as the sea		causeth his waves	
H7227		H5927		H3220		H1530	

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 51:42 (Parallel theme): The sea is come up upon Babylon: she is covered with the multitude of the waves thereof.

Isaiah 5:30 (Parallel theme): And in that day they shall roar against them like the roaring of the sea: and if one look unto the land, behold darkness and sorrow, and the light is darkened in the heavens thereof.

Micah 4:11 (Parallel theme): Now also many nations are gathered against thee, that say, Let her be defiled, and let our eye look upon Zion.

