

# Ezekiel 27:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When thy wares went forth out of the seas, thou filledst many people; thou didst enrich the kings of the earth with the multitude of thy riches and of thy merchandise.

## Analysis

**Saying, What city is like Tyre, like the destroyed in the midst of the sea?—**  
The rhetorical question מִי קָצֹר כְּדַמָּה בְּתוּךְ הַיָּם (mî khēšôr kaddûmâh běthôkh hayyām, 'who is like Tyre, like the silenced in the midst of the sea?') uses דַמָּה (dûmâh, 'silence/desolation'), suggesting Tyre's voice is stilled forever.

This echoes laments over Babylon ('who is like Babylon?'—Revelation 18:18) and represents humanity's astonishment when seemingly invincible powers fall. Tyre appeared impregnable: island fortress, commercial dominance, wealth beyond measure. Yet God silenced her. The question highlights not just Tyre's uniqueness but the shock of her destruction—if mighty Tyre can fall, no human achievement is secure. Only God's kingdom is unshakable (Hebrews 12:27-28).

## Historical Context

Tyre's island location made it nearly impregnable to ancient siege warfare. It resisted Assyrian king Shalmaneser V for five years (724-720 BC) and Nebuchadnezzar for thirteen years (585-573 BC). Many doubted Tyre could fall. Yet Alexander the Great destroyed it in 332 BC by building a causeway from mainland to island—a feat considered impossible. The rhetorical question proved ironic: Tyre's uniqueness made her fall more stunning.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

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

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. What modern powers seem 'like Tyre'—too established to fall?
2. How does human shock at judgment reveal our false confidence in worldly security?
3. What does Tyre's uniqueness-turned-vulnerability teach about pride?

## Interlinear Text

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בָּאָתִים עַמִּים הַשְׁבִּעַת בְּצָאת  
went forth When thy wares out of the seas thou filledst people many  
H3318 H5801 H3220 H7646 H5971 H7227

מֶלֶכִים הַמְּלָאָשָׁר תָּרַת בָּרֶב  
with the multitude of thy riches and of thy merchandise thou didst enrich the kings  
H7230 H1952 H4627 H6238 H4428

אָרֶץ  
of the earth  
H776

## Additional Cross-References

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**Revelation 18:19** (Parallel theme): And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all

that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate.

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