

Ezekiel 27:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thy borders are in the midst of the seas, thy builders have perfected thy beauty.

Analysis

Thy borders are in the midst of the seas, thy builders have perfected thy beauty continues Tyre's self-description. Borders in the seas emphasizes maritime identity—Tyre's dominion was the Mediterranean. Thy builders have perfected thy beauty credits human skill and artistry for Tyre's magnificence. This represents humanistic self-glorification—we built this, we perfected this. No acknowledgment of God who gave intelligence, resources, and opportunity. Taking credit for what God enabled is theft of His glory. All human achievement ultimately depends on divine gifts of life, intelligence, resources, and opportunity.

Historical Context

Tyrian architects and craftsmen were famous throughout the ancient world. Solomon employed Tyrian builders for the temple (1 Kings 5). Tyre's construction and artistic sophistication were indeed impressive. Yet attributing perfection to human builders rather than the Creator who enabled them constitutes the pride that provokes judgment. Human skill is real but derivative—all talent comes from God.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How do we take credit for achievements that ultimately depend on God?
2. What does 'thy builders have perfected thy beauty' reveal about humanistic pride?
3. Why is ignoring God's role in our achievements a form of theft?

Interlinear Text

בְּלִב	יָם יָם	גְּבוּלֶיךָ	בְּנֵי יָךְ	כָּלְלֵו	יְפִיֶּךָ:
are in the midst	of the seas	Thy borders	thy builders	have perfected	thy beauty
H3820	H3220	H1366	H1129	H3634	H3308

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