

Ezekiel 28:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more.

Analysis

And I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee—The fire (v. 18) reduces Tyre to אֶפְרָה עַל־הָאָרֶץ (lě'ēpher 'al-hā'āreṣ, 'to ashes upon the earth') לְעֵינֵי כָל־רֹאִיךָ (lě'ênê khol-rō'ekhā, 'before the eyes of all who see you'). Public judgment serves as warning to observers.

All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee—שָׁמְמוּ (shāmēmû, 'be appalled/desolate') from שָׁמַם (shāmēm, 'to be devastated'). **Thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more**—בְּלֹהוֹת הָיִיתָ וְאֵינְךָ עַד־עוֹלָם (ballāhôt hāyîṭā wě'ênēkhā 'ad-ôlām, 'terrors you have become and you are not until forever'). This refrain (also 26:21, 27:36) seals Tyre's permanent end. Those who knew Tyre's magnificence will be shocked by her utter obliteration—a fate awaiting all who exalt themselves against God (Isaiah 14:12-15).

Historical Context

Ancient descriptions by Herodotus and others portray Tyre as splendid, wealthy, seemingly eternal. Yet by 332 BC, Alexander reduced it to rubble using mainland debris to build a causeway. Today, the causeway remains (visible from satellite images), permanently connecting island to mainland—silent testimony to fulfilled prophecy. Tyre became exactly what God said: ashes, astonishment, terror, gone.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. Why does God judge prideful powers publicly rather than privately?
2. What does Tyre's reduction to 'ashes' teach about the end of all human glory?
3. How should observing God's judgment on others affect our own lives?

Interlinear Text

כָּל	יֹדְעֵי יְיָ	בְּעַמִּי יִם	שְׁחֵמ וְ	עַל יְיָ
H3605	All they that know	thee among the people	shall be astonished	H5921
	H3045	H5971	H8074	
	בְּלָהּ וְ	הִי יֵת	וְאֵינְךָ	עַד
	at thee thou shalt be a terror	H1961	and never	shalt thou be any more
	H1091	H369	H5704	H5769

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 26:21 (Parallel theme): I will make thee a terror, and thou shalt be no more: though thou be sought for, yet shalt thou never be found again, saith the Lord GOD.

Revelation 18:21 (Parallel theme): And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.