

Notes on Ezekiel Ch 36

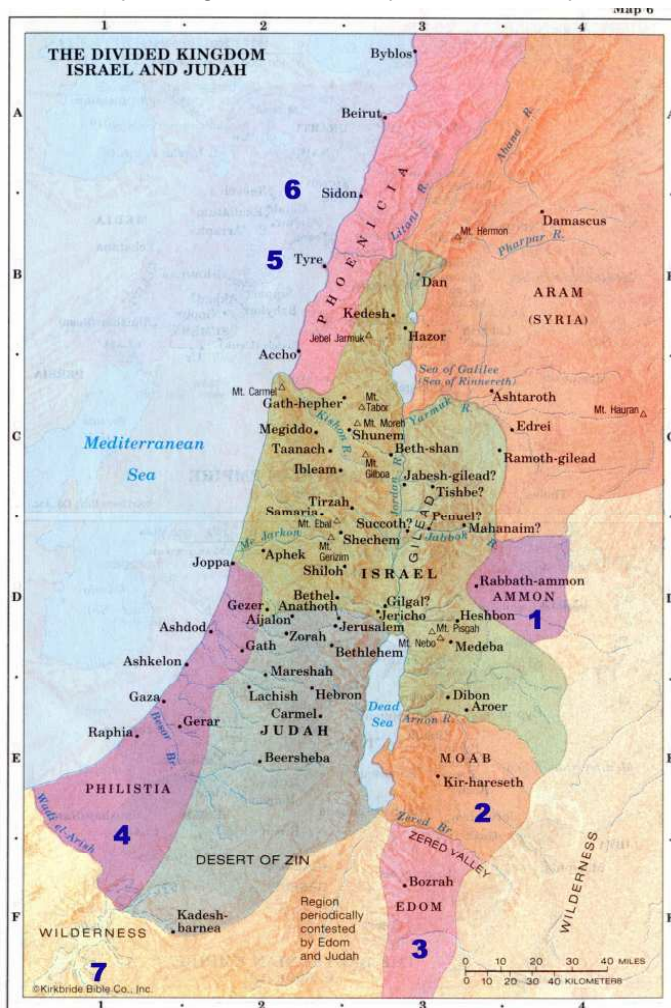
It appears that God spoke to Ezekiel twice (vv 1-15, 16-38). Notice how often the name 'Sovereign LORD' appears in this chapter. The name 'Sovereign LORD' is used in the NIV and NLT and in most other translations it is 'LORD God'.

Prophecy to the mountains of Israel

- God has Ezekiel prophesy to the mountains of Israel. (odd to prophesy to an inanimate object)
- O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the LORD
- This is what the Sovereign LORD says:
 - quotes enemies as saying 'Aha, ancient heights have become our possession.'
 - Ezek 25:3 Ammonites 'Aha! over my sanctuary when it was desecrated and over the land of Israel when it was laid waste and over the people of Judah when they went into exile'
 - Ezek 26:2 Tyre 'Aha! The gate to the nations is broken, and its doors have swung open to me; now that she lies in ruins I will prosper,'
 - Ezek 35:10 Edom "These two nations and countries will be ours and we will take possession of them,"

Because

- This is what the Sovereign LORD says
 - They ravaged, hounded you from every side



1. Ammon – Ch 25
2. Moab – Ch 25
3. Edom – Ch 25 & 35
4. Philistines – Ch 25
5. Tyre – Ch 26-28
6. Sidon – Ch 28b
7. Egypt – Ch 29-32

- so that you became the possession of nations
- object of scorn, malicious talk, slander

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Therefore

- mountains of Israel hear the word of the Sovereign LORD
- This is what the Sovereign LORD says
 - To mountains, hills, ravines, valleys, desolate ruins, deserted towns (that have been plundered & ridiculed by the rest of the nations around you)
- This is what the Sovereign LORD says
 - In My burning zeal I have spoken against the nations & Edom
 - For their glee and malice in their hearts
 - They made My land their possession so they might plunder its pastureland

Therefore

- Prophecy concerning the land of Israel
- Say to the mountains, hills, ravines, valleys
- This is what the Sovereign LORD says
 - I speak in My jealous wrath

Because

- You have suffered the scorn of the nations

Therefore

- This is what the Sovereign LORD says
 - I swear with uplifted hand
 - That the nations around you will also suffer scorn
 - But you O mountains of Israel
 - Will produce branches and fruit for My people Israel
 - They will come home soon
 - I am concerned for you
 - I Will look on you with favor (mountains??)
 - You will be plowed and sown
 - I will multiply the number of people upon you, even the whole house of Israel
 - The towns will be inhabited
 - The ruins rebuilt
 - I will increase the number of men and animals upon you
 - They will be fruitful and become numerous
 - I will settle people on you as in the past
 - I Will make you prosper more than before
 - Then you will know that I am the LORD
 - I will cause people, My people Israel to walk upon you
 - They will possess you
 - You will be their inheritance
 - You will never again deprive them of their children

Because

- This is what the Sovereign LORD says
 - You devour men and deprive your nation of its children

Therefore

- You will no longer devour men or make your nation childless declares the Sovereign LORD
- No longer will I make you hear the taunts of the nations
- No longer will you suffer the scorn of the peoples
- No longer will I cause your nation to fall, declares the Sovereign LORD

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2nd time the LORD spoke to Ezekiel

When Israel was living in their nation they defiled it by their conduct and actions

- Their conduct was like a woman's monthly uncleanness in My sight
- So I poured out My wrath on them

Because

- They had shed blood in the land
- They had defiled it with their idols
- I dispersed them among the nations
- They were scattered through the countries
- I judged them according to their conduct and actions
- Wherever they went among the nations they profaned **My Holy Name**
- I had concern for **My Holy Name**

Therefore

- This is what the Sovereign LORD says
 - It is not for your sake O house of Israel that I am going to do these things
 - But for the sake of **My Holy Name**, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone
 - I will show the **Holiness of My Great Name**, which has been profaned among the nations
 - The **Name** you have profaned among them
 - Then the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Sovereign LORD
 - When **I show Myself Holy** through you before their eyes
 - For I will take you out of the nations
 - I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back to your own land
 - I will sprinkle water on you and you will be clean
 - I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from your idols
 - I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you
 - I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh
 - I will put My Spirit in you and move you to follow My decrees and be careful to keep My laws
 - You will live in the land I gave your forefathers, you will be My people and I will be your God
 - I will save you from all your uncleanness
 - I will call for the grain and make it plentiful and will not bring famine upon you
 - I will increase the fruit of the trees and the crops of the field, so that you will no longer suffer disgrace among the nations because of famine
 - Then you will remember your evil ways and wicked deeds
 - You will loathe yourselves for your sins and detestable practices
 - I want you to know that I am not doing this for your sake, declares the Sovereign LORD
 - Be ashamed and disgraced for your conduct O house of Israel
- This is what the Sovereign LORD says
 - Once again I will yield to the plea of the house of Israel and do this for them
 - I will make their people as numerous as sheep
 - As numerous as the flocks for offerings at Jerusalem during her appointed feasts
 - So will the ruined cities be filled with flocks of people
 - Then they will know that I am the LORD

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Notes:

Definition of Sovereign:

- 1 a : superlative in quality : **excellent**
- b : of the most exalted kind : **supreme** <sovereign virtue>
- 2 a : possessed of supreme power <a sovereign ruler>
- b : unlimited in extent : **absolute**

Definition of LORD (from NT)

3261 κύριος (kyrios), ου (ou), ό (ho): n.masc.; ≡ DBLHebr 3363, 3378, 123, 1251; Str 2962; TDNT 3.1039—1. LN 12.9 **Lord, supernatural master over all** (Mt 1:20; 1Co 1:3); 2. LN 57.12 **owner, one who owns or controls estate land and property such as slaves** (Lk 19:33; Jn 13:16; Gal 4:1); 3. LN 37.51 **ruler, master, lord, one who exercises authority over** (Mt 6:24);

So to kind of get the vision of what God's name means, we might think of the combinations below:

The Most Exalted Supernatural Master over all
Owner of all creation Possessor of Supreme Power
Unlimited One who exercises Authority over all

God takes His Name very seriously. He knows His Name is Holy. It seems in this chapter that He exerts His power forcefully by emphasizing the power of His Name. (i.e. My burning zeal, I will show the Holiness of My Great Name)

Perhaps He is so upset with His people that He prophesies to the mountains, rather than directed to His people.

I was shocked that He said that what He was going to do was not for His people. But for His Holy Name.

I was impressed that even in His anger, He shows absolute control and still will bless His people.

As throughout this book, He points out 'they will know that I am the LORD'. All of creation will know the He is the LORD. Every knee will bow, every tongue will confess that He is LORD.