

Timeline of the History of Tyre

- 1445 B.C.** Joshua refers to Tyre as a “strong city.” (Joshua 19:29) (The Annals of the World, by James Ussher)
- 970-936 B.C.** Reign of Hiram king of Tyre, friend and ally to David and Solomon. (1 Kings 5:1) (Unger’s Bible Dictionary)
- 874-853 B.C.** Ahab assumes the throne of Israel and marries a Phoenician princess named Jezebel in **871 B.C.** (1 Kings 16:31) Jezebel successfully introduces the worship of the Phoenician gods of Baal and Ashtoreth into the northern kingdom of Israel. (Unger’s Bible Dictionary)
- 624 B.C.** King Josiah destroys the high place “which Solomon the king of Israel had builded for Ashtoreth the abomination of the Zidonians” 2 Kings 23:13 (The Annals of the World, by James Ussher)
- 607 B.C.** Nebuchadnezzar conquers Jerusalem and carries off Daniel and his friends into captivity. (The Annals of the World, by James Ussher)
- 599 B.C.** Nebuchadnezzar occupies Jerusalem a second time and carries off King Jehoiachin and the prophet Ezekiel to Babylon. (Ezekiel 1:1-3) (The Annals of the World, by James Ussher)
- 589-588 B.C.** Nebuchadnezzar lays siege to Jerusalem and completely destroys it. (The Annals of the World, by James Ussher)
- 588 B.C.** The prophet Ezekiel receives his prophesy concerning Tyre. (Ezekiel 26:1)
- 585-572 B.C.** Nebuchadnezzar’s 13 year siege of Tyre (The Annals of the World, by James Ussher)
- 538-332 B.C.** Tyre is brought under Persian rule. (Encyclopedia Britannica)
- 332 B.C.** Alexander the Great conquers Tyre after a 7 month siege. (Halley’s Bible Handbook)
- 323 B.C.** Alexander the Great dies and Tyre comes under Ptolemaic rule shortly thereafter.
- 200 B.C.** Tyre becomes part of the Hellenistic Seleucid kingdom (Encyclopedia Britannica)
- 68 B.C.** Tyre comes under Roman rule. (Encyclopedia Britannica)
- 32 A.D.** Jesus visits the area of Tyre. (Matthew 15:21; Mark 7:24) (The Annals of the World, by James Ussher)
- 60 A.D.** Paul lands at the seaport of Tyre and spends 7 days there. (Acts 21:3-7) (The Annals of the World, by James Ussher)
- 638-1124 A.D.** Tyre under Muslim rule. (Encyclopedia Britannica)
- 1144 A.D.** Crusaders conquer Tyre (Smith’s Bible Dictionary)
- 1291 A.D.** Muslims conquer Tyre from the Crusaders and completely destroy it. (Evidence That Demands a Verdict, by Josh McDowell)
- 1884 A.D.** “It contains, according to Volney, 50 or 60 poor families, who live in part by fishing; and is, as Bruce describes it, "rock whereon fishers dry their nets." (Smith’s Bible Dictionary)
- 1915 A.D.** “It was of considerable importance in the Crusades and continued so until toward the end of the 13th century, when its trade declined, and it has now dwindled to a town of some 5,000 inhabitants.” (International Standard Bible Encyclopedia)
- 1990 A.D.** “Soûr, as it is known by Arabs today, is a small town in southern Lebanon with a population of about 14,000 (1990 estimate; refugees have inflated that number significantly in the last several years).” (The Fall of Tyre by Trevor Major, M.Sc., M.A.)
- 2003 A.D.** “There were approximately 117,000 inhabitants in 2003, however, the government of Lebanon has released only rough estimates of population numbers since 1932, so an accurate statistical accounting is not possible.” (Wikipedia)

Important Note: While I only cite one source for each date, there is much harmony and agreement between these sources, and others too numerous to mention, to doubt that these dates are reasonably accurate.

Ezekiel 26 – A Prophecy against Tyre

The date of Ezekiel's prophecy against Tyre

(Ezekiel 26:1) And it came to pass in the eleventh year, in the first *day* of the month, *that* the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

The reason for God's judgment against Tyre

(Ezekiel 26:2) Son of man, because that Tyrus hath said against Jerusalem, Aha, she is broken *that was* the gates of the people: she is turned unto me: I shall be replenished, *now* she is laid waste:

A summary of God's judgment against Tyre

(Ezekiel 26:3) 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. (4) And they shall destroy the walls of Tyrus, and break down her towers: I will also scrape her dust from her, and make her like the top of a rock. (5) It shall be *a place* for the spreading of nets in the midst of the sea: for I have spoken *it*, saith the Lord GOD: and it shall become a spoil to the nations. (6) And her daughters which *are* in the field shall be slain by the sword; and they shall know that I *am* the LORD.

Destruction by King Nebuchadnezzar

(Ezekiel 26:7) For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will bring upon Tyrus Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, a king of kings, from the north, with horses, and with chariots, and with horsemen, and companies, and much people. (8) He shall slay with the sword thy daughters in the field: and he shall make a fort against thee, and cast a mount against thee, and lift up the buckler against thee. (9) And he shall set engines of war against thy walls, and with his axes he shall break down thy towers. (10) By reason of the abundance of his horses their dust shall cover thee: thy walls shall shake at the noise of the horsemen, and of the wheels, and of the chariots, when he shall enter into thy gates, as men enter into a city wherein is made a breach. (11) With the hoofs of his horses shall he tread down all thy streets: he shall slay thy people by the sword, and thy strong garrisons shall go down to the ground.

Destruction by Alexander the Great

(Ezekiel 26:12) And they shall make a spoil of thy riches, and make a prey of thy merchandise: and they shall break down thy walls, and destroy thy pleasant houses: and they shall lay thy stones and thy timber and thy dust in the midst of the water. (13) And I will cause the noise of thy songs to cease; and the sound of thy harps shall be no more heard. (14) And I will make thee like the top of a rock: thou shalt be *a place* to spread nets upon; thou shalt be built no more: for I the LORD have spoken *it*, saith the Lord GOD.

The reaction of the nations to the judgment of Tyre

(Ezekiel 26:15) Thus saith the Lord GOD to Tyrus; Shall not the isles shake at the sound of thy fall, when the wounded cry, when the slaughter is made in the midst of thee? (16) Then all the princes of the sea shall come down from their thrones, and lay away their robes, and put off their brodered garments: they shall clothe themselves with trembling; they shall sit upon the ground, and shall tremble at *every* moment, and be astonished at thee. (17) And they shall take up a lamentation for thee, and say to thee, How art thou destroyed, *that wast* inhabited of seafaring men, the renowned city, which wast strong in the sea, she and her inhabitants, which cause their terror *to be* on all that haunt it! (18) Now shall the isles tremble in the day of thy fall; yea, the isles that *are* in the sea shall be troubled at thy departure.

The result of God's judgment against Tyre

(Ezekiel 26:19) For thus saith the Lord GOD; When I shall make thee a desolate city, like the cities that are not inhabited; when I shall bring up the deep upon thee, and great waters shall cover thee; (20) When I shall bring thee down with them that descend into the pit, with the people of old time, and shall set thee in the low parts of the earth, in places desolate of old, with them that go down to the pit, that thou be not inhabited; and I shall set glory in the land of the living; (21) 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.