
SUNDAY SERMON

Hidden Hills Sovereign Grace Baptist Church

Willow, Alaska

Date: February 04, 2018

**Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 25:1-17; Jeremiah 48:1-47;
49:1-6**

Text: Ezekiel 25:1-17

**Subject: EZEKIEL SERIES – Destruction of the
Ammonites, the Moabites, the Edomites, and the
Philistines**

- **Destruction of the Ammonites (Verses 1-7)**

1 The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying, 2 Son of man, set thy face against the Ammonites, and prophesy against them; 3 And say unto the Ammonites, Hear the word of the Lord GOD; Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thou saidst, Aha, against my sanctuary, when it was profaned; and against the land of Israel, when it was desolate; and against the house of Judah, when they went into captivity;

The Children of Israel had been careful not to disturb the children of Ammon during their journey to the promised land according to the commandment of the LORD.

Deuteronomy 2:17-19 *That the LORD spake unto me, saying, Thou art to pass over through Ar, the coast of Moab, this day: And when thou comest nigh over against the children of Ammon, distress them not, nor meddle with them: for I will not give thee of the land of the children of*

Ammon any possession; because I have given it unto the children of Lot for a possession.

Son of man, set thy face against the Ammonites, and prophesy against them; -- The Ammonites were the children of Ammon. Ben-Ammi, the second son of Lot by his youngest daughter was the father of the Ammonites – perpetual enemies of the nation of Israel.

Hear the word of the Lord God; ...because thou sadist, Aha, against my sanctuary, when it was profaned...against Israel when it was desolate; and against the house of Judah, when they went into captivity; -- The Ammonites had spoken against the Lord's sanctuary, against Israel, and against Judah in the day of calamity. The Ammonites should have pitied, and been sorry, but they did rejoice, and proudly did insulted, magnified themselves, and reproached the LORD's people. They were glad that so great calamities were come upon them.

(Principle for us) Proverbs 24:17-18 *Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth: Lest the LORD see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him.*

4 Behold, therefore I will deliver thee to the men of the east for a possession, and they shall set their palaces in thee, and make their dwellings in thee: they shall eat thy fruit, and they shall drink thy milk.

The Lord God determined to deliver the Ammonites to the men

of the east for a possession – the Assyrians, Medes, Persians, and Chaldeans. These enemies would set their ruling places where the Ammonites once were – and would spoil their goods eating their fruit and drinking their milk.

5 And I will make Rabbah a stable for camels, and the Ammonites a couchingplace for flocks: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

Rabbah was the royal city, and seat of the kings of Ammon. That once great city would become a stable for camels and to the Ammonites a couchingplace for flocks to lie down in. The Ammonites would know that I am the LORD: The omniscient one, who sees and observes all your insults upon the children of Israel and Judah. The omnipotent one who is able to perform all that is threatened. And the immutable one, bringing about all that he purposes to do.

6 For thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thou hast clapped thine hands, and stamped with the feet, and rejoiced in heart with all thy despite against the land of Israel;

For thus saith the Lord God, -- Their sin and punishment are further enlarged upon.

because thou hast clapped thine hands, and stamped with thy feet: -- these were gestures expressive of joy and gladness. the Ammonites clapped their hands together, and leaped and skipped for joy, when they heard of the calamities of the Jews. These doubtless yet had more reason to be sorrowful, since they might expect the King of Babylon would turn on them.

and rejoiced in heart with all thy despite against the land of Israel; -- they had a secret joy in their heart, which they expressed by gestures, in the most spiteful and scornful manner they were capable of; they hated Israel and Judah with a perfect hatred.

7 Behold, therefore I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and will deliver thee for a spoil to the heathen; and I will cut thee off from the people, and I will cause thee to perish out of the countries: I will destroy thee; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD.

Behold, therefore, I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, -- In just retaliation for clapping their hands against his people.

and will deliver thee for a spoil to the Heathen; -- to the Chaldeans first, and then to the Arabians, to be spoiled and plundered by them of their wealth and substance.

and I will cut thee off from the people, and I will cause thee to perish out of the countries; -- so as to be no more a people and a country – the nation shall be dissolved as such.

I will destroy thee, and thou shalt know that I am the Lord; -
- who has said and done all this;

- **Destruction of the Moabites (Verses 8-11).**

8 ¶ Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because that Moab and Seir do say, Behold, the house of Judah is like unto all the heathen;

The Moabites were the children of Moab, first son of Lot by his eldest daughter. They, like the Ammonites, were perpetual enemies of Israel and Judah.

The children of Israel were careful to not intrude into the land of the Moabites during their journey to the promised land in accordance with the commandment of the LORD.

Deuteronomy 2:8-9 *And when we passed by from our brethren the children of Esau, which dwelt in Seir, through the way of the plain from Elath, and from Ezion-gaber, we turned and passed by the way of the wilderness of Moab. And the LORD said unto me, Distress not the Moabites, neither contend with them in battle: for I will not give thee of their land for a possession; because I have given Ar unto the children of Lot for a possession.*

Because that Moab and Seir do say, Behold, the house of Judah is like unto all the heathen; -- The Lord includes Seir which is the country of the descendants of Esau, a profane and wicked man. The enemies of the Jews, Moab and Seir, said something like this: they are fallen into the hands of the king of Babylon, as well as others; and have no more security against him, nor protection from him, than other people; they pretend to serve and worship the one only living and true God, and to be his covenant people, and to be favored with privileges above all other nations; and yet are brought into the same miserable circumstances, and left in them, as others are; where is the God they boast of, and their superior excellence to the rest of the world?

9 Therefore, behold, I will open the side of Moab from the cities, from his cities which are on his frontiers, the glory of the country, Bethjeshimoth, Baalmeon, and Kiriathaim,

What should be the punishment of Moab for this sin; because they triumphed in the overthrow of Israel and Judah, their country shall be in like manner overthrown with that of the Ammonites, who were guilty of the same sin. "*I will open the side of Moab, will uncover its shoulder, will take away all its defenses by opening up the frontier towns, that it may become an easy prey to any that will make a prey of it.*" See here how it shall be exposed; the frontier-towns, that were its strength and guard, shall be demolished by the Chaldean forces, and laid open.

Proverbs 21:31 *The horse is prepared against the day of battle: but safety is of the LORD.*

10 Unto the men of the east with the Ammonites, and will give them in possession, that the Ammonites may not be remembered among the nations.

The Persians and Chaldeans shall have them in possession so that they, like the Ammonites may not be remembered among the nations.

11 And I will execute judgments upon Moab; and they shall know that I am the LORD.

When God's judgment fell on Moab, then they knew that He was the Almighty – the all-knowing, unchangeable God who did according to

his own purpose.

The Prophet Jeremiah, who prophesied in the land just prior to and during the Babylonian Captivity prophesied of Moab in the entire 48th chapter of Jeremiah. In the closing verse (verse 47), he wrote:

Jeremiah 48:47 *Yet will I bring again the captivity of Moab **in the latter days**, saith the LORD. Thus far is the judgment of Moab. A similar promise is given to Egypt and Ammon by the Prophet Jeremiah:*

Jeremiah 46:25-26 *The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saith; Behold, I will punish the multitude of No, and Pharaoh, and Egypt, with their gods, and their kings; even Pharaoh, and all them that trust in him: And I will deliver them into the hand of those that seek their lives, and into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and into the hand of his servants: and afterward it shall be inhabited, as in the days of old, saith the LORD.*

Jeremiah 49:6 *And afterward I will bring again the captivity of the children of Ammon, saith the LORD.*

It is clear that Egypt shall be one of the nations on earth during the 1000-years-reign of Christ.

Zechariah 14:16-19 *And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of*

*tabernacles. And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. And if the family of **Egypt** go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of **Egypt**, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.*

- **Destruction of Edom (Verses 12-14).**

12 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because that Edom hath dealt against the house of Judah by taking vengeance, and hath greatly offended, and revenged himself upon them;

Edom was the area inhabited by the descendants of Esau, a profane and hateful man – These are the Idumeans and the land is sometimes called Mt. Seir.

Genesis 25:30 *And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom.*

During their journey from Egypt to the Promised Land, Israel asked to pass through the land of Edom and were rejected and threatened.

Numbers 20:14-21 *And Moses sent messengers from Kadesh unto the king of Edom, Thus saith thy brother Israel, Thou knowest all the travail that hath befallen us:*

How our fathers went down into Egypt, and we have dwelt in Egypt a long time; and the Egyptians vexed us, and our fathers: And when we cried unto the LORD, he heard our voice, and sent an angel, and hath brought us forth out of Egypt: and, behold, we are in Kadesh, a city in the uttermost of thy border: Let us pass, I pray thee, through thy country: we will not pass through the fields, or through the vineyards, neither will we drink of the water of the wells: we will go by the king's high way, we will not turn to the right hand nor to the left, until we have passed thy borders. And Edom said unto him, Thou shalt not pass by me, lest I come out against thee with the sword. And the children of Israel said unto him, We will go by the high way: and if I and my cattle drink of thy water, then I will pay for it: I will only, without doing any thing else, go through on my feet. And he said, Thou shalt not go through. And Edom came out against him with much people, and with a strong hand. Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his border: wherefore Israel turned away from him.

Thus saith the Lord God, -- Concerning Seir or the Edomites, the prophecy concerning the Moabites being finished –

because that Edom hath dealt against the house of Judah by taking vengeance: -- or, "revenging a revenge"¹; the Edomites bore an old grudge against the Jews, not only because their father Jacob had got the birthright and blessing from their father Esau; but because they were made tributaries to them in David's time, and afterwards severely chastised by Amaziah; these things they laid up in their minds, and vowed revenge

whenever they had an opportunity; and now one offered at the destruction of Jerusalem, which they took.

and hath greatly offended, and revenged himself upon them: -- not only by rejoicing at the destruction of the Jews, but by encouraging the Babylonians in it; assisting them therein, joining with them in plundering the city, and in cutting off those with the sword who endeavored to make their escape.

Psalm 137:7 *Remember, O LORD, the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem; who said, Rase it, rase it, even to the foundation thereof.*

13 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; I will also stretch out mine hand upon Edom, and will cut off man and beast from it; and I will make it desolate from Teman; and they of Dedan shall fall by the sword.

Therefore thus saith the Lord God, -- Because of your hateful and barbarous usage, from a people that were originally brethren.

I will also stretch out mine hand upon Edom, and will cut off man and beast from it; -- How so? By the army of Nebuchadnezzar, by the sword of the Chaldeans, and by famine and pestilence, and such like sore judgments; in all of which the hand of God is clearly seen.

and I will make it desolate from Teman; -- a very principal city of Edom, so called from Teman, the son of Eliphaz, the son of Esau. This city lay in the south of the land of Idumea.

Genesis 36:15 *These were dukes of the sons of Esau: the sons of Eliphaz the firstborn son of Esau; duke Teman, duke Omar, duke Zepho, duke Kenaz,*

and they of Dedan shall fall by the sword; -- By the sword of the Babylonians; this was another city of Edom, it lay in the north of that country; This showed that the destruction would go from north to south and be complete.

14 And I will lay my vengeance upon Edom by the hand of my people Israel: and they shall do in Edom according to mine anger and according to my fury; and they shall know my vengeance, saith the Lord GOD.

And I will lay my vengeance upon Edom by the hand of my people Israel, -- no history mentions the fulfilling of this, as it sounds in the letter of it, unless; some therefore interpret, by the hand, by the same hand, that I used in punishing my people Israel;

and they shall do in Edom according to mine anger and according to my fury; -- that is, shall execute all the anger and fury, or all that punishment in anger and fury, which the Lord in righteous judgment has appointed them to, and has determined shall be performed upon them.

and they shall know my vengeance, -- saith the Lord God; the meaning is, they shall feel it, and be sensible of it, and know that it comes from the Lord himself.

- **Destruction of the Philistines (Verses 15-17).**

15 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because the Philistines have dealt by revenge, and have taken vengeance with a despiteful heart, to destroy it for the old hatred;

The Philistines were an uncircumcised people inhabiting the shore plain between Gezer and Gaza in Southwestern Palestine. The name Palestine itself refers to their country. The word means "migrants," and they came from another country. They are noticed 286 times in the Old Testament, and their country 8 times. The Philistines were perpetual enemies of Israel.

Thus saith the Lord God, -- Once more, and concerning another enemy of the people of Israel, and who had been of old an implacable one.

because the Philistines have dealt by revenge: -- for what they suffered in the times of Saul, when Goliath was slain by David, and their army was beaten down and destroyed; and for the overthrow of them by David, when he came to throne; and for his burning their images, and subduing them. this revenge may have taken place in the time of Ahaz,

2 Chronicles 28:16-18 *At that time did king Ahaz send unto the kings of Assyria to help him. For again the Edomites had come and smitten Judah, and carried away captives. The Philistines also had invaded the cities of the low country, and of the south of Judah, and had taken Beth-shemesh, and Ajalon, and Gederoth, and Shocho with the villages thereof, and Timnah with the villages thereof, Gimzo also and the villages thereof: and they dwelt there.*

and very probably also showed their spite at the time of Jerusalem's destruction:

and have taken vengeance with a spiteful heart, to destroy it for the old hatred; -- which they bore to the people of Israel, from their first settlement in Canaan; from the times of the judges, particularly Samson; and from the times of Saul and David: it was an old grudge they bore, they had spite and malice in their hearts, and wanted an opportunity to vent it; having determined to take vengeance when they could.

16 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will stretch out mine hand upon the Philistines, and I will cut off the Cherethims, and destroy the remnant of the sea coast.

Therefore thus saith the Lord God, -- Because of such wretched malice and spiteful usage.

behold, I will stretch out mine hand upon the Philistines; as is foretold,

Jeremiah 47:1-7 *The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah the prophet against the Philistines, before that Pharaoh smote Gaza. Thus saith the LORD; Behold, waters rise up out of the north, and shall be an overflowing flood, and shall overflow the land, and all that is therein; the city, and them that dwell therein: then the men shall cry, and all the inhabitants of the land shall howl. At the noise of the stamping of the hoofs of his strong horses, at the*

rushing of his chariots, and at the rumbling of his wheels, the fathers shall not look back to their children for feebleness of hands; Because of the day that cometh to spoil all the Philistines, and to cut off from Tyrus and Zidon every helper that remaineth: for the LORD will spoil the Philistines, the remnant of the country of Caphtor. Baldness is come upon Gaza; Ashkelon is cut off with the remnant of their valley: how long wilt thou cut thyself? O thou sword of the LORD, how long will it be ere thou be quiet? put up thyself into thy scabbard, rest, and be still. How can it be quiet, seeing the LORD hath given it a charge against Ashkelon, and against the sea shore? there hath he appointed it.

and I will cut off the Cherethims: -- one of the tribes of the Philistines, a principal part of their country, which lay to the south.

and destroy the remnant of the seacoast; -- as that of Ashdod, Caphtor, and Ashkelon, formerly spoiled by other persons; what they left should now be utterly destroyed.

17 And I will execute great vengeance upon them with furious rebukes; and they shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall lay my vengeance upon them.

And I will execute great vengeance upon them with furious rebukes, -- Furious Rebukes – Great Vengeance! By way of retaliation for their vengeance and fury, wrath and malice, against his people; suggesting, that the judgments inflicted on them, for quantity and quality, should be very great.

and they shall know that I am the Lord, when I shall lay my vengeance upon them; -- they shall see the hand of God in it, acknowledge his justice.