

Pentwater Bible Church

Book of Ezekiel
Message 41
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Enoch & Elijah Were Translated and Did Not Die, Artist Unknown

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The Book of Ezekiel
Message Forty-One

No Davidic King Until The Messiah

June 19, 2016

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Ezekiel 21:25-32

²⁵And thou, O deadly wounded wicked one, the prince of Israel, whose day is come, in the time of the iniquity of the end, ²⁶thus saith the Lord Jehovah: Remove the mitre, and take off the crown; this shall be no more the same; exalt that which is low, and abase that which is high. ²⁷I will overturn, overturn, overturn it: this also shall be no more, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it him.

²⁸And thou, son of man, prophesy, and say, Thus saith the Lord Jehovah concerning the children of Ammon, and concerning their reproach; and say thou, A sword, a sword is drawn, for the slaughter it is furbished, to cause it to devour, that it may be as lightning; ²⁹while they see for thee false visions, while they divine lies unto thee, to lay thee upon the necks of the wicked that are deadly wounded, whose day is come in the time of the iniquity of the end. ³⁰Cause it to return into its sheath. In the place where thou wast created, in the land of thy birth, will I judge thee. ³¹And I will pour out mine indignation upon thee; I will blow upon thee with the fire of my wrath; and I will deliver thee into the hand of brutish men, skilful to destroy. ³²Thou shalt be for fuel to the fire; thy blood shall be in the midst of the land; thou shalt be no more remembered: for I, Jehovah, have spoken it (ASV, 1901).

THERE WILL BE NO KING IN JUDAH UNTIL MESSIAH

Ezekiel 21:25-27

²⁵And thou, O deadly wounded wicked one, the prince of Israel, whose day is come, in the time of the iniquity of the end, ²⁶thus saith the Lord Jehovah: Remove the mitre, and take off the crown; this shall be no more the same; exalt that which is low, and abase that which is high. ²⁷I will overturn, overturn, overturn it: this also shall be no more, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it him (ASV, 1901).

The Lord God now begins to state a declaration directly to the last king Zedekiah that his day has come because of his iniquity. Because of his outward sins and rebellion to the authority of Nebuchadnezzar whom God had placed over Zedekiah his *day is come*. He is instructed to remove *the mitre, and take off the crown*. Zedekiah's punishment was so certain the Lord addresses it as though it had already received his punishment. This is typically called prophetic perfect in Hebrew. Text of a future event is cited in the past tense. Similarly God told Abraham that before his people the Jews would enter the promise land general Joshua would provide judgment on the Amorites in Canaan. The event pointed to the full measure of their guilt was now ready for retribution. This is so

with Zedekiah too. His guilt had reached its high point and was now to receive divine justice. God tells him to remove the mitre and take off the crown which is an indication of the complete removal of all authority by the rulers of Judah in both the governmental and ecclesiastical arenas. With the removal of both areas of authority in Judah the Times of the Gentiles officially began. The mitre was the headwear of the High Priest and the crown was that of the king. Both offices were ended and were not to be restored for the foreseeable future. There *shall be no more the same*. The old corrupt theocracy would not be replaced. Even after the captivity ended and the Jews went back to Jerusalem the Temple practices were not fully restored because of the difficulties they encountered (Daniel 9:25; Nehemiah 4:1-5). There was no king and the High Priest Joshua had a limited role in the Temple activities after he was installed under Zerubbabel at the time of Zechariah the prophet. The Lord Messiah will be the individual who will install Joshua into the High Priest's office after the Babylonian captivity had ended (Zechariah 3:8). The time of the period beginning with Zechariah's overthrow until the Messiah arrived would be one of continual upheaval where values and position would be reversed; essentially the low (of morality and corruptness) would take the place of the high. These descriptors are a general characterization of all world activity until the only One who is able to make restoration will appear to take control. There will be chaos and breakdown in order as well as wars and severe weather including earthquakes which will be instability and flux as the world spins out of control until God's Kingdom plan is implemented. God says he will overturn it (the Davidic Rule) until such a time as the rightful one is to take the throne. This is a direct reference to the Messiah. He is the rod of strength and a king and a priest like Melchizedek was. Many passages in the Old Testament make reference to the coming of the Messiah of Israel to take over the government of the world and restore the Davidic kingly line. He will be a light to the Gentiles and called the Branch will rule the world in peace, security, and fairness. The line of David would not be restored till the righteous, God-appointed King would come. There were no valid claims to Messiahship till Christ rode into Jerusalem to allow the citizens to announce His rightful rule (Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:1-11; Revelation 19:11-16; 20:4). This was when He allowed the population to proclaim Him a king. Although He did not take control of the earth at that time He will return to claim His world. He did declare Himself to the Samaritan woman at the well to be the Messiah.

John 4:26-26

²⁵The woman saith unto him, I know that Messiah cometh (he that is called Christ): when he is come, he will declare unto us all things. ²⁶Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am He (KJV).

However as Jesus prophesied in the Olivet Discourse many would come after Him claiming to be the Messiah of Israel (Matthew 24:24). Historically, Jesus was the first person who claimed to be The Messiah. After Him many would coming making that claim. After Jesus many Jewish men made that claim from Simon-Bar Cochba to Sabbetal Tzvi and Jacob Frank. They led many astray with their false claims. A number of Gentiles have done this too. Just as Christ said this was to be a general characteristic of the church Age. Concerning both false messiahs, in Matthew verse 24: 6, Jesus said: *for all (these things) must come to pass, but the end is not yet*. Luke emphasized this point when he wrote: *for all these things must needs to come to pass first; but the end is not immediately* (Luke 21:9). In other words, the rise of false Messiahs will necessarily come first before the Second Coming of the Messiah to establish His Messianic Kingdom.

Therefore, Christ will fulfill Ezekiel's prophecy; *He* will be the King of Israel.

Psalm 110:2; 4

²*Jehovah will send forth the rod of thy strength out of Zion: Rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.* ⁴*Jehovah hath sworn, and will not repent: Thou art a priest for ever After the order of Melchizedek (ASV, 1901).*

Zechariah 6:12-13

¹²*and speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh Jehovah of hosts, saying, Behold, the man whose name is the Branch: and he shall grow up out of his place; and he shall build the temple of Jehovah;* ¹³*even he shall build the temple of Jehovah; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne; and the counsel of peace shall be between them both (ASV, 1901).*

Psalm 72:1-8

¹*Give the king thy judgments, O God, And thy righteousness unto the king's son.* ²*He will judge thy people with righteousness, And thy poor with justice.* ³*The mountains shall bring peace to the people, And the hills, in righteousness.* ⁴*He will judge the poor of the people, He will save the children of the needy, And will break in pieces the oppressor.* ⁵*They shall fear thee while the sun endureth, And so long as the moon, throughout all generations.* ⁶*He will come down like rain upon the mown grass, As showers that water the earth.* ⁷*In his days shall the righteous flourish, And abundance of peace, till the moon be no more.* ⁸*He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, And from the River unto the ends of the earth (ASV, 1901)*

Isaiah 9:6-7

⁶*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.* ⁷*Of the increase of his government and of peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to establish it, and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of Jehovah of hosts will perform this (ASV, 1901).*

Isaiah 42:1

¹ *Behold, my servant, whom I uphold; my chosen, in whom my soul delighteth: I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the Gentiles (ASV, 1901).*

Jeremiah 23:5-6

⁵*Behold, the days come, saith Jehovah, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely; and this is his name whereby he shall be called: Jehovah our righteousness (ASV, 1901).*

Jeremiah 33:15-17

¹⁵*In those days, and at that time, will I cause a Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely; and this is the name whereby she shall be called: Jehovah our righteousness (ASV, 1901).*

THE SWORD WILL FALL ON AMMON

Ezekiel 21:28

²⁸*And thou, son of man, prophesy, and say, Thus saith the Lord Jehovah concerning the children of Ammon, and concerning their reproach; and say thou, A sword, a sword is drawn, for the slaughter it is furbished, to cause it to devour, that it may be as lightning (ASV, 1901);*

Chapter twenty-five will describe in great detail how the people of Ammon (modern day Northern Jordan) had mocked Jerusalem in her problems with sin and destruction. The king of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar considered conquering Ammon but instead was divinely led to attack Jerusalem. Ammon was an ancient enemy of Israel. In the days of Jephthah, and afterwards in the days of Saul, Ammon was ruled by king Nahash, also known as “the serpent,” who attempted to take land belonging to Israel (Judges 11 and 1 Samuel 11). The Ammonites thought they had escaped destruction when Nebuchadnezzar had decided at Riblah to go to Jerusalem instead of Ammon. After the fall of Jerusalem’s the Ammonites rose up against Jerusalem which led to the death of Gedaliah, the governor of the land appointed by Nebuchadnezzar (Jeremiah 40:13–41:10). The Ammonites tried to set up another government in Israel that would be opposed to Babylon. This was no doubt so Nebuchadnezzar would again attack Judah instead of Ammon. The Lord makes it quite clear that they will not escape destruction. The sword drawn for Jerusalem would remain out of its sheath prepared to attack Ammon.

AMMON TO BE JUDGED

Ezekiel 21:29-30

²⁹*while they see for thee false visions, while they divine lies unto thee, to lay thee upon the necks of the wicked that are deadly wounded, whose day is come in the time of the iniquity of the end. ³⁰Cause it to return into its sheath. In the place where thou wast created, in the land of thy birth, will I judge thee (ASV, 1901).*

The various prophets in Ammon were deceiving the people there into thinking that they had a future of peace and security. When actually their security was false and only

temporarily secured. Even though the Babylonian sword will be sheathed another sword from the east will overtake you Ammonites. The army that would come in would invade their home land because they were over confident that they would never be overtaken after witnessing the Babylonian army go to Jerusalem instead of Ammon. God says, “*I judge thee.*” As a result of serving Balaam and Ashtoreth, which are God tempters and sex worshippers, God then placed the Jews in slavery to the Philistines and the Ammonites for eighteen years. He also tells them to ask the gods they are worshipping to deliver them from their misery (Judges 10:6-16). Even though the Jews sinned greatly and defied the God who caused them to become a nation He will judge the nations that harm the Jews. Nobody escapes destruction for very long as a result of harming the Jews.

THE EXTENT OF THE AMMONITES JUDGMENT

Ezekiel 21:31-32

³¹And I will pour out mine indignation upon thee; I will blow upon thee with the fire of my wrath; and I will deliver thee into the hand of brutish men, skilful to destroy. ³²Thou shalt be for fuel to the fire; thy blood shall be in the midst of the land; thou shalt be no more remembered: for I, Jehovah, have spoken it (ASV, 1901).

The Lord God will blow upon the flames of fire when the Ammonites are judged to make them more intense. Brutish men will be used by God to slay the Ammonites not sparing any in their invasion. The blood of the vanquished will be spilled upon the ground in the middle of their country and they will not be remembered any longer. They will be annexed as part of Israel during the Messianic Kingdom.

Jeremiah 49:1-2

¹Of the children of Ammon. Thus saith Jehovah: Hath Israel no sons? hath he no heir? why then doth Malcam possess Gad, and his people dwell in the cities thereof? ²Therefore, behold, the days come, saith Jehovah, that I will cause an alarm of war to be heard against Rabbah of the children of Ammon; and it shall become a desolate heap, and her daughters shall be burned with fire: then shall Israel possess them that did possess him, saith Jehovah (ASV, 1901).

There will be an Ammon of sorts in the Messianic Kingdom, but subservient to Israel. This nation are descendant of Lot, the nephew of Abraham and, thus, more distantly related by blood. They will not be remembered as Ammon but a part of Israel.

NEXT MESSAGE: ISRAEL'S SINS ARE ENUMERATED

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