

WELCOME TO THE MOB!

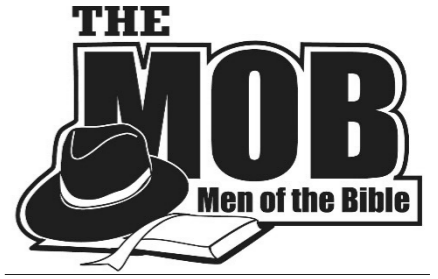
All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (ESV)



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Announcements

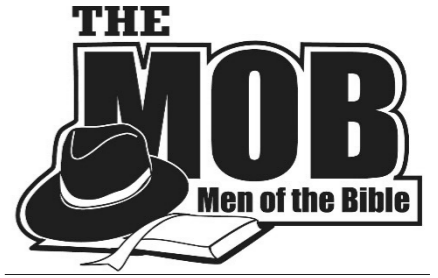


- **MOB Website & Resources:** www.ibcmob.net



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Please Rise



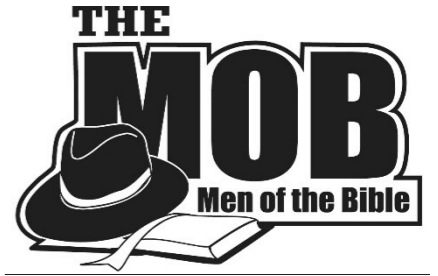
■ Invocation/Prayer

■ Hymn:

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

By Edward Mote, Verse 1 of 4



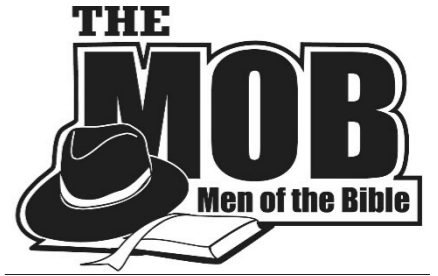
**My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness:
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.**



My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

By Edward Mote, Verse 2 of 4

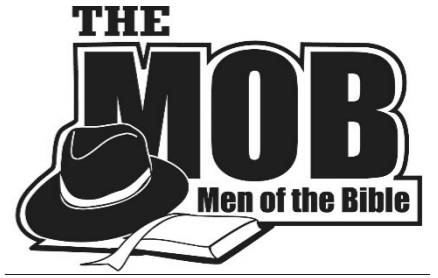


**When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.**

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.**

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

By Edward Mote, Verse 3 of 4

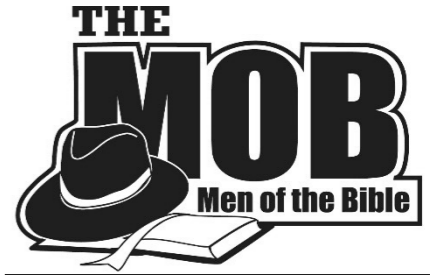


**His oath, His covenant, His blood
support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.**

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.**

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

By Edward Mote, Verse 4 of 4



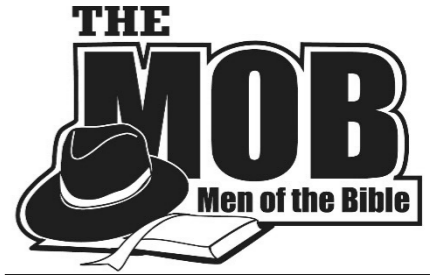
**When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found:
dressed in His righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.**

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.**



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Our Study of Isaiah



- **Last Meeting:**
 - **Isaiah 22, An Oracle Concerning Jerusalem**
 - **Memory Verse: Proverbs 29:18**
 - ***Dr. Constable's Notes, 2022 Ed., pp.144-151; Motyer, pp.179-189.***

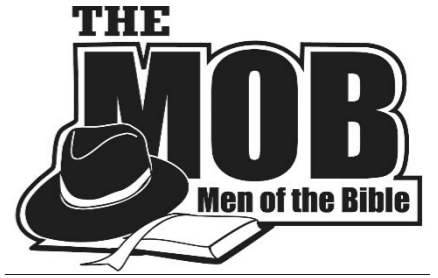
- **This Meeting:**
 - **Isaiah 23, An Oracle Against Tyre and Sidon**
 - **Memory Verse: Romans 3:23**
 - ***Dr. Constable's Notes, 2022 Ed., pp.151-156; Motyer, pp.189-194.***

 - **Refreshment Host: Small Group F**



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Memory Verse



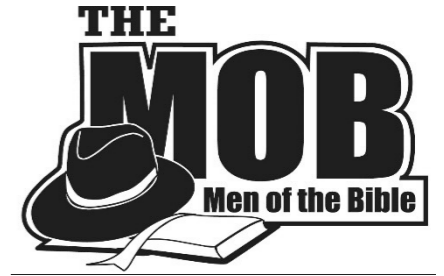
Romans 3:23 (NASB)

For all have sinned

and fall short of the glory of God!



Isaiah Outline

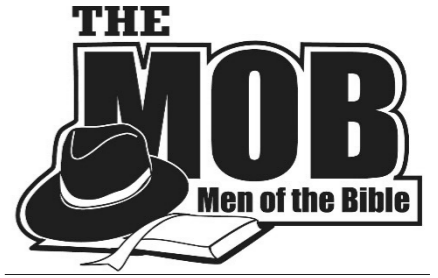


Focus	Prophecies of Condemnation								Historical Parenthesis		Prophecies of Comfort					
	1:1		35:10						36:1	39:8	40:1		66:24			
Divisions	Prophecies Against Judah		Prophecies Against the Nation		Prophecies Against the Day of the Lord		Prophecies of Judgement and Blessing		Sickness and Sin	Hezekiah's Salvation	Israel's Deliverance	Israel's Deliverer		Israel's Glorious Future		
Topics	1:1	12:6	13:1	23:18	24:1	27:13	28:1	35:10	36:1	39:8	40:1	48:22	49:1	57:21	58:1	66:24
Place	Prophetic Judgement								Historic Transition		Messianic Hope					
	Israel & Judah								740 - 680 B.C.							



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Isaiah 23 - Setting the Scene

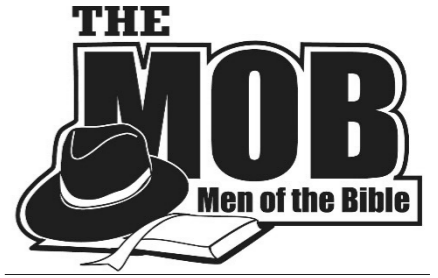


“Ships of Tarshish” refers not to ships from a particular location, but to a class of ships: large vessels for long-distance trade.

For centuries they were based in Tyre and Sidon – the region known as Phoenicia or Canaan



A City and an Island

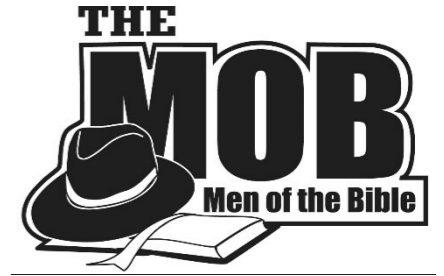


- The original Tyre was a coastal city about 30 miles south of Sidon.
- Tyre was extended to include an island about ½ mile offshore. Eventually the island became the main city, partly because it was easier to defend.

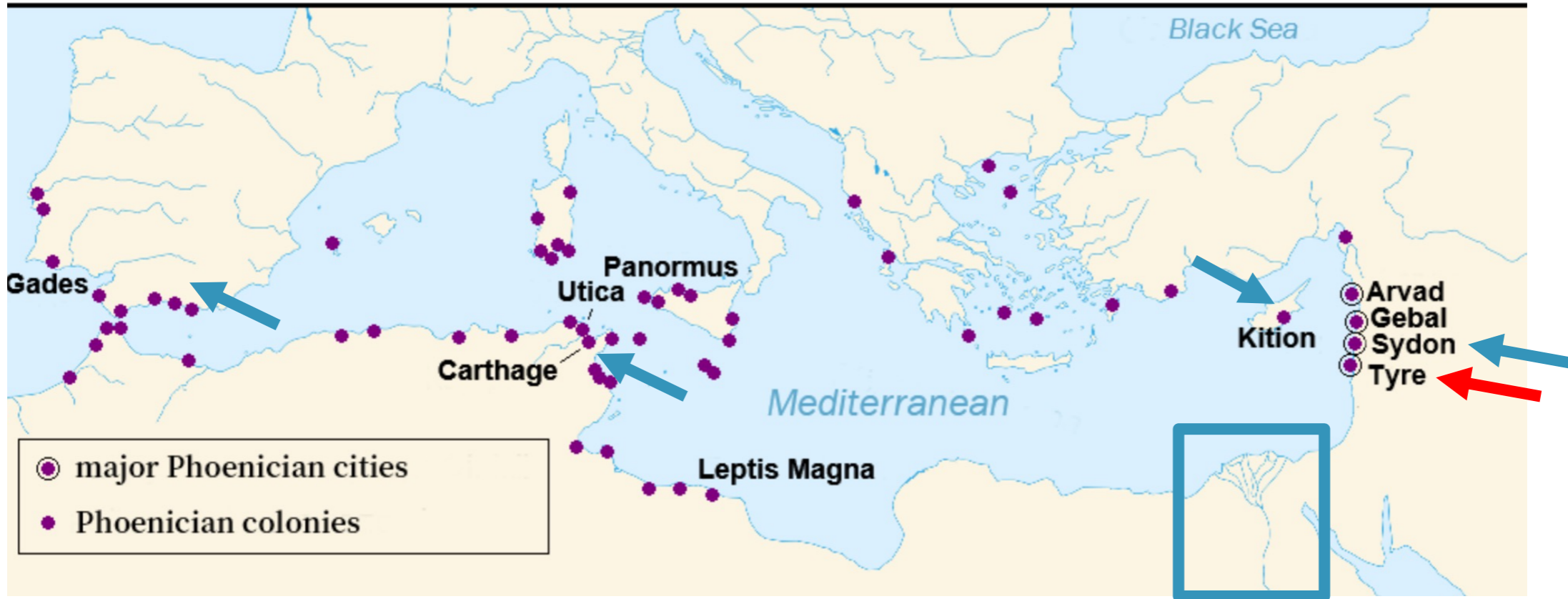


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Phoenician Colonies



Map of Phoenician colonies, 11th-6th centuries BCE



Source: Wikipedia This file is licensed under the [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 International](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/) license

The Object of Tyre's Hope

“The market of nations” (Isaiah 23:3)

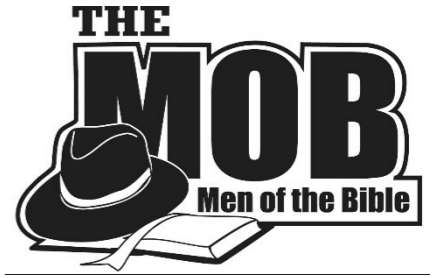
- **Certainly diversified investments**
- **Certainly diversified customers**

As solid as Gibraltar? We will see



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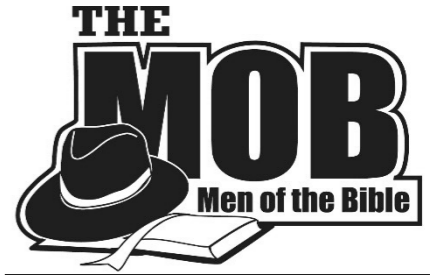
Description of Tyre



- Your messengers crossed the sea and were on many waters (vv. 2-3)
- The grain of the Nile, the harvest of the River was her revenue (v. 3)
- The market of nations (v. 3)
- Jubilant *city* (v. 7)
- Whose origin is from antiquity (v. 7)
- Whose feet used to carry her to colonize distant places (v. 7)
- The bestower of crowns (v. 8)
- Whose merchants were princes (v. 8)
- Whose traders were the honored of the earth (v. 8)



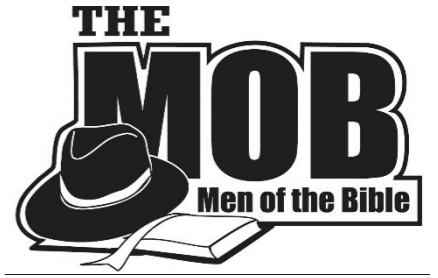
Tyre the Mercenary



- Tyre was all about “the mercenary motive that was ever the mainspring of Tyre’s activity; all, as in prostitution, was done for money.” (Motyer)
- The market of nations (v. 3)
- Known for its ships of Tarshish (v.1), merchants, traders (v.8)



The Situation



Isaiah 23:1

The oracle concerning Tyre. Wail, O ships of Tarshish, For *Tyre* is destroyed, without house *or* harbor; It is reported to them from the land of Cyprus.

Ezekiel 26:4

They will destroy the walls of Tyre and break down her towers; and I will scrape her debris from her and make her a bare rock.

Some History

Tyre came under attack at least five times from Isaiah's day until its end. It's invaders were:

- **Sennacherib (705-701 B.C.) - Assyria**
- Esarhaddon (679-671 B.C.) - Assyria
- Nebuchadnezzar (585-573 B.C.) - Babylon
- Artaxerxes III Ochus (343 B.C.) - Persia
- **Alexander the Great (332 B.C.) - Macedonia**

(Constable)

Which was Isaiah's focus? (Or was it multiple?)

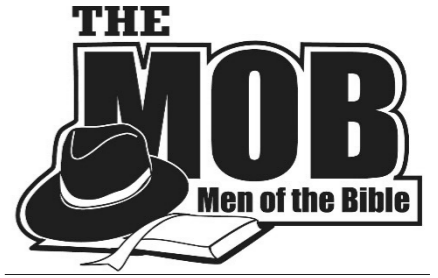


Sennacherib



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Mourning Over Tyre



¹ The oracle concerning Tyre.

**Wail, O ships of Tarshish,
For *Tyre* is destroyed, without house or harbor;
It is reported to them from the land of Cyprus.**

SHOCK

**² Be silent, you inhabitants of the coastland,
You merchants of Sidon;
Your messengers crossed the sea
³ And *were* on many waters.**

MOURNING

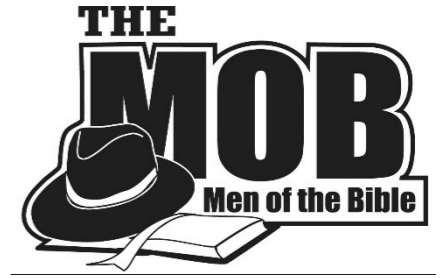
**The grain of the Nile, the harvest of the River was her revenue;
And she was the market of nations.**

OBITUARY



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Even the Sea Mourns



4 Be ashamed, O Sidon;

Reap shame/derision

For the sea speaks, the stronghold of the sea, saying,

- **“I have neither travailed nor given birth,**
- **I have neither brought up young men *nor* reared virgins.”**

Mourning loss – as if Tyre never existed

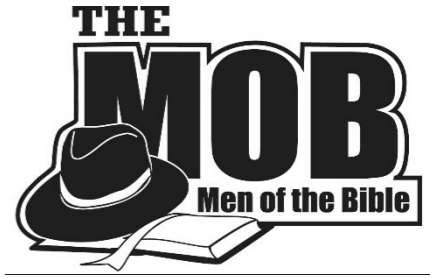
- **5 When the report *reaches* Egypt, They will be in anguish at the report of Tyre.**

Egypt, too, will mourn



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Mourn the Ancient City



6 Pass over to Tarshish;

Wail, O inhabitants of the coastland.

7 Is this your jubilant *city*,

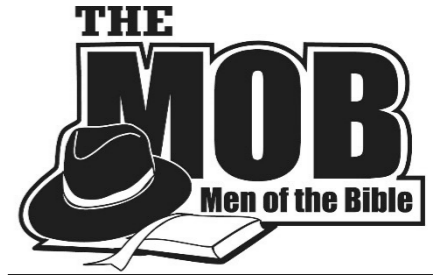
Whose origin is from antiquity,

Whose feet used to carry her to colonize distant places?



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Who Planned This?



**⁸ Who has planned this against Tyre,
the bestower of crowns,**

Whose merchants were princes,

whose traders were the honored of the earth?

**Tyre was so great –
Who is greater?**

**⁹ The LORD of hosts has planned it,
to defile the pride of all beauty,**

To despise all the honored of the earth.

YHWH of armies

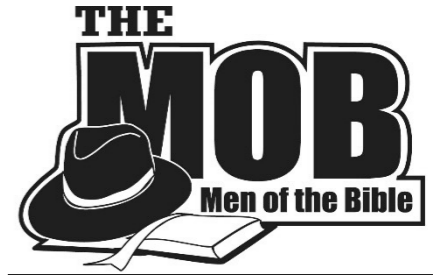
Why?

**¹⁰ Overflow your land like the Nile, O daughter of Tarshish, There
is no more restraint.**



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Assyrians in Action



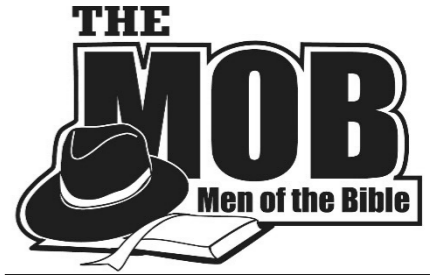
Assyrian Army Attacks a City

Source: The MacMillan Bible Atlas



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A Lesson



He wanted to show the transitory nature of human glory and the folly of depending on such glory.

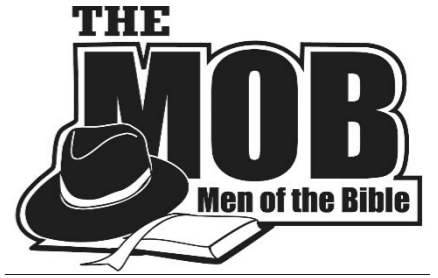
God does not object when worthy people receive the credit due them. What He opposes is pride that seeks to live independent of Himself and glory that fails to acknowledge Himself.

(Constable)



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Ultimate Power



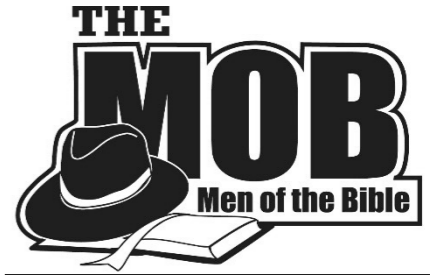
¹¹ He has stretched His hand out over the sea,

- **He has made the kingdoms tremble; YHWH's Omnipotence**
- **The LORD has given a command concerning Canaan to demolish its strongholds. Man's transcendence**
- **¹² He has said, "You shall exult no more, O crushed virgin daughter of Sidon.**
 - **Arise, pass over to Cyprus; even there you will find no rest."**



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How?



13 Behold, the land of the Chaldeans

—this is the people *which* was not;

Assyria appointed it for desert creatures—

they erected their siege towers,

they stripped its palaces,

they made it a ruin.

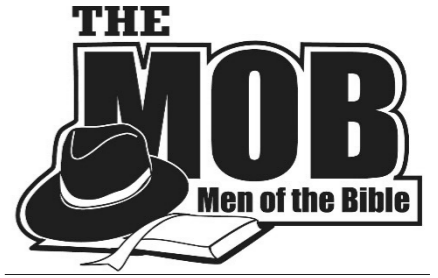
YHWH used Assyria

14 Wail, O ships of Tarshish, For your stronghold is destroyed.



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Forgotten



15 Now in that day Tyre will be forgotten for seventy years like the days of one king. At the end of seventy years it will happen to Tyre as *in* the song of the harlot:

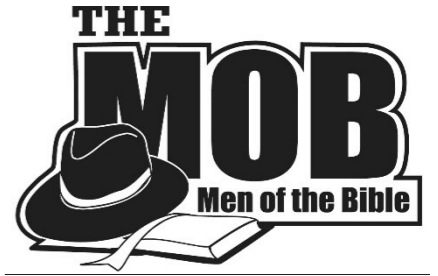
16 Take *your* harp, walk about the city, O forgotten harlot; Pluck the strings skillfully, sing many songs, That you may be remembered.

17 It will come about at the end of seventy years that the LORD will visit Tyre. Then she will go back to her harlot's wages and will play the harlot with all the kingdoms on the face of the earth.



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History – The 70 Years



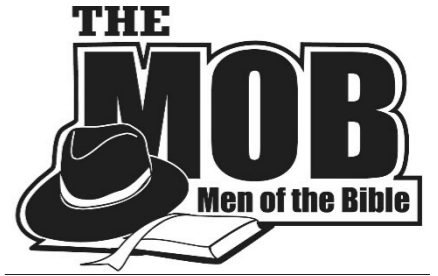
Sennacherib laid the mainland waste in 701 [BC] and did vast damage to Tyrian trade. According to Erlandsson ‘only with the decline of Assyria around 630 [BC] did Tyre regain complete independence and the capability of creating new riches.’

(Motyer)



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A Lesson



Judah and Jerusalem needed to learn from this prophecy against Tyre.

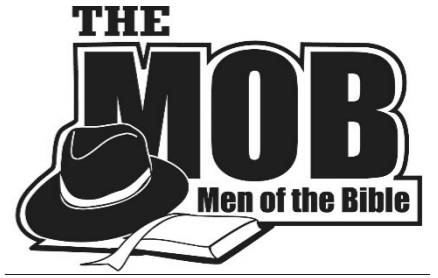
- **Human glory is transitory, even for the rich and famous**
- **Business and the wealth of nations ultimately means nothing, so don't trust the nations!**
- **God is sovereign and powerful, even over the richest and strongest nations. Do trust in Him!**

Today, we need to learn the same lessons from this prophecy against Tyre.



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A Transformed Motive



¹⁸ Her gain and her harlot's wages will be set apart to the LORD; it will not be stored up or hoarded, but her gain will become sufficient food and choice attire for those who dwell in the presence of the LORD.

This is an unexpected twist!

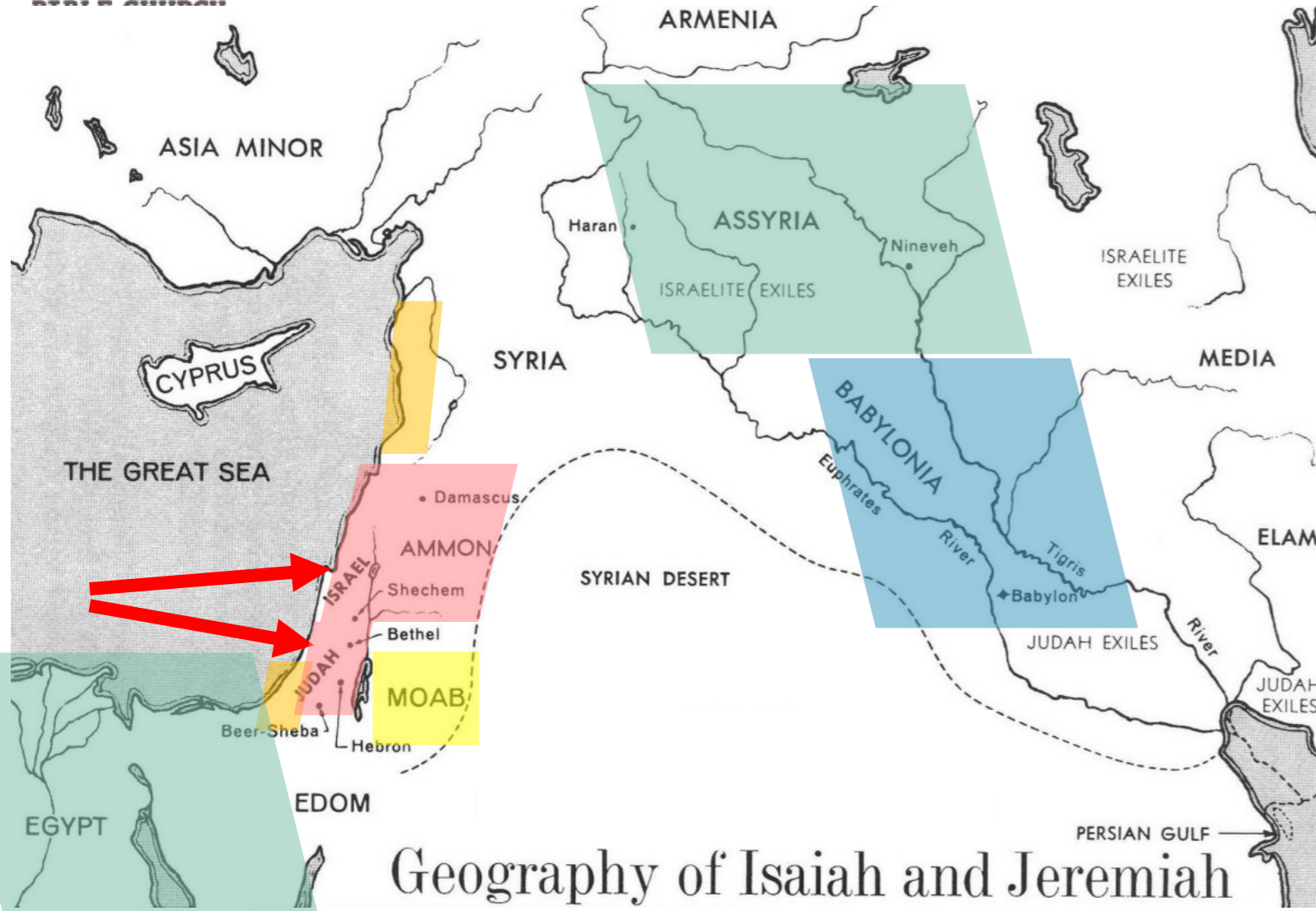
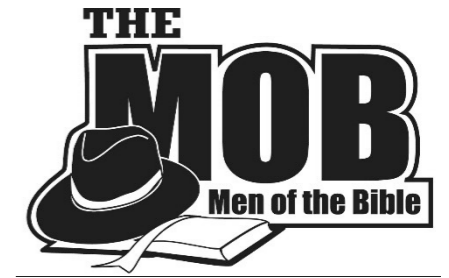
- **Earnings set apart to the LORD**
- **Generosity replaces mercenary hoarding**
- **Providing for those who dwell in the presence of the LORD**

When? This has not happened yet. It will in THE MILLENNIUM



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Isaiah 13-23 – The Oracles



Geography of Isaiah and Jeremiah

- Babylon (political) (13-14)
- Assyria (14)
- Philistia (14)
- Moab (15-16)
- Damascus/Ephraim (17-18)
- Cush (18 / 20)
- Egypt (19 / 20)
- Babylon (religious) (21)
- Jerusalem (22)
- Tyre (23)
- Sidon (23)

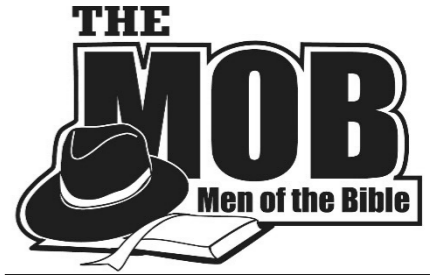


To Cush



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A Lesson



(For the people of Judah and Jerusalem)

**“since the glory of the nations (chs. 13, 14) equals nothing,
and since the scheming of the nations (chs. 14—18) equals nothing,
and since the vision of this nation (chs. 21, 22) equals nothing,
and since the wealth of the nations (ch. 23) equals nothing,**

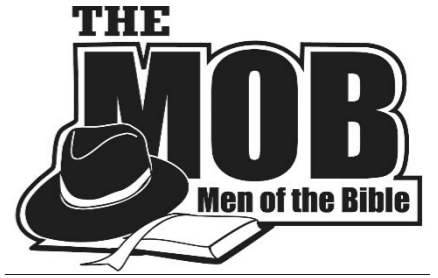
DON'T TRUST THE NATIONS!”

(Oswalt)



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For Discussion and Application

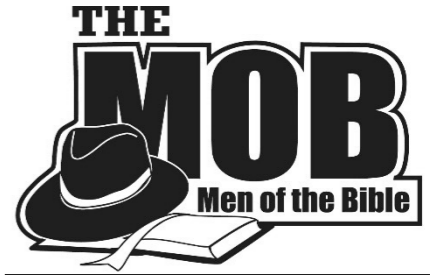


- 1. Tarshish was over 2,000 miles from Tyre. Why would the ships of Tarshish wail over the destruction of Tyre?**
- 2. According to Isaiah 23, what did Tyre do that made it an important city in the world?**
- 3. How many nations and peoples were affected by the destruction of Tyre? How seriously were they affected?**
- 4. Who could be great enough to plan and execute the destruction of the important city of Tyre? Who did He use to accomplish the plan? Why would He do so?**



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For Discussion and Application

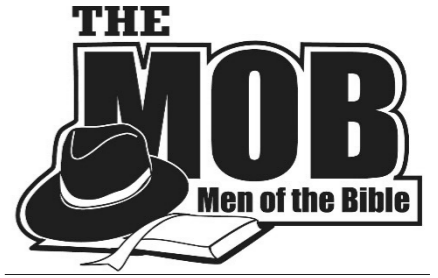


- 5. The text says that Tyre, this important city, will be destroyed so that it is forgotten for 70 years. Then it will reappear. What will be the same and what will be different?**
- 6. What unexpected twist do you find at the end of this chapter? What are we to make of it? When will that come about?**
- 7. Judah and Jerusalem still needed to respond properly to their external threats. What should they learn from the prophecy against Tyre?**
- 8. What does this chapter offer about the eventual divine blessing on Gentiles?**
- 9. What can we learn from the prophecy against Tyre?**



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Our Study of Isaiah



■ Current Meeting:

- Isaiah 23, An Oracle Against Tyre and Sidon
- Memory Verse: Romans 3:23
- *Dr. Constable's Notes, 2022 Ed., pp.151-156; Motyer, pp.189-194.*

■ Next Meeting:

- Isaiah 24, Judgment of the Whole Earth
- Memory Verse: Isaiah 24:19-20
- *Dr. Constable's Notes, 2022 Ed., pp.156-165; Motyer, pp.194-207.*

- Refreshment Host: Small Group G