

Pentwater Bible Church

Book of Ezekiel

Message 53

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Lot and his Daughters by Orazio Gentileschi, Cir. 1621

Daniel E. Woodhead – Pastor Teacher

Pentwater Bible Church

The Book of Ezekiel
Message Fifty-Three

THE LORD JUDGES AMMON & MOAB
September 11, 2016
Daniel E. Woodhead

Ezekiel 25:1-11

¹And the word of Jehovah came unto me, saying, ²Son of man, set thy face toward the children of Ammon, and prophesy against them: ³and say unto the children of Ammon, Hear the word of the Lord Jehovah: Thus saith the Lord Jehovah, Because thou saidst, Aha, against my sanctuary, when it was profaned; and against the land of Israel, when it was made desolate; and against the house of Judah, when they went into captivity: ⁴therefore, behold, I will deliver thee to the children of the east for a possession, and they shall set their encampments in thee, and make their dwellings in thee; they shall eat thy fruit, and they shall drink thy milk. ⁵And I will make Rabbah a stable for camels, and the children of Ammon a couching-place for flocks: and ye shall know that I am Jehovah. ⁶For thus saith the Lord Jehovah: Because thou hast clapped thy hands, and stamped with the feet, and rejoiced with all the despite of thy soul against the land of Israel; ⁷therefore, behold, I have stretched out my hand upon thee, and will deliver thee for a spoil to the nations; and I will cut thee off from the peoples, and I will cause thee to perish out of the countries: I will destroy thee; and thou shalt know that I am Jehovah.

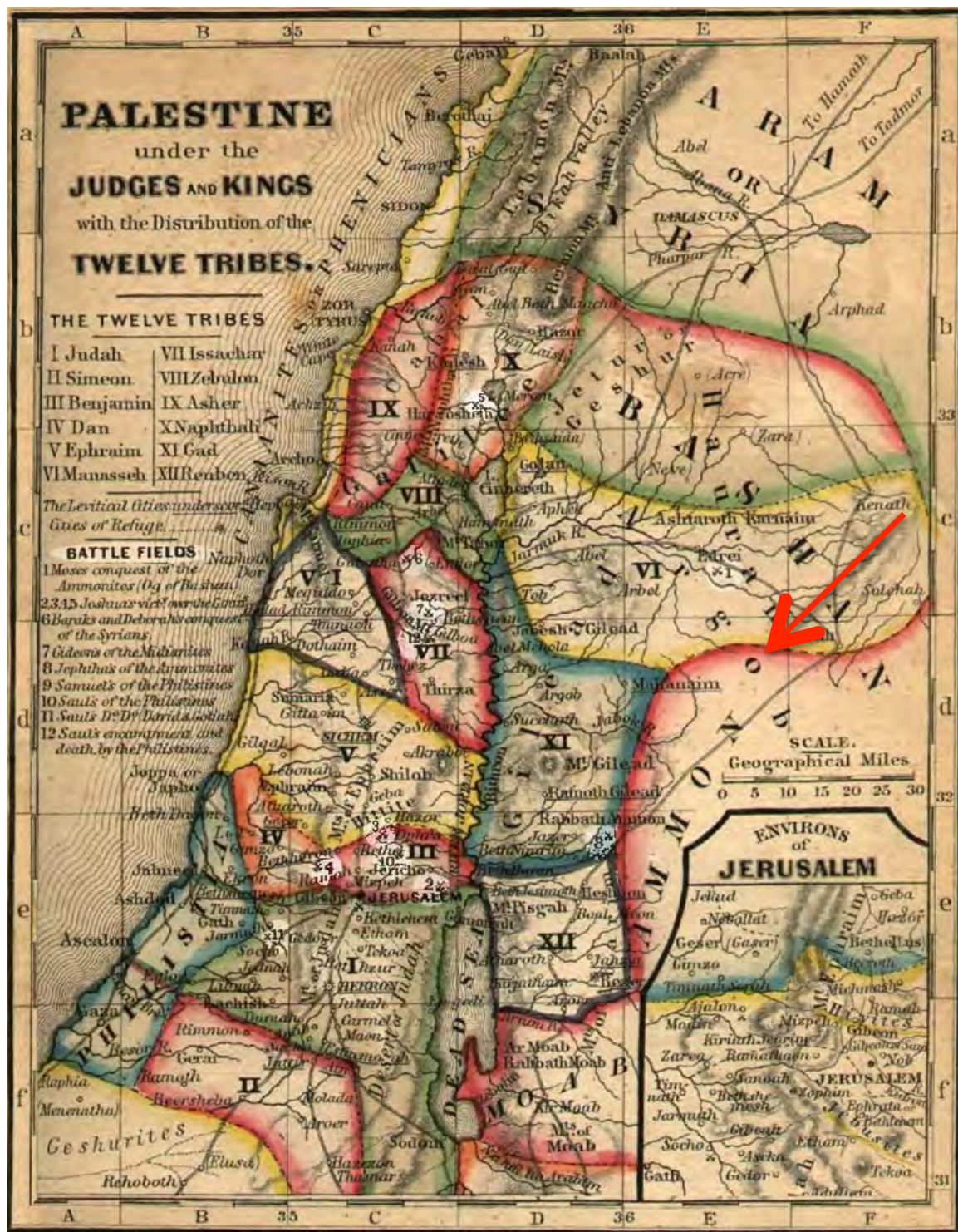
⁸Thus saith the Lord Jehovah: Because that Moab and Seir do say, Behold, the house of Judah is like unto all the nations; ⁹therefore, behold, I will open the side of Moab from the cities, from his cities which are on his frontiers, the glory of the country, Beth-jeshimoth, Baal-meon, and Kiriathaim, ¹⁰unto the children of the east, to go against the children of Ammon; and I will give them for a possession, that the children of Ammon may not be remembered among the nations. ¹¹and I will execute judgments upon Moab; and they shall know that I am Jehovah (ASV, 1901).

PROPHECY AGAINST AMMON

Ezekiel 25:1-2

¹And the word of Jehovah came unto me, saying, ²Son of man, set thy face toward the children of Ammon, and prophesy against them (ASV, 1901).

The region of Ammon is on the east side of the Jordan river east of Jerusalem in the northern area of modern day Jordan. It has had a long and difficult relationship with Israel and was originated in sinful circumstances. Lot was the nephew of Abraham and chose to live in the sinful city of Sodom. Later God met with Abraham at the Terebinth of Mamre.



where Abraham was sojourning and recovering from his circumcision as well as that of the males in his entourage. This was Jehovah God's sixth time to meet with Abraham. Two angels accompanied this appearance of God and they appeared to Abraham in the early afternoon (*heat of the day*) when the Middle Easterners eat their main meal. This was a preincarnate appearance of the Lord Jesus Christ with His angels (Genesis 18:1-21).

One of the reasons for the visit was to tell Abraham of their impending destruction of Sodom. Abraham through discussion with the Lord asks if He would defer destruction if ten righteous people were found in Sodom. Lot's household consisted of himself, his wife, two sons, two married daughters (with husbands) and two unmarried daughters. Lot and his family members are the only known survivors. The Bible said "*The men of Sodom were wicked (Genesis 13: 13).*" The men of Sodom were exceedingly outwardly wicked. We can compare the high degree of human wickedness just prior to the Flood to the men of Sodom prior to their destruction. Lot was to be rescued before the destruction.

The angels came to Lot's home to rescue him before they destroyed the city. Before the angels retired for the night the men of Sodom came to the home attacking with the intent of homosexually raping the angels. Lot went out to meet with them, refused them access to the angels, and made an equally odious offer. He offered his virgin daughters for a gang rape. Subsequently the angels laid hands on Lot, his wife and his two daughters to escort them out of the city. Lot resisted wanting to stay in *some* city. The world had entrenched itself into his heart and he did not want to give it up (Genesis 19:12-20). This is further evidence that the sins of Sodom had entrenched themselves into Lot and his family. The Bible clearly teaches that our sins will be passed down to our children. The offspring will not just embrace the sins they will exceed us in sinful practices (I Kings 14: 22; II Kings 15: 9; Nehemiah 9: 2; Daniel 9: 16 etc.). This passage of scripture is a fine example of that truth. Lot was easily persuaded into extreme drunkenness so that he was unaware of the incest his two daughters plotted against him. His daughters had the same weak character Lot had. They had the natural desire for children but were unaware of God's provision and chose an immoral path to parenthood.

They had the experience of living in Sodom and those abominable practices continued to live within them. They used the weak excuse that nobody would want them because they were undesirable as they came out of Sodom. Further they thought they had to quickly get their father to commit incest with them, as the term of his life might not be much longer. Lot was totally without comprehension and didn't realize what was happening when each of his daughters had incestuous sexual relations with him on two successive nights. The net result of these relations was that two sons were born, one to each of his daughters. The first was named Moab meaning *from the father*. The name of the second was Benammi meaning *son of my people* and from him were descended the Ammonites. The eventual outcome of this incestuous beginning was a difficult history against Israel and judgment for their sins. The Moabites and the Ammonites were frequently at war with Israel and were idolaters. Today Ammon is found in Northern Jordan and Moab is in Central Jordan. They are usually referred to in the Bible as the children of Lot (Deuteronomy 2: 9, 19; Psalm 83: 8). Scripture says that they will be again revived for judgment in the period of the Great Tribulation (Jeremiah 48: 47-49: 6). God tells Ezekiel of their judgment.

AMMON'S JUDGMENT

Ezekiel 25:1-11

³*and say unto the children of Ammon, Hear the word of the Lord Jehovah: Thus saith the Lord Jehovah, Because thou saidst, Aha, against my sanctuary, when it was profaned; and against the land of Israel, when it was made desolate; and against the house of Judah, when they went into captivity:*
⁴*therefore, behold, I will deliver thee to the children of the east for a*

possession, and they shall set their encampments in thee, and make their dwellings in thee; they shall eat thy fruit, and they shall drink thy milk. ⁵And I will make Rabbah a stable for camels, and the children of Ammon a couching-place for flocks: and ye shall know that I am Jehovah. ⁶For thus saith the Lord Jehovah: Because thou hast clapped thy hands, and stamped with the feet, and rejoiced with all the despite of thy soul against the land of Israel; ⁷therefore, behold, I have stretched out my hand upon thee, and will deliver thee for a spoil to the nations; and I will cut thee off from the peoples, and I will cause thee to perish out of the countries: I will destroy thee; and thou shalt know that I am Jehovah.

A message concerning Ammon had been given before by God to Ezekiel to share (Ezekiel 21:28-32). Jeremiah had received a similar message (Jeremiah 49:1-6). God speaking through Zephaniah showed that the Ammonites treated Israel with much contempt (Zephaniah 2:8-11) and were filled with pride. Even though they had a very sinful origin they nevertheless had a familial relationship to Israel through Abraham. They were in constant conflict with Israel.

1. During the period of the Judges (Judges 10:6–11:33).
2. Saul fought with the Ammonites to rescue Jabesh Gilead (1 Samuel 11:1–11),
3. David conquered Ammon (I Chronicles 19:1–20:3).
4. After the death of Solomon the Ammonites regained their independence and renewed their hostilities with Judah.
5. During Jehoshaphat's reign the Ammonites joined the Moabites and Edomites in an unsuccessful attack on Judah (II Chronicles 20:1–30).
6. Ammon tried to expand her territory at Israel's expense (Jeremiah 49:1).
7. Made an alliance with Nebuchadnezzar to gain territory (II Kings 24:1-2)
8. Nebuchadnezzar decided to attack Judah instead of Ammon (Ezekiel 21:18–27), Ammon rejoiced over Judah's misfortune, hoping to profit territorially from Judah's destruction.

When the Temple was ruined by the Babylonians they rejoiced (*Aha*). Their glee and reveling over Israel's sin and God's punishment revealed their own wicked, God-defying, unbelieving character. Therefore God says He is going to punish them. The men of the East were to conquer them and take them for a possession. The men of the East are Bedouins. The Bedouins are a nomadic people group.

THEIR OUTCOME

Ammon, or modern Northern Jordan, will experience a partial destruction and become a possession of Israel in the Messianic Kingdom. Israel's geography will encompass the land of Ammon.

Jeremiah 49:1–2:

Of the children of Ammon. Thus says Jehovah: Has Israel no sons? has he no heir? why then does Malcam possess Gad, and his people dwell in the cities thereof? Therefore, behold, the days come, says 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, says

Jehovah (ASV, 1901).

It will not be a total destruction and those who survive will turn to the Lord. A remnant of the people of Ammon will be found in the Messianic Kingdom, according to Jeremiah.

Jeremiah 49:6:

But afterward I will bring back the captivity of the children of Ammon, says Jehovah (ASV,1901).

THE JUDGMENT OF MOAB

Ezekiel 25:8-11

⁸Thus saith the Lord Jehovah: Because that Moab and Seir do say, Behold, the house of Judah is like unto all the nations; ⁹therefore, behold, I will open the side of Moab from the cities, from his cities which are on his frontiers, the glory of the country, Beth-jeshimoth, Baal-meon, and Kiriathaim, ¹⁰unto the children of the east, to go against the children of Ammon; and I will give them for a possession, that the children of Ammon may not be remembered among the nations. ¹¹and I will execute judgments upon Moab; and they shall know that I am Jehovah (ASV, 1901).

Because the Moabites were also the product of the incestuous relationship of Lot with his daughters they too had a very discrediting sinful origin. The first child born of the relationship was named Moab meaning *from the father* (Genesis 19:37-38). They too had a very difficult relationship with Israel. Other prophetic messages to Moab are given in Isaiah 15 & 16; Jeremiah 48 and Amos 2:1.

1. Difficulties began when Balak the King of Moab tried to oppose Moses during the wilderness wandering (Numbers 22-24).
2. Israel was oppressed by Eglon, king of Moab (Judges 3:12-30).
3. Relations with Israel were bad during Saul's reign (I Samuel 14:47).
4. David conquered Moab and made it a vassal (II Samuel 8:2).
5. Moab rebelled during the reign of Jehoshaphat (II Kings 3:4-47).

Seir, the mountain range mentioned is south of the Dead sea that runs into the territory of Edom to the south. Because Moab treated Judah with contempt, God would reprove them by opening their northern border to attack. He would also destroy three towns: Beth Jeshimoth, Baal Meon, and Kiriathaim. Beth Jeshimoth guarded the ascent to the Medeba Plateau from the Plains of Moab by the Jordan River. The nomadic Bedouins would also overrun Moab as they did Ammon. Like Ammon Jeremiah also gives a promise of Moab's restoration. "*Yet will I bring again the captivity of Moab in the latter days, saith the Lord*" (Jeremiah 48:47).

Moab is modern-day central Jordan. The destruction they will suffer described here in Ezekiel is also described at length elsewhere (Jeremiah 48:1-46).

Moab's destruction will not be total annihilation. Those who make it through to the end of the Great Tribulation will actually come to repentance and a remnant of Moab will return, according to Jeremiah.

Jeremiah 48:47

*Yet will I bring back the captivity of Moab in the latter days, says Jehovah.
Thus far is the judgment of Moab.*

A peaceful relationship between Israel and central Jordan (Moab) will finally come about during the Messianic Kingdom. Moab will be partially destroyed but it will lead to a national salvation of Moab. So there will be a saved nation of the Moabites in the Messianic Kingdom. They will be part of the land mass originally granted to Israel through the Abrahamic Covenant.



NEXT MESSAGE: THE PROPHECY AGAINST THE ARAB NATIONS CONTINUED – EDOM & PHILISTIA. E-mail: info@pentwaterbiblechurch.com Call: Toll Free 877-706-2479