

Ezekiel Chapter 32

Ezekiel 32:1 "And it came to pass in the twelfth year, in the twelfth month, in the first [day] of the month, [that] the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,"

This prophecy comes 19 months after the destruction of Jerusalem or (585 B.C.), 12 years from the deportation of Judah (in 597 B.C.).

Ezekiel 32:2 "Son of man, take up a lamentation for Pharaoh king of Egypt, and say unto him, Thou art like a young lion of the nations, and thou [art] as a whale in the seas: and thou camest forth with thy rivers, and troubledst the waters with thy feet, and fouledst their rivers."

“Like a young lion”: The picture describes Egypt’s deadly energetic stalking power in her dealings with other nations. The whale or monster is likened unto a crocodile meaning she was also violent like the crocodile.

The Pharaoh of Egypt here, is likened unto the king of the beasts. Satan goes through the earth like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Notice, they are like a lion, they are not a lion.

Their power is limited to what God allows them to have. It matters not how powerful any man is, he is still subject to God. This Pharaoh, like a young lion or a monster, had troubled the people. Waters sometimes indicate large numbers of people. Lamentation is like a funeral service.

Ezekiel 32:3 "Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will therefore spread out my net over thee with a company of many people; and they shall bring thee up in my net."

The Pharaoh, like a lion and like a monster, will be caught in the net of God. The net, in this case, is a company of people.

God will entrap Egypt as a net ensnares a lion or crocodile, using many people (soldiers). Egyptians will fall, their corpses gorge birds and beasts, their blood soak the earth and waters.

Ezekiel 32:4 "Then will I leave thee upon the land, I will cast thee forth upon the open field, and will cause all the fowls of the heaven to remain upon thee, and I will fill the beasts of the whole earth with thee."

The carcasses of the Egyptians would be food, enough for thousands of birds of prey to feed upon. The wild animals would feed upon them, too. This is speaking of the dead bodies that will not be buried. The vultures, and the wild beasts, will feed on them.

Ezekiel 32:5 "And I will lay thy flesh upon the mountains, and fill the valleys with thy height".

This is saying wherever they die; they will become food for the birds (vultures), and the wild beasts.

Ezekiel 32:6 "I will also water with thy blood the land wherein thou swimmest, [even] to the mountains; and the rivers shall be full of thee."

This is speaking of the vast numbers of people; whose blood will fill and contaminate the waters when they are killed.

Ezekiel 32:7 "And when I shall put thee out, I will cover the heaven, and make the stars thereof dark; I will cover the sun with a cloud, and the moon shall not give her light."

This darkness is caused by God. This "darkness" could be speaking of spiritual darkness as well as to physical darkness.

This is likely a reference to Pharaoh, whose life and power is extinguished, and all the rest of the leaders and people basking in his light are plunged into darkness.

Ezekiel 32:8 "All the bright lights of heaven will I make dark over thee, and set darkness upon thy land, saith the Lord GOD."

This is saying, their blessing has been withdrawn and judgment has come.

Ezekiel 32:9 "I will also vex the hearts of many people, when I shall bring thy destruction among the nations, into the countries which thou hast not known."

The downfall of so great a nation of the world would cause those, who are committing similar sins, to be seriously concerned for their own state of affairs.

Ezekiel 32:10 "Yea, I will make many people amazed at thee, and their kings shall be horribly afraid for thee, when I shall brandish my sword before them; and they shall tremble at [every] moment, every man for his own life, in the day of thy fall."

If God can put Pharaoh and Egypt down, think what He could do to them. God will not only bring Egypt down, but will do it in front of all the other countries. This will cause them to examine themselves and see whether they are right with God. Many of them would feel such guilt at their own sins; they fear they will be next.

Ezekiel 32:11 "For thus saith the Lord GOD; The sword of the king of Babylon shall come upon thee."

We cannot say it enough; the sword of Babylon was put in their hand by God. They are carrying out the chastisement of God on these people. God even uses Satan to chastise His people at times.

This is the definite identification of the conqueror (as in 30:10), when Nebuchadnezzar is actually named.

Ezekiel 32:12 "By the swords of the mighty will I cause thy multitude to fall, the terrible of the nations, all of them: and they shall spoil the pomp of Egypt, and all the multitude thereof shall be destroyed."

Egypt is not completely destroyed at this time by Nebuchadnezzar (as we saw in 29:12), Egypt was made desolate in the midst of the countries for 40 years. This is speaking of a future time, when Egypt (world), will be destroyed. This has to be speaking of a future event.

Ezekiel 32:13 "I will destroy also all the beasts thereof from beside the great waters; neither shall the foot of man trouble them any more, nor the hoofs of beasts trouble them."

With no men or beasts to stir up the mud in the Nile and its branches, the water will be clear and flow smoothly. Since the river was the center of all life, this pictures the devastation graphically.

Ezekiel 32:14 "Then will I make their waters deep, and cause their rivers to run like oil, saith the Lord GOD."

This is speaking of a time, when man will not impair the river from running. It appears, there is so much death in the land that the rivers will flow without any hindrance at all. It appears, the entire generation has been destroyed. This has never been recorded in history, so it has to be speaking of a future time.

Ezekiel 32:15 "When I shall make the land of Egypt desolate, and the country shall be destitute of that whereof it was full, when I shall smite all them that dwell therein, then shall they know that I [am] the LORD."

This speaks of such destruction, that it is almost as if it is the annihilation of these people. The word "all" in the verse, is speaking of everyone.

Ezekiel 32:16 "This [is] the lamentation wherewith they shall lament her: the daughters of the nations shall lament her: they shall lament for her, [even] for Egypt, and for all her multitude, saith the Lord GOD."

There would have to be a funeral service for the death of so great a people. This could be speaking of the time of God's wrath at the end of our generation.

Ezekiel 32:17 "It came to pass also in the twelfth year, in the fifteenth [day] of the month, [that] the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,"

This appears to be about two weeks, after the prophecy given at the beginning of this lesson.

Ezekiel 32:18 "Son of man, wail for the multitude of Egypt, and cast them down, [even] her, and the daughters of the famous nations, unto the nether parts of the earth, with them that go down into the pit."

We see from this, that not only do their physical bodies die, but they are condemned to hell, as well. This is something to really wail about. This is not just Egypt, but all the nations that have sinned so greatly.

The pit refers to Sheol or the grave.

Ezekiel 32:19 "Whom dost thou pass in beauty? go down, and be thou laid with the uncircumcised."

Ezekiel is speaking of the uncircumcised, as those who have lost their souls. They have lost their souls and bodies in hell. God has condemned them for their terrible sins.

The prophet followed Egypt and her people beyond the grave. The king of Egypt is addressed by the other nations in "hell," taunting him as he is on the same level with them.

This shows that there is conscious existence and fixed destiny beyond death (see Luke 16:19-31 which is the story of Lazarus and the rich man).

Ezekiel 32:20 "They shall fall in the midst of [them that are] slain by the sword: she is delivered to the sword: draw her and all her multitudes."

The Scripture above is speaking of those who died going on to hell for the second death. Notice, that it is God who judges a person worthy of hell.

Luke 12:5 "But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him."

Ezekiel 32:21 "The strong among the mighty shall speak to him out of the midst of hell with them that help him: they are gone down, they lie uncircumcised, slain by the sword."

This is speaking of those who have died in their sinful condition. They have not repented. They died, before they repented, and are in hell.

Ezekiel 32:22 "Asshur [is] there and all her company: his graves [are] about him: all of them slain, fallen by the sword:"

Ezekiel is now speaking of those who had known greatness on the earth, but worshipped false gods, and wound up in hell.

Asshur is Assyria. The slain of several nations are pictured in the afterlife: Assyria (verses 22-23), Elam (verses 24-25), Meshech and Tubal (verses 26-28), and Edom (verses 29-30).

Although mighty for a time on earth, the fallen lie as defeated equals in death, all conquered by God and consigned to eternal hell (verse 21).

Ezekiel 32:23 "Whose graves are set in the sides of the pit, and her company is round about her grave: all of them slain, fallen by the sword, which caused terror in the land of the living."

They had done terrible things to others while they were upon the earth, and now, they are in the very pit itself.

Ezekiel 32:24 "There [is] Elam and all her multitude round about her grave, all of them slain, fallen by the sword, which are gone down uncircumcised into the nether parts of the earth, which caused their terror in the land of the living; yet have they borne their shame with them that go down to the pit."

This Elam seemed to be with the evil Sennacherib. This seems to be a list of those, who lived gloriously on the earth, and were very evil. They have died, and been judged worthy of hell.

Ezekiel 32:25 "They have set her a bed in the midst of the slain with all her multitude: her graves [are] round about him: all of them uncircumcised, slain by the sword: though their terror was caused in the land of the living, yet have they borne their shame with them that go down to the pit: he is put in the midst of [them that be] slain."

The "bed" in the Scripture above, seems to indicate sleeping in the cemetery, but that is not where they stayed. They are in hell, with all of those who died in their sin (called the uncircumcised).

Ezekiel 32:26 "There [is] Meshech, Tubal, and all her multitude: her graves [are] round about him: all of them uncircumcised, slain by the sword, though they caused their terror in the land of the living."

Meshech and Tubal are mentioned with Gog later on in these lessons. They are all involved in the battle of Armageddon. We see from this, that this is speaking of what happens to these people, when they stand before the Judge of all the world, and are condemned to hell. This is not something that happens in Ezekiel's time, but is looking to the end times.

Ezekiel 32:27 "And they shall not lie with the mighty [that are] fallen of the uncircumcised, which are gone down to hell with their weapons of war: and they have laid their swords under their heads, but their iniquities shall be upon their bones, though [they were] the terror of the mighty in the land of the living."

The mighty warriors who had been buried after their death had their sword buried with them under their heads. These were evil men we have been reading about, and they were not even buried. They were eaten of vultures, when they died.

Ezekiel 32:28 "Yea, thou shalt be broken in the midst of the uncircumcised, and shalt lie with [them that are] slain with the sword."

Ezekiel, being a Hebrew, speaks of the unsaved as the uncircumcised.

Ezekiel 32:29 "There [is] Edom, her kings, and all her princes, which with their might are laid by [them that were] slain by the sword: they shall lie with the uncircumcised, and with them that go down to the pit."

Edom consists of the descendants of Esau. He had no respect for his birthright. All of these people are condemned to hell.

Ezekiel 32:30 "There [be] the princes of the north, all of them, and all the Zidonians, which are gone down with the slain; with their terror they are ashamed of their might; and they lie uncircumcised with [them that be] slain by the sword, and bear their shame with them that go down to the pit."

The area these are from includes Damascus, Hamath, and Arpad.

Ezekiel 32:31 "Pharaoh shall see them, and shall be comforted over all his multitude, [even] Pharaoh and all his army slain by the sword, saith the Lord GOD."

It will be little consolation to know that there are millions more people down in hell, besides Pharaoh and his followers.

It is a strange comfort coming from the recognition that he and his people were not alone in misery and doom.

Ezekiel 32:32 "For I have caused my terror in the land of the living: and he shall be laid in the midst of the uncircumcised with [them that are] slain with the sword, [even] Pharaoh and all his multitude, saith the Lord GOD."

The terror God has caused is the judgment against all who are unrepentant sinners. All of the ones we have talked about in this lesson are those who worshipped false gods. They were idolaters. They were also, a terror to God's people. They died in their sins. Some will, probably, say how cruel this is of God.

All through these lessons, He warned them over and over, and they did not repent. They actually sent themselves to hell, because they refused salvation.

Ezekiel Chapter 32 Questions

1. When was this prophecy given?

2. Who was Ezekiel to take up a lamentation for?
3. Pharaoh was like a young _____ of the nations.
4. What sea being was he?
5. The lion and the whale are king of their _____.
6. They are both still subject to _____.
7. Pharaoh will be caught in the _____ of God.
8. What is verse 4 speaking of?
9. What is the "darkness" in verse 7?
10. All the bright lights of heaven will I make _____ over thee.
11. What would the downfall of so great a nation cause those who were committing similar sin to be concerned about?
12. Their kings will be horribly _____ for thee.
13. Who put the sword in the hand of the king of Babylon?
14. Verse 12 is speaking of what time?
15. What besides the Egyptians, are killed in verse 13?
16. The rivers will run like _____.
17. What one word describes the destruction in verse 15?
18. The second prophecy begins when?
19. Where is the multitude of Egypt cast down to?
20. What is worse than physical death?
21. Ezekiel speaks of the uncircumcised as whom?
22. Who are some mentioned, who went to hell?
23. What is the "bed" in verse 25 speaking of?
24. Meshech and Tubal tell us what about the time of this prophecy?
25. What terror did God cause?
26. They actually sent _____ to hell.