Ezekiel

1 In the thirtieth year, on the fifth day of the
fourth month, while I was among the exiles by
the River Kebar, the heavens opened and I saw
visions of God.*
2 On the fifth day of the month—it was the
fifth year of the exile of King Jehoiachin—
3 the word of the LORD came directly to
Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of
the Chaldeans† by the River Kebar. And there
the LORD's hand was upon him.
4 I looked and saw a whirlwind coming from
the north, a great cloud with fire flashing back
and forth and brilliant light all around it. In the
center of the fire was a gleam like amber,‡
5 and within it was the form of four living
creatures.
And this was their appearance: They had a
human form,
6 but each had four faces and four wings.
7 Their legs were straight, and the soles of
their feet were like the hooves of a calf,
gleaming like polished bronze.
8 Under their wings on their four sides they
had human hands.§ All four living creatures
had faces and wings,

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* **1:1 1:1** Or *from God* † **1:3 1:3** That is, the Babylonians ‡ **1:4 1:4** Or *The center of the fire looked like glowing metal*; similarly in verse 27 § **1:8 1:8** Qere; Ketiv *his hand of a man*

9 and their wings were touching one another.
They did not turn as they moved; each one went
straight ahead.
10 The form of their faces was that of a man,
and each of the four had the face of a lion on the
right side, the face of an ox on the left side, and
also the face of an eagle.
11 Such were their faces.
Their wings were spread upward; each had
two wings touching the wings of the creature on
either side, and two wings covering its body.
12 Each creature went straight ahead.
Wherever the spirit would go, they would go,
without turning as they moved.
13 As for the likeness of the living creatures,
their appearance was like glowing coals of fire,
like the appearance of torches.* Fire moved
back and forth between the living creatures; it
was bright, and lightning flashed out of it.
14 The creatures were darting back and forth
as quickly as flashes of lightning.
15 When I looked at the living creatures, I saw
a wheel on the ground beside each creature
with its four faces.
16 The workmanship of the wheels looked like
the gleam of beryl, and all four had the same
likeness. Their workmanship looked like a
wheel within a wheel.
17 As they moved, they went in any of the four
directions, without pivoting as they moved.

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* **1:13 1:13** LXX *In the midst of the living creatures was the appearance of …*

18 Their rims were high and awesome, and all
four rims were full of eyes all around.
19 So as the living creatures moved, the wheels
moved beside them, and when the creatures
rose from the ground, the wheels also rose.
20 Wherever the spirit would go, they would
go, and the wheels would rise alongside them,
because the spirit of the living creatures was in
the wheels.
21 When the creatures moved, the wheels
moved; when the creatures stood still, the
wheels stood still; and when the creatures rose
from the ground, the wheels rose alongside
them, because the spirit of the living creatures
was in the wheels.
22 Spread out above the heads of the living
creatures was the likeness of an awesome
expanse, gleaming like crystal.
23 And under the expanse, their wings
stretched out toward one another. Each one also
had two wings covering its body.
24 When the creatures moved, I heard the
sound of their wings like the roar of many
waters, like the voice of the Almighty,† like the
tumult of an army.
When they stood still, they lowered their
wings.
25 And there came a voice from above the
expanse over their heads as they stood still with
their wings lowered.
26 Above the expanse over their heads was the
likeness of a throne with the appearance of

† **1:24 1:24** Hebrew *Shaddai*

sapphire, and on the throne high above was a
figure like that of a man.
27 From what seemed to be his waist up, I saw
a gleam like amber, with what looked like fire
within it all around. And from what seemed to
be his waist down, I saw what looked like fire;
and brilliant light surrounded him.
28 The appearance of the brilliant light all
around him was like that of a rainbow in a cloud
on a rainy day. This was the appearance of the
likeness of the glory of the LORD. And when I
saw it, I fell facedown and heard a voice
speaking.

2

1 "Son of man,*" he said to me, "stand up on
your feet and I will speak to you."
2 And as he spoke to me, the spirit entered me
and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking
to me.
3 "Son of man," he said to me, "I am sending
you to the Israelites, to rebellious nations† that
have rebelled against me. To this very day they
and their fathers have rebelled against me.
4 They are obstinate and stubborn children. I
am sending you to them, and you are to say to
them, 'This is what the Lord GOD says.'
5 And whether they listen or refuse to
listen—for they are a rebellious house—they
will know that a prophet has been among them.

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* **2:1** **2:1** Or *Son of Adam*; here and throughout Ezekiel † **2:3** **2:3** Syriac *to a rebellious nation*

6 But you, son of man, do not be afraid of them
or their words. Do not be afraid, though briers
and thorns surround you, and you dwell among
scorpions. Do not be afraid of their words or
dismayed by their presence, though they are a
rebellious house.
7 But speak my words to them, whether they
listen or refuse to listen, for they are rebellious.
8 And you, son of man, listen to what I tell you.
Do not be rebellious like that rebellious house.
Open your mouth and eat what I give you."
9 Then I looked and saw a hand reaching out
to me, and in it was a scroll,
10 which he unrolled before me. And written
on the front and back of it were words of
lamentation, mourning, and woe.

3

1 "Son of man," he said to me, "eat what you
find here. Eat this scroll, then go and speak to
the house of Israel."
2 So I opened my mouth, and he fed me the
scroll.
3 "Son of man," he said to me, "eat and fill your
stomach with this scroll I am giving you."
So I ate, and it was as sweet as honey in my
mouth.
4 Then he said to me, "Son of man, go now to
the house of Israel and speak my words to them.
5 For you are not being sent to a people of
unfamiliar speech or difficult language, but to
the house of Israel—
6 not to the many peoples of unfamiliar speech
and difficult language whose words you cannot

understand. Surely if I had sent you to them,
they would have listened to you.
7 But the house of Israel will be unwilling to
listen to you, since they are unwilling to listen to
me. For the whole house of Israel is
hard-headed and hard-hearted.
8 Behold, I will make your face as hard as their
faces, and your forehead as hard as their
foreheads.
9 I will make your forehead like a diamond,
harder than flint. Do not be afraid of them or
dismayed at their presence, even though they
are a rebellious house."
10 "Son of man," he added, "listen carefully to
all the words I speak to you, and take them to
heart.
11 Go to your people, the exiles; speak to them
and tell them, 'This is what the Lord GOD says,'
whether they listen or refuse to listen."
12 Then the spirit* lifted me up, and I heard a
great rumbling sound behind me: "Blessed be
the glory of the LORD in his dwelling place!"†
13 It was the sound of the wings of the living
creatures brushing against one another and the
sound of the wheels beside them, a great
rumbling sound.
14 So the spirit lifted me up and took me away,
and I went in bitterness and in the anger of my
spirit, with the strong hand of the LORD upon
me.

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* **3:12** **3:12** Or *the wind*; also in verse 14 † **3:12** **3:12** By emendation *sound behind me as the glory of the LORD rose from its place!*

15 I came to the exiles at Tel-abib who dwelt by
the River Kebar. And for seven days I sat where
they sat‡ and remained there among them,
overwhelmed.
16 At the end of seven days the word of the
LORD came to me, saying,
17 “Son of man, I have made you a watchman
for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a
word from my mouth, give them a warning
from me.
18 If I say to the wicked man, ‘You will surely
die,’ but you do not warn him or speak out to
warn him from his wicked way to save his life,
that wicked man will die for his iniquity,§ and I
will hold you responsible for his blood.
19 But if you warn a wicked man and he does
not turn from his wickedness and his wicked
way, he will die for his iniquity, but you will
have saved yourself.
20 Now if a righteous man turns from his
righteousness and commits iniquity, and I put a
stumbling block before him, he will die. If you
did not warn him, he will die for his sin,* and
the righteous acts he did will not be
remembered. And I will hold you responsible
for his blood.
21 But if you warn the righteous man not to
sin, and he does not sin, he will indeed live
because he heeded your warning, and you will
have saved yourself.”

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‡ **3:15 3:15** Qere; Ketiv *and those who were sitting there* § **3:18 3:18** Or *in his iniquity*; also in verse 19 * **3:20 3:20** Or *in his sin*

22 And there the hand of the LORD was upon
me, and he said to me, “Get up, go out to the
plain, and there I will speak with you.”
23 So I got up and went out to the plain, and
behold, the glory of the LORD was present there,
like the glory I had seen by the River Kebar, and
I fell facedown.
24 Then the spirit entered me and set me on
my feet. He spoke with me and said, “Go, shut
yourself inside your house.
25 And you, son of man, they will tie with
ropes, and you will be bound so that you cannot
go out among the people.
26 I will make your tongue stick to the roof of
your mouth, and you will be silent and unable to
rebuke them, though they are a rebellious house.
27 But when I speak with you, I will open your
mouth, and you are to tell them, ‘This is what
the Lord GOD says.’ Whoever listens, let him
listen; and whoever refuses, let him refuse, for
they are a rebellious house.

4

1 “Now you, son of man, take a brick, place it
before you, and draw on it the city of Jerusalem.
2 Then lay siege against it: Construct a siege
wall, build a ramp to it, set up camps against it,
and place battering rams around it on all sides.
3 Then take an iron plate and set it up as an
iron wall between yourself and the city. Turn
your face toward it so that it is under siege, and
besiege it. This will be a sign to the house of
Israel.

4 Then lie down on your left side and place the
iniquity of the house of Israel upon yourself.
You are to bear their iniquity for the number of
days you lie on your side.
5 For I have assigned to you 390 days,
according to the number of years of their
iniquity. So you shall bear the iniquity of the
house of Israel.
6 When you have completed these days, lie
down again, but on your right side, and bear the
iniquity of the house of Judah. I have assigned
to you 40 days, a day for each year.
7 You must turn your face toward the siege of
Jerusalem with your arm bared, and prophesy
against it.
8 Now behold, I will tie you up with ropes so
you cannot turn from side to side until you have
finished the days of your siege.
9 But take wheat, barley, beans, lentils, millet,
and spelt; put them in a single container and
make them into bread for yourself. This is what
you are to eat during the 390 days you lie on
your side.
10 You are to weigh out twenty shekels of food*
to eat each day, and you are to eat it at set times.
11 You are also to measure out a sixth of a hin
of water† to drink, and you are to drink it at set
times.

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* **4:10 4:10** *20 shekels* is approximately 8 ounces or 228 grams of food. † **4:11 4:11** *A sixth of a hin* is approximately 0.65 quarts or 0.61 liters of water.

12 And you shall eat the food as you would a
barley cake, after you bake it over dried human
excrement in the sight of the people."
13 Then the LORD said, "This is how the
Israelites will eat their defiled bread among the
nations to which I will banish them."
14 "Ah, Lord GOD," I said, "I have never defiled
myself.‡ From my youth until now I have not
eaten anything found dead or mauled by wild
beasts. No unclean meat has ever entered my
mouth."
15 "Look," he replied, "I will let you use cow
dung instead of human excrement, and you may
bake your bread over that."
16 Then he told me, "Son of man, I am going to
cut off the supply§ of food in Jerusalem. They
will anxiously eat bread rationed by weight, and
in despair they will drink water by measure.
17 So they will lack food and water; they will
be appalled at the sight of one another wasting
away in their iniquity.

5

1 "As for you, son of man, take a sharp sword,
use it as a barber's razor, and shave your head
and beard. Then take a set of scales and divide
the hair.
2 When the days of the siege have ended, you
are to burn up a third of the hair inside the city;
you are also to take a third and slash it with the
sword all around the city; and you are to scatter

‡ **4:14 4:14** Hebrew *"Ah, Lord GOD," I said, "Behold, my soul has never been made unclean.* § **4:16 4:16** Hebrew *staff*

a third to the wind. For I will unleash a sword
behind them.
3 But you are to take a few strands of hair and
secure them in the folds of your garment.
4 Again, take a few of these, throw them into
the fire, and burn them. From there a fire will
spread to the whole house of Israel.
5 This is what the Lord GOD says: 'This is
Jerusalem, which I have set in the center of the
nations, with countries all around her.
6 But she has rebelled against my ordinances
more wickedly than the nations, and against my
statutes worse than the countries around her.
For her people have rejected my ordinances and
have not walked in my statutes.'
7 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
'You have been more insubordinate than the
nations around you; you have not walked in my
statutes or kept my ordinances, nor have you
even conformed* to the ordinances of the
nations around you.'
8 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
'Behold, I myself am against you, Jerusalem, and
I will execute judgments among you in the sight
of the nations.
9 Because of all your abominations, I will do to
you what I have never done before and will
never do again.
10 As a result, fathers among you will eat their
sons, and sons will eat their fathers. I will
execute judgments against you and scatter all
your remnant to every wind.'

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* **5:7 5:7** Some Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac *my ordinances; you have even conformed*

11 Therefore as surely as I live, declares the
Lord GOD, because you have defiled my
sanctuary with all your detestable idols and
abominations, I myself will withdraw my favor;
I will not look upon you with pity, nor will I
spare you.
12 A third of your people will die by plague or
be consumed by famine within you, a third will
fall by the sword outside your walls, and a third
I will scatter to every wind and unleash a sword
behind them.
13 And when my anger is spent and I have
vented my wrath against them, I will be
appeased. And when I have spent my wrath on
them, they will know that I, the LORD, in my
zeal have spoken.
14 I will make you a ruin and a disgrace among
the nations around you, in the sight of all who
pass by.
15 So it will be† a reproach and a taunt, a
warning and a horror to the nations around
you, when I execute judgments against you in
anger, wrath, and raging fury. I, the LORD, have
spoken.
16 When I shower them‡ with the deadly
arrows of famine and destruction that I will
send to destroy you, I will intensify the famine
against you and cut off your supply§ of food.
17 I will send famine and wild beasts against
you, and they will leave you childless. Plague

† **5:15 5:15** DSS, LXX, Syriac, and Vulgate *So you will be* ‡ **5:16 5:16** Some translators *you*, as in the rest of the verse § **5:16 5:16** Hebrew *staff*

and bloodshed will sweep through you, and I will bring a sword against you. I, the LORD, have spoken."

6

1 And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
2 "Son of man, set your face against the mountains of Israel and prophesy against them.
3 You are to say: 'O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord GOD! This is what the Lord GOD says to the mountains and hills, to the ravines and valleys: I am about to bring a sword against you, and I will destroy your high places.
4 Your altars will be demolished and your incense altars will be smashed; and I will cast down your slain before your idols.
5 I will lay the corpses of the Israelites before their idols and scatter your bones around your altars.
6 Wherever you live, the cities will be laid waste and the high places will be demolished, so that your altars will be laid waste and desecrated, your idols smashed and obliterated, your incense altars cut down, and your works blotted out.
7 The slain will fall among you, and you will know that I am the LORD.
8 Yet I will leave a remnant, for some of you will escape the sword when you are scattered among the nations and throughout the lands.
9 Then in the nations to which they have been carried captive, your survivors will remember me—how I have been grieved by their

adulterous hearts that turned away from me,
and by their eyes that lusted after idols. So they
will loathe themselves for the evil they have
done and for all their abominations.
10 And they will know that I am the LORD; I
did not declare in vain that I would bring this
calamity upon them.
11 This is what the Lord GOD says: Clap your
hands, stomp your feet, and cry out “Alas!”
because of all the wicked abominations of the
house of Israel, who will fall by sword and
famine and plague.
12 He who is far off will die by the plague, he
who is near will fall by the sword, and he who
remains will die by famine. So I will vent my
fury upon them.
13 Then you will know that I am the LORD,
when their slain lie among their idols around
their altars, on every high hill, on all the
mountaintops, and under every green tree and
leafy oak—the places where they offered
fragrant incense to all their idols.
14 I will stretch out my hand against them, and
wherever they live I will make the land a
desolate waste, from the wilderness to Diblah.*
Then they will know that I am the LORD.’ ”

7

1 And the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,

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* **6:14 6:14** Most Hebrew manuscripts; Vulgate and a few Hebrew manuscripts *Riblah*

2 “O son of man, this is what the Lord GOD
says to the land of Israel:

‘The end! The end has come
upon the four corners of the land.
3 The end is now upon you,
and I will unleash my anger against you.
I will judge you according to your ways
and repay you for all your abominations.
4 I will not look on you with pity,
nor will I spare you,
but I will punish you for your ways
and for the abominations among you.

Then you will know that I am the LORD.’

5 This is what the Lord GOD says:

‘Disaster! An unprecedented disaster*—
behold, it is coming!
6 The end has come!
The end has come!
It has roused itself against you.
Behold, it has come!
7 Doom has come to you,
O inhabitants of the land.
The time has come;
the day is near;
there is panic on the mountains
instead of shouts of joy.

* **7:5 7:5** Or *A unique disaster*, as in most Hebrew manuscripts; some Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac *Disaster after disaster*

8 Very soon I will pour out my wrath upon you
and vent my anger against you;
I will judge you according to your ways
and repay you for all your abominations.
9 I will not look on you with pity,
nor will I spare you,
but I will punish you for your ways
and for the abominations among you.
Then you will know that it is I, the LORD,
who strikes the blow.

10 Behold, the day is here!
It has come!
Doom has gone out,
the rod has budded,
arrogance has bloomed.
11 The violence has grown
into a rod of wickedness.†
None of them will remain;
none of their multitude,
none of their wealth,
and nothing of value.

12 The time has come;
the day has arrived.
Let the buyer not rejoice
and the seller not mourn,
for wrath is upon the whole multitude.
13 The seller will surely not recover what he sold
while both remain alive.
For the vision concerning the whole multitude
will not be revoked,

† **7:11 7:11** Or *Their violence has grown into a rod to punish their wickedness.*

and because of their iniquity,
not one of them will preserve his life.
14 They have blown the trumpet
and made everything ready,
but no one goes to war,
for my wrath is upon the whole multitude.
15 The sword is outside;
plague and famine are within.
Those in the country will die by the sword,
and those in the city will be devoured
by famine and plague.

16 The survivors will escape
and live in the mountains,
moaning like doves of the valley,
each for his own iniquity.
17 Every hand will go limp,
and every knee will turn to water.
18 They will put on sackcloth,
and terror will overwhelm them.
Shame will cover all their faces,
and all their heads will be shaved.

19 They will throw their silver into the streets,
and their gold will seem unclean.
Their silver and gold cannot save them
in the day of the wrath of the LORD.
They cannot satisfy their appetites
or fill their stomachs with wealth,
for it became the stumbling block
that brought their iniquity.

20 His beautiful ornaments

they transformed into pride
and used them to fashion
their vile images and detestable idols.
Therefore I will make these
into something unclean for them.
21 And I will hand these things over
as plunder to foreigners
and loot to the wicked of the earth,
who will defile them.
22 I will turn my face away from them,
and they will defile my treasured place.
Violent men will enter it,
and they will defile it.

23 Forge the chain,
for the land is full of crimes of bloodshed,
and the city is full of violence.
24 So I will bring the most wicked of nations
to take possession of their houses.
I will end the pride of the mighty,
and their holy places will be profaned.

25 Anguish is coming!
They will seek peace, but find none.
26 Disaster upon disaster will come,
and rumor after rumor.
Then they will seek a vision from a prophet,
but instruction from the priests will perish,
as will counsel from the elders.
27 The king will mourn,
the prince will be clothed with despair,
and the hands of the people of the land will
tremble.
I will deal with them according to their conduct,

and I will judge them by their own
standards.

Then they will know that I am the LORD.' "

8

1 In the sixth year, on the fifth day of the sixth
month, I was sitting in my house, and the elders
of Judah were sitting before me; and there the
hand of the Lord GOD fell upon me.
2 Then I looked and saw a figure like the
appearance of fire.* From his waist down his
appearance was like fire, and from his waist up
he was as bright as the gleam of amber.†
3 He stretched out what looked like a hand and
took me by the hair of my head. Then the spirit
lifted me up between earth and heaven and
carried me in visions of God to Jerusalem, to the
entrance of the north gate of the inner court,
where the idol that provokes jealousy was
seated.
4 And there I saw the glory of the God of Israel,
like the vision I had seen in the plain.
5 "Son of man," he said to me, "now lift up your
eyes to the north."
So I lifted up my eyes to the north, and in the
entrance north of the gate of the altar‡ I saw this
idol of jealousy.
6 "Son of man," he said to me, "do you see what
they are doing—the great abominations that the
house of Israel is committing—to drive me far

* **8:2 8:2** LXX *a figure like that of a man* † **8:2 8:2** Or *as glowing metal* ‡ **8:5 8:5** Or *the Altar Gate*

from my sanctuary? Yet you will see even
greater abominations."
7 Then he brought me to the entrance to the
court, and I looked and saw a hole in the wall.
8 "Son of man," he told me, "dig through the
wall."
So I dug through the wall and discovered a
doorway.
9 Then he said to me, "Go in and see the
wicked abominations they are committing here."
10 So I went in and looked, and engraved all
around the wall was every kind of crawling
creature and detestable beast, along with all the
idols of the house of Israel.
11 Before them stood seventy elders of the
house of Israel, with Jaazaniah son of Shaphan
standing among them. Each had a censer in his
hand, and a fragrant cloud of incense was rising.
12 "Son of man," he said to me, "do you see
what the elders of the house of Israel are doing
in the darkness, each at the shrine of his own
idol? For they are saying, 'The LORD does not
see us; the LORD has forsaken the land.' "
13 Again, he told me, "You will see them
committing even greater abominations."
14 Then he brought me to the entrance of the
north gate of the house of the LORD, and I saw
women sitting there, weeping for Tammuz.§
15 "Son of man," he said to me, "do you see
this? Yet you will see even greater abominations
than these."

§ **8:14 8:14** *Tammuz*, meaning *Sprout of Life*, was a Sumerian god of fertility.

16 So he brought me to the inner court of the
house of the LORD, and there at the entrance to
the temple of the LORD, between the portico and
the altar, were about twenty-five men with their
backs to the temple of the LORD and their faces
toward the east; and they were bowing to the
east in worship of the sun.
17 "Son of man," he said to me, "do you see this?
Is it not enough for the house of Judah to commit
the abominations they are practicing here, that
they must also fill the land with violence and
continually provoke me to anger? Look, they are
even putting the branch to their nose!
18 Therefore I will respond with wrath. I will
not look on them with pity, nor will I spare
them. Although they shout loudly in my ears, I
will not listen to them."

9

1 Then I heard him call out in a loud voice,
saying, "Draw near, O executioners of the city,
each with a weapon of destruction in hand."
2 And I saw six men coming from the direction
of the Upper Gate, which faces north, each with
a weapon of slaughter in his hand. With them
was another man clothed in linen who had a
writing kit at his side. And they came in and
stood beside the bronze altar.
3 Then the glory of the God of Israel rose from
above the cherubim, where it had been, and
moved to the threshold of the temple. And he
called to the man clothed in linen who had the
writing kit at his side.

4 “Go throughout the city of Jerusalem,” said
the LORD, “and put a mark on the foreheads of
the men sighing and groaning over all the
abominations committed there.”
5 And as I listened, he said to the others,
“Follow him through the city and start killing; do
not show pity* or spare anyone!
6 Slaughter the old men, the young men and
maidens, the women and children; but do not go
near anyone who has the mark. Now begin at
my sanctuary.”

So they began with the elders who were
before the temple.

7 Then he told them, “Defile the temple and fill
the courts with the slain. Go forth!”

So they went out and began killing throughout
the city.

8 While they were killing, I was left alone. And
I fell facedown and cried out, “Oh, Lord GOD,
when you pour out your wrath on Jerusalem,
will you destroy the entire remnant of Israel?”

9 He replied, “The iniquity of the house of
Israel and Judah is exceedingly great. The land
is full of bloodshed, and the city is full of
perversity. For they say, ‘The LORD has forsaken
the land; the LORD does not see.’
10 But as for me, I will not look on them with
pity, nor will I spare them. I will bring their
deeds down upon their own heads.”

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* **9:5 9:5** Qere; Ketiv has *upon* in place of *do not*

11 Then the man clothed in linen with the
writing kit at his side reported back, “I have
done all that you commanded.”†

10

1 And I looked and saw above the expanse,
above the heads of the cherubim, the likeness of
a throne of sapphire.
2 And the LORD said to the man clothed in
linen, “Go inside the wheelwork beneath the
cherubim. Fill your hands with burning coals
from among the cherubim and scatter them
over the city.” And as I watched, he went in.
3 Now when the man went in, the cherubim
were standing on the south side of the temple,
and a cloud filled the inner court.
4 Then the glory of the LORD rose from above
the cherubim and stood over the threshold of
the temple. The temple was filled with the cloud,
and the court was filled with the brightness of
the glory of the LORD.
5 The sound of the wings of the cherubim
could be heard as far as the outer court, like the
voice of God Almighty* when he speaks.
6 When the LORD commanded the man
clothed in linen, saying, “Take fire from within
the wheelwork, from among the cherubim,” the
man went in and stood beside a wheel.
7 Then one of the cherubim reached out his
hand and took some of the fire that was among
them. And he put it into the hands of the man
clothed in linen, who received it and went out.

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† **9:11 9:11** Qere; Ketiv *as you commanded*

* **10:5 10:5** Hebrew *El-Shaddai*

8 (The cherubim appeared to have the form of
human hands under their wings.)

9 Then I looked and saw four wheels beside
the cherubim, one wheel beside each cherub.
And the wheels gleamed like a beryl stone.
10 As for their appearance, all four had the
same form, like a wheel within a wheel.
11 When they moved, they would go in any of
the four directions, without turning as they
moved. For wherever the head faced, the
cherubim would go in that direction, without
turning as they moved.

12 Their entire bodies, including their backs,
hands, and wings, were full of eyes all around,
as were their four wheels.
13 I heard the wheels being called “the
whirling wheels.”

14 Each of the cherubim had four faces: the
first face was that of a cherub, the second that of
a man, the third that of a lion, and the fourth
that of an eagle.

15 Then the cherubim rose upward. These
were the living creatures I had seen by the River
Kebar.
16 When the cherubim moved, the wheels
moved beside them, and even when they spread
their wings to rise from the ground, the wheels
did not veer away from their side.
17 When the cherubim stood still, the wheels
also stood still, and when they ascended, the
wheels ascended with them, for the spirit of the
living creatures was in the wheels.

18 Then the glory of the LORD moved away
from the threshold of the temple and stood
above the cherubim.
19 As I watched, the cherubim lifted their
wings and rose up from the ground, with the
wheels beside them as they went. And they
stopped at the entrance of the east gate of the
house of the LORD, with the glory of the God of
Israel above them.
20 These were the living creatures I had seen
beneath the God of Israel by the River Kebar,
and I knew that they were cherubim.
21 Each had four faces and four wings, with
what looked like human hands under their
wings.
22 Their faces looked like the faces I had seen
by the River Kebar. Each creature went straight
ahead.

11

1 Then the spirit lifted me up and brought me
to the gate of the house of the LORD that faces
east. And there at the entrance of the gate were
twenty-five men. Among them I saw Jaazaniah
son of Azzur and Pelatiah son of Benaiah, who
were leaders of the people.
2 And the LORD said to me, "Son of man, these
are the men who plot evil and give wicked
counsel in this city.
3 They are saying, 'Is not the time near to build
houses? The city is the cooking pot,* and we are
the meat.'

* **11:3 11:3** Or *cauldron*

4 Therefore prophesy against them; prophesy,
O son of man!"
5 And the spirit of the LORD fell upon me and
told me to declare that this is what the LORD
says: "That is what you are thinking, O house of
Israel; and I know the thoughts that arise in
your minds.
6 You have multiplied those you killed in this
city and filled its streets with the dead.
7 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
The slain you have laid within this city are the
meat, and the city is the pot; but I will remove
you from it.
8 You fear the sword, so I will bring the sword
against you, declares the Lord GOD.
9 I will bring you out of the city and deliver
you into the hands of foreigners, and I will
execute judgments against you.
10 You will fall by the sword, and I will judge
you even to the borders of Israel. Then you will
know that I am the LORD.
11 The city will not be a pot for you, nor will
you be the meat within it. I will judge you even
to the borders of Israel.
12 Then you will know that I am the LORD. For
you have neither followed my statutes nor
practiced my ordinances, but you have
conformed to the ordinances of the nations
around you."
13 Now as I was prophesying, Pelatiah son of
Benaiah died. Then I fell facedown and cried
out in a loud voice, "Oh, Lord GOD, will you
bring the remnant of Israel to a complete end?"

14 Then the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
15 “Son of man, your brothers—your brothers,
your kinsmen-redeemers,† and the whole house
of Israel—are those of whom the people of
Jerusalem have said, ‘They are far away from
the LORD; this land has been given to us as a
possession.’
16 Therefore declare that this is what the Lord
GOD says: ‘Although I sent them far away
among the nations and scattered them among
the countries, yet for a little while I have been a
sanctuary for them in the countries to which
they have gone.’
17 Therefore declare that this is what the Lord
GOD says: ‘I will gather you from the peoples
and assemble you from the countries to which
you have been scattered, and I will give back to
you the land of Israel.’
18 When they return to it, they will remove all
its detestable things and all its abominations.
19 And I will give them singleness of heart and
put a new spirit within you;‡ I will remove their
heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh,
20 so that they may follow my statutes, keep
my ordinances, and practice them. Then they
will be my people, and I will be their God.
21 But as for those whose hearts pursue
detestable things and abominations, I will bring

† **11:15 11:15** Hebrew *the men of your redemption*; LXX and Syriac *your fellow exiles* ‡ **11:19 11:19** Some Hebrew manuscripts, LXX and Syriac *within them*

their conduct down upon their own heads,
declares the Lord GOD."
22 Then the cherubim, with the wheels beside
them, spread their wings, and the glory of the
God of Israel was above them.
23 And the glory of the LORD rose up from
within the city and stood over the mountain east
of the city.
24 And the spirit lifted me up and carried me
back to Chaldea,§ to the exiles in the vision
given by the spirit of God. After the vision had
gone up from me,
25 I told the exiles everything the LORD had
shown me.

12

1 Then the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 "Son of man, you are living in a rebellious
house. They have eyes to see but do not see, and
ears to hear but do not hear, for they are a
rebellious house.
3 Therefore, son of man, pack your bags for
exile. In broad daylight, set out from your place
and go to another as they watch. Perhaps they
will understand, though they are a rebellious
house.
4 Bring out your baggage for exile by day, as
they watch. Then in the evening, as they watch,
go out like those who go into exile.
5 As they watch, dig through the wall and
carry your belongings out through it.

§ **11:24 11:24** Or *Babylonia*

6 And as they watch, lift your bags to your
shoulder and take them out at dusk; cover your
face so that you cannot see the land. For I have
made you a sign to the house of Israel."
7 So I did as I was commanded. I brought out
my bags for exile by day, and in the evening I
dug through the wall by hand. I took my
belongings out at dusk, carrying them on my
shoulder as they watched.
8 And in the morning the word of the LORD
came to me, saying,
9 "Son of man, hasn't the rebellious house of
Israel asked you, 'What are you doing?'
10 Tell them that this is what the Lord GOD
says: 'This burden concerns the prince in
Jerusalem and all the house of Israel who are
there.'
11 You are to say, 'I am a sign to you: just as I
have done, so will it be done to them; they will
go into exile as captives.'*
12 And at dusk the prince among them will lift
his bags to his shoulder and go out. They will dig
through the wall to bring him out. He will cover
his face so he cannot see the land.
13 But I will spread my net over him, and he
will be caught in my snare. I will bring him to
Babylon, the land of the Chaldeans; yet he will
not see it, and there he will die.
14 And I will scatter to every wind all the
attendants around him and all his troops, and I
will draw a sword to chase after them.

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* **12:11 12:11** Or *'I am a sign to you.' Just as it happened here, so will it be done to them*

15 And they will know that I am the LORD,
when I disperse them among the nations and
scatter them throughout the countries.
16 But I will spare a few of them from sword
and famine and plague, so that in the nations to
which they go, they can recount all their
abominations. Then they will know that I am
the LORD."
17 Moreover, the word of the LORD came to
me, saying,
18 "Son of man, eat your bread with trembling,
and drink your water with quivering and
anxiety.
19 Then tell the people of the land that this is
what the Lord GOD says about those living in
Jerusalem and in the land of Israel: 'They will
eat their bread with anxiety and drink their
water in dread, for their land will be stripped of
everything in it because of the violence of all
who dwell in it.
20 The inhabited cities will be laid waste, and
the land will become desolate. Then you will
know that I am the LORD.' "
21 Again the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
22 "Son of man, what is this proverb that you
have in the land of Israel:

'The days go by,
and every vision fails'?
23 Therefore tell them that this is what the
Lord GOD says: 'I will put an end to this proverb,
and in Israel they will no longer recite it.'

But say to them: ‘The days are at hand when
every vision will be fulfilled.
24 For there will be no more false visions or
flattering divinations within the house of Israel,
25 because I, the LORD, will speak whatever
word I speak, and it will be fulfilled without
delay. For in your days, O rebellious house, I will
speak a message and bring it to pass, declares
the Lord GOD.’ ”
26 Furthermore, the word of the LORD came to
me, saying,
27 “Son of man, take note that the house of
Israel is saying, ‘The vision that he sees is for
many years from now; he prophesies about the
distant future.’
28 Therefore tell them that this is what the
Lord GOD says: ‘None of my words will be
delayed any longer. The message I speak will be
fulfilled, declares the Lord GOD.’ ”

13

1 Then the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 “Son of man, prophesy against the prophets
of Israel who are now prophesying. Tell those
who prophesy out of their own imagination:
Hear the word of the LORD!
3 This is what the Lord GOD says: Woe to the
foolish prophets who follow their own spirit yet
have seen nothing.
4 Your prophets, O Israel, are like foxes among
the ruins.

5 You did not go up to the gaps or restore the
wall around the house of Israel so that it would
stand in the battle on the Day of the LORD.
6 They see false visions and speak lying
divinations. They claim, 'Thus declares the
LORD,' when the LORD did not send them; yet
they wait for the fulfillment of their message.
7 Haven't you seen a false vision and spoken a
lying divination when you proclaim, 'Thus
declares the LORD,' even though I have not
spoken?
8 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
Because you have uttered vain words and seen
false visions, I am against you, declares the Lord
GOD.
9 My hand will be against the prophets who
see false visions and speak lying divinations.
They will not belong to the council of my people
or be recorded in the register of the house of
Israel, nor will they enter the land of Israel.
Then you will know that I am the Lord GOD.
10 Because they have led my people astray,
saying, 'Peace,' when there is no peace, and
whitewashing any flimsy wall that is built,
11 tell those whitewashing the wall that it will
fall. Rain will come in torrents, and you, O
hailstones, will fall,* and a windstorm will burst
forth.
12 When the wall has fallen, will you not be
asked, 'Where is the whitewash with which you
covered it?'

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* **13:11 13:11** LXX *I will send hailstones*

13 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says: In
my wrath I will release a windstorm, and in my
anger torrents of rain and hail will fall with
destructive fury.
14 I will tear down the wall you whitewashed
and level it to the ground, so that its foundation
is exposed. The city will fall, and you will be
destroyed within it. Then you will know that I
am the LORD.
15 And after I have vented my wrath against
the wall and against those who whitewashed it, I
will say to you: 'The wall is gone, and so are
those who whitewashed it—
16 those prophets of Israel who prophesied to
Jerusalem and saw a vision of peace for her
when there was no peace, declares the Lord
GOD.'
17 Now, O son of man, set your face against the
daughters of your people who prophesy out of
their own imagination. Prophesy against them
18 and tell them that this is what the Lord GOD
says: Woe to the women who sew magic charms
on their wrists and make veils for the heads of
people of every height, in order to ensnare their
lives. Will you ensnare the lives of my people
but preserve your own?
19 You have profaned me among my people for
handfuls of barley and scraps of bread. By lying
to my people who would listen, you have killed
those who should not have died and spared
those who should not have lived.
20 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
See, I am against the magic charms with which
you ensnare lives like birds, and I will tear them

from your arms. So I will free the lives you have
ensnared like birds.
21 I will also tear off your veils and deliver my
people from your hands, so that they will no
longer be prey in your hands. Then you will
know that I am the LORD.
22 Because you have disheartened the
righteous with your lies, even though I have
caused them no grief, and because you have
encouraged the wicked not to turn from their
evil ways to save their lives,
23 therefore you will no longer see false
visions or practice divination. I will deliver my
people from your hands. Then you will know
that I am the LORD."

14

1 Then some of the elders of Israel came and
sat down before me.
2 And the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
3 "Son of man, these men have set up idols in
their hearts and put wicked stumbling blocks
before their faces. Should I consult with them in
any way?
4 Therefore speak to them and tell them that
this is what the Lord GOD says: 'When any
Israelite sets up idols in his heart and puts a
wicked stumbling block before his face, and
then comes to the prophet, I the LORD will
answer him as he comes* with his great idolatry,

* **14:4 14:4** Qere; Ketiv *by it*

5 so that I may take hold of the hearts of the
people of Israel. For because of their idols, they
are all estranged from me.'
6 Therefore tell the house of Israel that this is
what the Lord GOD says: 'Repent and turn away
from your idols; turn your faces away from all
your abominations.
7 For when any Israelite or any foreigner
dwelling in Israel separates himself from me,
sets up idols in his heart, and puts a wicked
stumbling block before his face, and then comes
to the prophet to inquire of me, I the LORD will
answer him myself.
8 I will set my face against that man and make
him a sign and a proverb; I will cut him off from
among my people. Then you will know that I am
the LORD.
9 But if the prophet is enticed to speak a
message, then it was I the LORD who enticed
him, and I will stretch out my hand against him
and destroy him from among my people Israel.
10 They will bear their punishment—the
punishment of the inquirer will be the same as
that of the prophet—
11 in order that the house of Israel may no
longer stray from me and no longer defile
themselves with all their transgressions. Then
they will be my people and I will be their God,
declares the Lord GOD.' "
12 And the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
13 "Son of man, if a land sins against me by
acting unfaithfully, and I stretch out my hand

against it to cut off its supply† of food, to send famine upon it, and to cut off from it both man and beast,
14 then even if these three men—Noah, Daniel, and Job—were in it, their righteousness could deliver only themselves, declares the Lord GOD.
15 Or if I send wild beasts through the land to leave it childless and desolate, with no man passing through it for fear of the beasts,
16 then as surely as I live, declares the Lord GOD, even if these three men were in it, they could not deliver their own sons or daughters. They alone would be delivered, but the land would be desolate.
17 Or if I bring a sword against that land and say, 'Let a sword pass through it,' so that I cut off from it both man and beast,
18 then as surely as I live, declares the Lord GOD, even if these three men were in it, they could not deliver their own sons or daughters. They alone would be delivered.
19 Or if I send a plague into that land and pour out my wrath upon it through bloodshed, cutting off from it both man and beast,
20 then as surely as I live, declares the Lord GOD, even if Noah, Daniel, and Job were in it, they could not deliver their own sons or daughters. Their righteousness could deliver only themselves.
21 For this is what the Lord GOD says: 'How much worse will it be when I send against Jerusalem my four dire judgments—sword,

† **14:13 14:13** Hebrew *staff*

famine, wild beasts, and plague—in order to cut
off from it both man and beast?
22 Yet, behold, some survivors will be left in
it—sons and daughters who will be brought out.
They will come out to you, and when you see
their conduct and actions, you will be comforted
regarding the disaster I have brought upon
Jerusalem—all that I have brought upon it.
23 They will bring you consolation when you
see their conduct and actions, and you will know
that it was not without cause that I have done all
these things within it,' declares the Lord GOD."

15

1 Then the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 "Son of man, how does the wood of the vine
surpass any other branch among the trees in the
forest?
3 Can wood be taken from it to make
something useful? Or can one make from it a
peg on which to hang utensils?
4 No, it is cast into the fire for fuel. The fire
devours both ends, and the middle is charred.
Can it be useful for anything?
5 Even when it was whole, it could not be
made useful. How much less can it ever be
useful when the fire has consumed it and
charred it!
6 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
'Like the wood of the vine among the trees of the
forest, which I have given to the fire for fuel, so I
will give up the people of Jerusalem.

7 And I will set my face against them. Though
they may have escaped the fire, yet another fire
will consume them. And when I set my face
against them, you will know that I am the LORD.
8 Thus I will make the land desolate, because
they have acted unfaithfully,' declares the Lord
GOD."

16

1 Again the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 "Son of man, confront Jerusalem with her
abominations
3 and tell her that this is what the Lord GOD
says to Jerusalem: Your origin and your birth
were in the land of the Canaanites. Your father
was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite.
4 On the day of your birth your cord was not
cut, nor were you washed with water for
cleansing. You were not rubbed with salt or
wrapped in cloths.
5 No one cared enough for you to do even one
of these things out of compassion for you.
Instead, you were thrown out into the open
field, because you were despised on the day of
your birth.
6 Then I passed by and saw you wallowing in
your blood, and as you lay there in your blood I
said to you, 'Live!' There I said to you, 'Live!'
7 I made you thrive like a plant of the field.
You grew up and matured and became very
beautiful. Your breasts were formed and your
hair grew, but you were naked and bare.

8 Then I passed by and saw you, and you were
indeed old enough for love. So I spread my cloak
over you and covered your nakedness. I pledged
myself to you, entered into a covenant with you,
and you became mine, declares the Lord GOD.
9 Then I bathed you with water, rinsed off
your blood, and anointed you with oil.
10 I clothed you in embroidered cloth and gave
you sandals of fine leather. I wrapped you in
fine linen and covered you with silk.
11 I adorned you with jewelry, and I put
bracelets on your wrists and a chain around
your neck.
12 I put a ring in your nose, earrings on your
ears, and a beautiful crown upon your head.
13 So you were adorned with gold and silver,
and your clothing was made of fine linen, silk,
and embroidered cloth. You ate fine flour,
honey, and oil. You became very beautiful and
rose to be queen.
14 Your fame spread among the nations on
account of your beauty, for it was perfect in the
splendor I bestowed on you, declares the Lord
GOD.
15 But because of your fame, you trusted in
your beauty and played the harlot. You lavished
your favors on everyone who passed by, and
your beauty was theirs for the asking.
16 You took some of your garments and made
colorful high places for yourself, and on them
you prostituted yourself. Such things should not
have happened; never should they have
occurred!

17 You also took the fine jewelry of gold and
silver I had given you, and you made male idols
with which to prostitute yourself.
18 You took your embroidered garments to
cover them, and you set my oil and incense
before them.
19 And you set before them as a pleasing
aroma the food I had given you—the fine flour,
oil, and honey that I had fed you. That is what
happened, declares the Lord GOD.
20 You even took the sons and daughters you
bore to me and sacrificed them as food to idols.
Was your prostitution not enough?
21 You slaughtered my children and delivered
them up through the fire to idols.
22 And in all your abominations and acts of
prostitution, you did not remember the days of
your youth when you were naked and bare,
wallowing in your own blood.
23 Woe! Woe to you, declares the Lord GOD.
And in addition to all your other wickedness,
24 you built yourself a mound and made
yourself a lofty shrine in every public square.
25 At the head of every street you built your
lofty shrines and degraded your beauty. With
increasing promiscuity, you spread your legs to
all who passed by.
26 You prostituted yourself with your lustful
neighbors, the Egyptians, and increased your
promiscuity to provoke me to anger.
27 Therefore I stretched out my hand against
you and reduced your portion. I gave you over
to the desire of those who hate you, the

daughters of the Philistines, who were ashamed
of your lewd conduct.
28 Then you prostituted yourself with the
Assyrians, because you were not yet satisfied.
Even after that, you were still not satisfied.
29 So you extended your promiscuity to
Chaldea,* the land of merchants—but even with
this you were not satisfied!
30 How weak-willed is your heart,† declares
the Lord GOD, while you do all these things, the
acts of a shameless prostitute!
31 But when you built your mounds at the
head of every street and made your lofty shrines
in every public square, you were not even like a
prostitute, because you scorned payment.
32 You adulterous wife! You receive strangers
instead of your own husband!
33 Men give gifts to all their prostitutes, but
you gave gifts to all your lovers. You bribed
them to come to you from everywhere for your
illicit favors.
34 So your prostitution is the opposite of that
of other women: No one solicited your favors,
and you paid a fee instead of receiving one; so
you are the very opposite!
35 Therefore, O prostitute, hear the word of the
LORD!
36 This is what the Lord GOD says: Because
you poured out your wealth and exposed your
nakedness in your promiscuity with your lovers
and with all your detestable idols, and because

* **16:29 16:29** Or *Babylonia* † **16:30 16:30** Or *How feverish is your heart,*

of the blood of your children which you gave to them,
37 therefore I will surely gather all the lovers
with whom you found pleasure, all those you
loved and all those you hated. I will gather them
against you from all around and expose you
before them, and they will see you completely
naked.
38 And I will sentence you to the punishment
of women who commit adultery and those who
shed blood; so I will bring upon you the wrath of
your bloodshed and jealousy.

39 Then I will deliver you into the hands of
your lovers, and they will level your mounds
and tear down your lofty shrines. They will strip
off your clothes, take your fine jewelry, and
leave you naked and bare.
40 They will bring a mob against you, who will
stone you and cut you to pieces with their
swords.
41 Then they will burn down your houses and
execute judgment against you in the sight of
many women.

I will put an end to your prostitution, and you
will never again pay your lovers.
42 So I will lay to rest my wrath against you,
and my jealousy will turn away from you. Then
I will be calm and no longer angry.

43 Because you did not remember the days of
your youth, but enraged me with all these
things, I will surely bring your deeds down upon
your own head, declares the Lord GOD. Have

you not committed this lewdness on top of all
your other abominations?
44 Behold, all who speak in proverbs will
quote this proverb about you:

'Like mother, like daughter.'
45 You are the daughter of your mother, who
despised her husband and children. You are the
sister of your sisters, who despised their
husbands and children. Your mother was a
Hittite and your father an Amorite.
46 Your older sister was Samaria, who lived
with her daughters to your north; and your
younger sister was Sodom, who lived with her
daughters to your south.
47 And you not only walked in their ways and
practiced their abominations, but soon you were
more depraved than they were.
48 As surely as I live, declares the Lord GOD,
your sister Sodom and her daughters never did
as you and your daughters have done.
49 Now this was the iniquity of your sister
Sodom: She and her daughters were arrogant,
overfed, and complacent; they did not help the
poor and needy.
50 Thus they were haughty and committed
abominations before me. Therefore I removed
them, as I have seen.‡
51 Furthermore, Samaria did not commit half
the sins you did. You have multiplied your
abominations beyond theirs, and all the

‡ **16:50 16:50** Leningrad Codex and most Hebrew manuscripts; a few Hebrew manuscripts and LXX *as you have seen*

abominations you have committed have made
your sisters appear righteous.
52 So now you must bear your disgrace, since
you have brought justification for your sisters.
For they appear more righteous than you,
because your sins were more vile than theirs. So
you too must bear your shame and disgrace,
since you have made your sisters appear
righteous.
53 But I will restore the fortunes of Sodom and
her daughters,§ as well as Samaria and her
daughters. And I will restore you along with
them.
54 So you will bear your disgrace and be
ashamed of all you did to comfort them.
55 And your sisters, Sodom with her daughters
and Samaria with her daughters, will return to
their former state. You and your daughters will
also return to your former state.
56 Did you not treat your sister Sodom as an
object of scorn in the day of your pride,
57 before your wickedness was uncovered?
Even so, you are now scorned by the daughters
of Aram* and all those around her, and by the
daughters of the Philistines—all those around
you who despise you.
58 You will bear the consequences of your
lewdness and your abominations, declares the
LORD.

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§ **16:53 16:53** Or *restore Sodom and her daughters from captivity*

* **16:57 16:57** Leningrad Codex, most Hebrew manuscripts, LXX, and Vulgate; many Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac *Edom*

59 For this is what the Lord GOD says: I will
deal with you according to your deeds, since you
have despised the oath by breaking the
covenant.
60 But I will remember the covenant I made
with you in the days of your youth, and I will
establish an everlasting covenant with you.
61 Then you will remember your ways and be
ashamed when you receive your older and
younger sisters. I will give them to you as
daughters, but not because of my covenant with
you.
62 So I will establish my covenant with you,
and you will know that I am the LORD,
63 so that when I make atonement for all you
have done, you will remember and be ashamed
and never again open your mouth because of
your disgrace, declares the Lord GOD."

17

1 Now the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 "Son of man, pose a riddle; speak a parable to
the house of Israel
3 and tell them that this is what the Lord GOD
says:

'A great eagle with great wings and long
pinions,*
full of feathers of many colors,
came to Lebanon
and took away the top of the cedar.

* **17:3 17:3** *Pinions* are the outer parts of a bird's wings, including the flight feathers.

4 He plucked off its topmost shoot,
carried it to the land of merchants,
and planted it in a city of traders.
5 He took some of the seed of the land
and planted it in fertile soil;†
he placed it by abundant waters
and set it out like a willow.
6 It sprouted and became a spreading vine,
low in height, with branches turned toward
him;
yet its roots remained where it stood.
So it became a vine and yielded branches
and sent out shoots.

7 But there was another great eagle
with great wings and many feathers.
And behold, this vine bent its roots toward him.
It stretched out its branches to him from its
planting bed,
so that he might water it.
8 It had been planted in good soil
by abundant waters
in order to yield branches and bear fruit
and become a splendid vine.'
9 So you are to tell them that this is what the
Lord GOD says:

'Will it flourish?
Will it not be uprooted and stripped of its
fruit
so that it shrivels?
All its foliage will wither!
It will not take a strong arm or many people

† **17:5 17:5** Hebrew *in a field of seed*

to pull it up by its roots.
10 Even if it is transplanted,
will it flourish?
Will it not completely wither when the east
wind strikes?
It will wither on the bed where it sprouted.' "

11 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
12 "Now say to this rebellious house: 'Do you not know what these things mean?'

Tell them, 'Behold, the king of Babylon came to Jerusalem, carried off its king and officials, and brought them back with him to Babylon.
13 He took a member of the royal family‡ and made a covenant with him, putting him under oath. Then he carried away the leading men of the land,
14 so that the kingdom would be brought low, unable to lift itself up, surviving only by keeping his covenant.
15 But this king rebelled against Babylon by sending his envoys to Egypt to ask for horses and a large army. Will he flourish? Will the one who does such things escape? Can he break a covenant and yet escape?'

16 'As surely as I live,' declares the Lord GOD, 'he will die in Babylon, in the land of the king who enthroned him, whose oath he despised and whose covenant he broke.
17 Pharaoh with his mighty army and vast horde will not help him in battle, when ramps

‡ **17:13 17:13** Hebrew *the royal seed*

are built and siege walls constructed to destroy
many lives.
18 He despised the oath by breaking the
covenant. Seeing that he gave his hand in pledge
yet did all these things, he will not escape!'
19 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
'As surely as I live, I will bring down upon his
head my oath that he despised and my covenant
that he broke.
20 I will spread my net over him and catch him
in my snare. I will bring him to Babylon and
execute judgment upon him there for the
treason he committed against me.
21 All his fleeing troops§ will fall by the sword,
and those who survive will be scattered to every
wind. Then you will know that I, the LORD, have
spoken.'
22 This is what the Lord GOD says:

'I will take a shoot from the lofty top of the cedar,
and I will set it out.
I will pluck a tender sprig from its topmost
shoots,
and I will plant it on a high and lofty
mountain.
23 I will plant it on the mountain heights of Israel
so that it will bear branches;
it will yield fruit
and become a majestic cedar.
Birds of every kind will nest under it,
taking shelter in the shade of its branches.

§ **17:21 17:21** Leningrad Codex and most Hebrew manuscripts; many Hebrew manuscripts *All his choice troops*

24 Then all the trees of the field will know
that I am the LORD.
I bring the tall tree down
and make the low tree tall.
I dry up the green tree
and make the withered tree flourish.
I, the LORD, have spoken,
and I have done it.' "

18

1 Then the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 "What do you people mean by quoting this
proverb about the land of Israel:

'The fathers have eaten sour grapes,
and the teeth of the children are set on
edge'?
3 As surely as I live, declares the Lord GOD,
you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel.
4 Behold, every life belongs to me; both father
and son are mine. The person who sins is the
one who will die.
5 Now suppose a man is righteous and does
what is just and right:

6 He does not eat at the mountain
or look to the idols of the house of Israel.
He does not defile his neighbor's wife
or approach a woman during her period.
7 He does not oppress another,
but restores the pledge to the debtor.
He does not commit robbery,
but gives his bread to the hungry

and covers the naked with clothing.
8 He does not engage in usury
or take excess interest,
but he withholds his hand from iniquity
and executes true justice between men.
9 He follows my statutes
and faithfully keeps my ordinances.
That man is righteous;
surely he will live,
declares the Lord GOD.
10 Now suppose that man has a violent son,
who sheds blood or does any of these things,
11 though the father has done none of them:

Indeed, the son eats at the mountain
and defiles his neighbor's wife.
12 He oppresses the poor and needy;
he commits robbery
and does not restore a pledge.
He lifts his eyes to idols;
he commits abominations.
13 He engages in usury
and takes excess interest.
Will this son live? He will not! Since he has committed all these abominations, he will surely die; his blood will be on his own head.
14 Now suppose this son has a son who sees all the sins his father has committed, considers them, and does not do likewise:

15 He does not eat at the mountain
or look to the idols of the house of Israel.
He does not defile his neighbor's wife.
16 He does not oppress another,

or retain a pledge, or commit robbery.
He gives his bread to the hungry
and covers the naked with clothing.
17 He withholds his hand from harming the
poor*
and takes no interest or usury.
He keeps my ordinances
and follows my statutes.
Such a man will not die for his father's
iniquity. He will surely live.
18 As for his father, he will die for his own
iniquity, because he practiced extortion, robbed
his brother, and did what was wrong among his
people.
19 Yet you may ask, 'Why shouldn't the son
bear the iniquity of his father?'
Since the son has done what is just and right,
carefully observing all my statutes, he will
surely live.
20 The person who sins is the one who will die.
A son will not bear the iniquity of his father, and
a father will not bear the iniquity of his son. The
righteousness of the righteous man will fall
upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked
man will fall upon him.
21 But if the wicked man turns from all the
sins he has committed, keeps all my statutes,
and does what is just and right, he will surely
live; he will not die.

* **18:17 18:17** LXX *he withholds his hand from iniquity*

22 None of the transgressions he has
committed will be held against him. Because of
the righteousness he has practiced, he will live.
23 Do I take any pleasure in the death of the
wicked? declares the Lord GOD. Wouldn't I
prefer that he turn from his ways and live?
24 But if a righteous man turns from his
righteousness and practices iniquity, committing
the same abominations as the wicked, will he
live? None of the righteous acts he did will be
remembered. Because of the unfaithfulness and
sin he has committed, he will die.
25 Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.'
Hear now, O house of Israel: Is it my way that
is unjust? Is it not your ways that are unjust?
26 If a righteous man turns from his
righteousness and practices iniquity, he will die
for this. He will die because of the iniquity he
has committed.
27 But if a wicked man turns from the
wickedness he has committed and does what is
just and right, he will save his life.
28 Because he considered and turned from all
the transgressions he had committed, he will
surely live; he will not die.
29 Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the
Lord is not just.'
Are my ways unjust, O house of Israel? Is it
not your ways that are unjust?
30 Therefore, O house of Israel, I will judge
you, each according to his ways, declares the
Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your
transgressions, so that your iniquity will not
become your downfall.

31 Cast away from yourselves all the
transgressions you have committed, and fashion
for yourselves a new heart and a new spirit.
Why should you die, O house of Israel?
32 For I take no pleasure in anyone's death,
declares the Lord GOD. So repent and live!

19

1 "As for you, take up a lament for the princes
of Israel
2 and say:

'What was your mother?
A lioness among the lions!
She lay down among the young lions;
she reared her cubs.
3 She brought up one of her cubs,
and he became a young lion.
After learning to tear his prey,
he devoured men.
4 When the nations heard of him,
he was trapped in their pit.
With hooks they led him away
to the land of Egypt.

5 When she saw that she had waited in vain,
that her hope was lost,
she took another of her cubs
and made him a young lion.
6 He prowled among the lions,
and became a young lion.
After learning to tear his prey,
he devoured men.

7 He knew their widows*
and devastated their cities.
The land and everything in it
shuddered at the sound of his roaring.

8 Then the nations set out against him
from the provinces on every side.
They spread their net over him;
he was trapped in their pit.
9 With hooks they caged him
and brought him to the king of Babylon.
They brought him into captivity
so that his roar was heard no longer
on the mountains of Israel.

10 Your mother was like a vine in your
bloodline,†
planted by the water;
it was fruitful and full of branches
because of the abundant waters.
11 It had strong branches, fit for a ruler's scepter.
It towered high above the thick branches,
conspicuous for its height
and for its dense foliage.

12 But it was uprooted in fury,
cast down to the ground,
and the east wind dried up its fruit.
Its strong branches were stripped off
and they withered;

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* **19:7 19:7** Or *he seized their widows*; by emendation *he broke down their strongholds* † **19:10 19:10** Leningrad Codex and most Hebrew manuscripts; some Hebrew manuscripts *in your vineyard*

the fire consumed them.

13 Now it is planted in the wilderness,
in a dry and thirsty land.
14 Fire has gone out from its main branch
and devoured its fruit;
on it no strong branch remains
fit for a ruler's scepter.'
This is a lament and shall be used as a lament."

20

1 In the seventh year, on the tenth day of the fifth month, some of the elders of Israel came to inquire of the LORD, and they sat down before me.
2 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
3 "Son of man, speak to the elders of Israel and tell them that this is what the Lord GOD says: Have you come to inquire of me? As surely as I live, I will not be consulted by you, declares the Lord GOD.
4 Will you judge them, will you judge them, son of man? Confront them with the abominations of their fathers
5 and tell them that this is what the Lord GOD says: On the day I chose Israel, I swore an oath to the descendants of the house of Jacob and made myself known to them in the land of Egypt. With an uplifted hand I said to them, 'I am the LORD your God.'
6 On that day I swore to bring them out of the land of Egypt into a land that I had searched out

for them, a land flowing with milk and honey,
the glory of all lands.
7 And I said to them: ‘Each of you must throw
away the abominations before his eyes, and you
must not defile yourselves with the idols of
Egypt. I am the LORD your God.’
8 But they rebelled against me and refused to
listen. None of them cast away the abominations
before their eyes, and they did not forsake the
idols of Egypt. So I resolved to pour out my
wrath upon them and vent my anger against
them in the land of Egypt.
9 But I acted for the sake of my name, that it
should not be profaned in the eyes of the
nations among whom they were living, in whose
sight I had revealed myself to Israel by bringing
them out of the land of Egypt.
10 So I brought them out of the land of Egypt
and led them into the wilderness.
11 And I gave them my statutes and made
known to them my ordinances—for the man
who does these things will live by them.*
12 I also gave them my Sabbaths as a sign
between us, so that they would know that I am
the LORD who sanctifies them.
13 Yet the house of Israel rebelled against me in
the wilderness. They did not follow my statutes
and they rejected my ordinances—though the
man who does these things will live by
them—and they utterly profaned my Sabbaths.

* **20:11 20:11** See Leviticus 18:5; also in Ezekiel 20:13 and 21.

Then I resolved to pour out my wrath upon
them and put an end to them in the wilderness.
14 But I acted for the sake of my name, so that
it would not be profaned in the eyes of the
nations in whose sight I had brought them out.
15 Moreover, with an uplifted hand I swore to
them in the wilderness that I would not bring
them into the land that I had given them—a land
flowing with milk and honey, the glory of all
lands—
16 because they kept rejecting my ordinances,
refusing to walk in my statutes, and profaning
my Sabbaths; for their hearts continually went
after their idols.
17 Yet I looked on them with pity and did not
destroy them or bring them to an end in the
wilderness.
18 In the wilderness I said to their children:
‘Do not walk in the statutes of your fathers or
keep their ordinances or defile yourselves with
their idols.
19 I am the LORD your God; walk in my
statutes, keep my ordinances, and practice them.
20 Keep my Sabbaths holy, that they may be a
sign between us, so that you may know that I am
the LORD your God.’
21 But the children rebelled against me. They
did not walk in my statutes or carefully observe
my ordinances—though the man who does these
things will live by them—and they profaned my
Sabbaths. So I resolved to pour out my wrath
upon them and vent my anger against them in
the wilderness.

22 But I withheld my hand and acted for the
sake of my name, so that it would not be
profaned in the eyes of the nations in whose
sight I had brought them out.

23 However, with an uplifted hand I swore to
them in the wilderness that I would scatter them
among the nations and disperse them
throughout the lands.
24 For they did not practice my ordinances, but
they rejected my statutes and profaned my
Sabbaths, fixing their eyes on the idols of their
fathers.

25 I also gave them over to statutes that were
not good and ordinances by which they could
not live.
26 And I pronounced them unclean through
their gifts—the sacrifice of every firstborn in the
fire—so that I might devastate them, in order
that they would know that I am the LORD.

27 Therefore, son of man, speak to the house of
Israel, and tell them that this is what the Lord
GOD says: In this way also your fathers
blasphemed me by their unfaithfulness against
me.
28 When I brought them into the land that I
swore to give them and they saw any high hill or
leafy tree, there they offered their sacrifices,
presented offerings that provoked me, sent up
their fragrant incense, and poured out their
drink offerings.
29 So I asked them: ‘What is this high place to
which you go?’

(And to this day it is called Bamah.†)
30 Therefore tell the house of Israel that this is
what the Lord GOD says: Will you defile
yourselves the way your fathers did, prostituting
yourselves with their abominations?
31 When you offer your gifts, making your
sons pass through the fire,‡ you continue to
defile yourselves with all your idols to this day.
So should I be consulted by you, O house of
Israel? As surely as I live, declares the Lord
GOD, I will not be consulted by you!
32 When you say, 'Let us be like the nations,
like the peoples of the lands, serving wood and
stone,' what you have in mind will never come
to pass.
33 As surely as I live, declares the Lord GOD,
with a strong hand, an outstretched arm, and
outpoured wrath I will rule over you.
34 With a strong hand, an outstretched arm,
and outpoured wrath I will bring you out from
the peoples and gather you§ from the lands to
which you have been scattered.
35 And I will bring you into the wilderness of
the nations, where I will enter into judgment
with you face to face.
36 Just as I entered into judgment with your
fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt,*
so I will enter into judgment with you, declares
the Lord GOD.

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† **20:29 20:29** *Bamah* means *high place.* ‡ **20:31 20:31** Or *sacrificing your sons in the fire* § **20:34 20:34** LXX *receive you*
* **20:36 20:36** Or *in the wilderness after bringing them out of Egypt*

37 I will make you pass under the rod and will
bring you into the bond of the covenant.
38 And I will purge you of those who rebel and
transgress against me. I will bring them out of
the land in which they dwell, but they will not
enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that
I am the LORD.
39 And as for you, O house of Israel, this is
what the Lord GOD says: Go and serve your
idols, every one of you. But afterward, you will
surely listen to me, and you will no longer defile
my holy name with your gifts and idols.
40 For on my holy mountain, the high
mountain of Israel, declares the Lord GOD, there
the whole house of Israel, all of them, will serve
me in the land. There I will accept them and will
require your offerings and choice gifts, along
with all your holy sacrifices.
41 When I bring you from the peoples and
gather you from the lands to which you have
been scattered, I will accept you as a pleasing
aroma. And I will show my holiness through
you in the sight of the nations.
42 Then you will know that I am the LORD,
when I bring you into the land of Israel, the land
that I swore to give your fathers.
43 There you will remember your ways and all
the deeds with which you have defiled
yourselves, and you will loathe yourselves for
all the evils you have done.
44 Then you will know, O house of Israel, that I
am the LORD, when I have dealt with you for
the sake of my name and not according to your

wicked ways and corrupt acts, declares the Lord
GOD."

21

1 Now the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 "Son of man, set your face toward the south,*
preach against it, and prophesy against the
forest of the Negev.
3 Say to the forest of the Negev: Hear the word
of the LORD! This is what the Lord GOD says: I
am about to ignite in you a fire, and it will
devour all your trees, both green and dry. The
blazing flame will not be quenched, and by it
every face from south to north will be scorched.
4 Then all people will see that I, the LORD,
have kindled it; it will not be quenched."
5 Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD, they are saying
of me, 'Is he not just telling parables?' "
6 And the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
7 "Son of man, set your face against Jerusalem
and preach against the sanctuaries. Prophesy
against the land of Israel
8 and tell her that this is what the LORD says:
'I am against you, and I will draw my sword
from its sheath and cut off from you both the
righteous and the wicked.
9 Because I will cut off both the righteous and
the wicked, my sword will be unsheathed
against everyone from south to north.

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* **21:2 21:2** Hebrew *toward Teman*

10 Then all flesh will know that I, the LORD,
have taken my sword from its sheath, not to
return it again.'
11 But you, son of man, groan! Groan before
their eyes with a broken heart and bitter grief.
12 And when they ask, 'Why are you groaning?'
you are to say, 'Because of the news that is
coming. Every heart will melt, and every hand
will go limp. Every spirit will faint, and every
knee will turn to water.' Yes, it is coming and it
will surely happen, declares the Lord GOD."
13 Again the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
14 "Son of man, prophesy and tell them that
this is what the Lord says:

'A sword, a sword,
sharpened and polished—
15 it is sharpened for the slaughter,
polished to flash like lightning!
Should we rejoice in the scepter of my son?
The sword despises every such stick.
16 The sword is appointed to be polished,
to be grasped in the hand.
It is sharpened and polished,
to be placed in the hand of the slayer.

17 Cry out and wail,
O son of man,
for the sword is wielded against my people;
it is against all the princes of Israel!
They are tossed to the sword with my people;

therefore strike your thigh.†
18 Surely testing will come!
And what if even the scepter,
which the sword despises,
does not continue?'
declares the Lord GOD.
19 'So then, son of man,
prophesy and strike your hands together.
Let the sword strike two times,
even three.
It is a sword that slays,
a sword of great slaughter
closing in on every side!

20 So that their hearts may melt
and many may stumble,
I have appointed at all their gates
a sword for slaughter.
Yes, it is ready to flash like lightning;
it is drawn for slaughter.
21 Slash to the right;
set your blade to the left—
wherever your blade is directed.

22 I too will strike my hands together,
and I will satisfy my wrath.'
I, the LORD, have spoken."
23 Then the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
24 "Now you, son of man, mark out two roads
for the sword of the king of Babylon to take,
both starting from the same land. And make a

† **21:17 21:17** Or *beat your breast*

signpost where the road branches off to each city.
25 Mark out one road for the sword to come
against Rabbah of the Ammonites, and another
against Judah into fortified Jerusalem.
26 For the king of Babylon stands at the fork in
the road, at the junction of the two roads, to
seek an omen: He shakes the arrows, he
consults the idols, he examines the liver.
27 In his right hand appears the portent for
Jerusalem, where he is to set up battering rams,
to call for the slaughter, to lift a battle cry, to
direct the battering rams against the gates, to
build a ramp, and to erect a siege wall.
28 It will seem like a false omen to the eyes of
those who have sworn allegiance to him, but it
will draw attention to their guilt and take them
captive.
29 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
‘Because you have drawn attention to your guilt,
exposing your transgressions, so that your sins
are revealed in all your deeds—because you
have come to remembrance—you shall be taken
in hand.

30 And you, O profane and wicked prince of
Israel,
the day has come for your final
punishment.’
31 This is what the Lord GOD says:

‘Remove the turban,
and take off the crown.

Things will not remain as they are:
Exalt the lowly
and bring low the exalted.
32 A ruin, a ruin,
I will make it a ruin!
And it will not be restored
until the arrival of him to whom it rightfully belongs,
and I will give it to him.‡'
33 Now prophesy, son of man, and declare that this is what the Lord GOD says concerning the Ammonites and their contempt:

'A sword! A sword
is drawn for slaughter,
polished to consume,
to flash like lightning—
34 while they offer false visions for you
and lying divinations about you—
to be placed on the necks
of the wicked who are slain,
whose day has come,
the time of their final punishment.

35 Return the sword to its sheath!

In the place where you were created,
in the land of your origin,
I will judge you.
36 I will pour out my anger upon you;

‡ **21:32 21:32** Or *of him to whom it belongs, to whom I have assigned the right of judgment.*

I will breathe the fire of my fury against
you;
I will hand you over to brutal men,
skilled in destruction.
37 You will be fuel for the fire.
Your blood will stain your own land.
You will not be remembered,
for I, the LORD, have spoken.' "

22

1 Then the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 "As for you, son of man, will you judge her?
Will you pass judgment on the city of bloodshed?
Then confront her with all her abominations
3 and tell her that this is what the Lord GOD
says: 'O city who brings her own doom by
shedding blood within her walls and making
idols to defile herself,
4 you are guilty of the blood you have shed,
and you are defiled by the idols you have made.
You have brought your days to a close and have
come to the end of your years. Therefore I have
made you a reproach to the nations and a
mockery to all the lands.
5 Those near and far will mock you, O
infamous city, full of turmoil.
6 See how every prince of Israel within you
has used his power to shed blood.
7 Father and mother are treated with
contempt. Within your walls the foreign
resident is exploited, the fatherless and the
widow are oppressed.

8 You have despised my holy things and
profaned my Sabbaths.
9 Among you are slanderous men bent on
bloodshed; within you are those who eat on the
mountain shrines and commit acts of indecency.
10 In you they have uncovered the nakedness
of their fathers; in you they violate women
during their menstrual impurity.
11 One man commits an abomination with his
neighbor's wife; another wickedly defiles his
daughter-in-law; and yet another violates his
sister, his own father's daughter.
12 In you they take bribes to shed blood. You
engage in usury, take excess interest, and extort
your neighbors. But me you have forgotten,
declares the Lord GOD.
13 Now look, I strike my hands together
against your unjust gain and against the blood
you have shed in your midst.
14 Will your courage endure or your hands be
strong in the day I deal with you? I, the LORD,
have spoken, and I will act.
15 I will disperse you among the nations and
scatter you throughout the lands; I will purge
your uncleanness.
16 And when you have defiled yourself* in the
eyes of the nations, then you will know that I am
the LORD.' "
17 Then the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,

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* **22:16 22:16** Or *And when I have allotted you your inheritance*

18 “Son of man, the house of Israel has become
dross to me. All of them are copper, tin, iron,
and lead inside the furnace; they are but the
dross of silver.
19 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
‘Because all of you have become dross, behold, I
will gather you into Jerusalem.
20 Just as one gathers silver, copper, iron, lead,
and tin into the furnace to melt with a fiery
blast, so I will gather you in my anger and
wrath, leave you there, and melt you.
21 Yes, I will gather you together and blow on
you with the fire of my wrath, and you will be
melted within the city.
22 As silver is melted in a furnace, so you will
be melted within the city. Then you will know
that I, the LORD, have poured out my wrath
upon you.’ ”
23 And the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
24 “Son of man, say to her, ‘In the day of
indignation, you are a land that has not been
cleansed, upon which no rain has fallen.’
25 The conspiracy of the prophets† in her midst
is like a roaring lion tearing its prey. They
devour the people, seize the treasures and
precious things, and multiply the widows within
her.
26 Her priests do violence to my law and
profane my holy things. They make no
distinction between the holy and the common,
and they fail to distinguish between the clean

† **22:25 22:25** LXX *princes*

and the unclean. They disregard my Sabbaths,
so that I am profaned among them.

27 Her officials within her are like wolves
tearing their prey, shedding blood, and
destroying lives for dishonest gain.

28 Her prophets whitewash these deeds by
false visions and lying divinations, saying, 'This
is what the Lord GOD says,' when the LORD has
not spoken.

29 The people of the land have practiced
extortion and committed robbery. They have
oppressed the poor and needy and have
exploited the foreign resident without justice.

30 I searched for a man among them to repair
the wall and stand in the gap before me on
behalf of the land, so that I should not destroy it.
But I found no one.
31 So I have poured out my indignation upon
them and consumed them with the fire of my
fury. I have brought their ways down upon their
own heads, declares the Lord GOD."

23

1 Again the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 "Son of man, there were two women,
daughters of the same mother,
3 and they played in Egypt, prostituting
themselves from their youth. Their breasts were
fondled there, and their virgin bosoms caressed.

4 The older was named Oholah,* and her sister
was named Oholibah.† They became mine and
gave birth to sons and daughters. As for their
identities, Oholah is Samaria, and Oholibah is
Jerusalem.
5 Oholah prostituted herself while she was still
mine. She lusted after her lovers, the
Assyrians—warriors
6 clothed in blue, governors and commanders,
all desirable young men, horsemen mounted on
steeds.
7 She offered sexual favors to all the elite of
Assyria. She defiled herself with all the idols of
those for whom she lusted.
8 She did not give up the prostitution she
began in Egypt, when men slept with her in her
youth, caressed her virgin bosom, and poured
out their lust upon her.
9 Therefore I delivered her into the hands of
her lovers, the Assyrians for whom she lusted.
10 They exposed her nakedness, seized her
sons and daughters, and put her to the sword.
Thus she became a byword among women, and
they executed judgment against her.
11 Her sister Oholibah saw this, yet in her lust
and prostitution she was more depraved than
her sister.
12 She too lusted after the
Assyrians—governors and commanders,

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* **23:4 23:4** *Oholah* means *her own tent* or *she worships at a tent shrine*, a metaphor for Samaria as an adulteress with Assyria.
† **23:4 23:4** *Oholibah* means *the tent is in her* or *she is a tent shrine*, a metaphor for Jerusalem as an adulterous wife.

warriors dressed in splendor, horsemen riding
on steeds, all desirable young men.
13 And I saw that she too had defiled herself;
both of them had taken the same path.
14 But Oholibah carried her prostitution even
further. She saw the men portrayed on the wall,
images of the Chaldeans,‡ engraved in vermilion,
15 wearing belts on their waists and flowing
turbans on their heads; all of them looked like
officers of the Babylonians in Chaldea,§ the land
of their birth.
16 At the sight of them, she lusted for them and
sent messengers to them in Chaldea.
17 Then the Babylonians came to her, to the
bed of love, and in their lust they defiled her.
But after she had been defiled by them, she
turned away in disgust.
18 When Oholibah openly prostituted herself
and exposed her nakedness, I turned away from
her in disgust, just as I had turned away from
her sister.
19 Yet she multiplied her promiscuity,
remembering the days of her youth, when she
had prostituted herself in the land of Egypt
20 and lusted after their lovers, whose genitals
were like those of donkeys and whose emission
was like that of stallions.
21 So you revisited the indecency of your
youth, when the Egyptians caressed your bosom
and pressed your young breasts.

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‡ **23:14 23:14** That is, the Babylonians

§ **23:15 23:15** Or *Babylonia;* also in verse 16

22 Therefore, Oholibah, this is what the Lord
GOD says: ‘I will incite your lovers against you,
those from whom you turned away in disgust.
And I will bring them against you from every
side—
23 the Babylonians and all the Chaldeans, the
men of Pekod, Shoa, and Koa, and all the
Assyrians with them—all desirable young men,
governors and commanders, officers and men of
renown, mounted on horses.
24 They will come against you with a host of
peoples,* with weapons, chariots, and wagons.
They will array themselves against you on every
side with buckler and shield and helmet. I will
delegate judgment to them, and they will punish
you according to their own standards.
25 And I will set my jealous rage against you,
and they will deal with you in fury. They will cut
off your noses and ears, and your survivors will
fall by the sword. They will seize your sons and
daughters, and your remnant will be consumed
by fire.
26 They will strip off your clothes and take
your fine jewelry.
27 So I will put an end to your indecency and
prostitution, which began in the land of Egypt,
and you will not lift your eyes to them or
remember Egypt anymore.’
28 For this is what the Lord GOD says: ‘Surely I
will deliver you into the hands of those you hate,
from whom you turned away in disgust.

* **23:24 23:24** LXX *They will all come against you from the north*

29 They will treat you with hatred, take all for
which you have worked, and leave you naked
and bare, so that the shame of your prostitution
will be exposed. Your indecency and
promiscuity
30 have brought these things upon you,
because you have prostituted yourself with the
nations and defiled yourself with their idols.
31 Because you have followed the path of your
sister, I will put her cup into your hand.'
32 This is what the Lord GOD says:

'You will drink your sister's cup,
a cup deep and wide.
It will bring scorn and derision,
for it holds so much.
33 You will be filled with drunkenness and grief,
with a cup of devastation and desolation,
the cup of your sister Samaria.
34 You will drink it and drain it;
you will dash it to pieces,
and tear your breasts.
For I have spoken,'
declares the Lord GOD.
35 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
'Because you have forgotten me and have cast
me behind your back, you must bear the
consequences of your indecency and
prostitution.' "
36 Then the LORD said to me: "Son of man, will
you pass judgment against Oholah and
Oholibah? Then declare to them their
abominations.

37 For they have committed adultery, and
blood is on their hands. They have committed
adultery with their idols. They have even
sacrificed their children, whom they bore to me,
in the fire† as food for their idols.
38 They have also done this to me: On that
very same day, they defiled my sanctuary and
profaned my Sabbaths.
39 On the very day they slaughtered their
children for their idols, they entered my
sanctuary to profane it. Yes, they did this inside
my house.
40 Furthermore, you sisters sent‡ messengers
for men who came from afar; and behold, when
they arrived, you bathed for them, painted your
eyes, and adorned yourself with jewelry.
41 You sat on a couch of luxury with a table
spread before it, on which you had set my
incense and my oil,
42 accompanied by the sound of a carefree
crowd. Drunkards§ were brought in from the
desert along with men from the rabble, who put
bracelets on your wrists and beautiful crowns
on your head.
43 Then I said of her who had grown old in
adulteries: 'Now let them use her as a
prostitute,* for that is all she is!'

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† **23:37 23:37** Literally *passed their children, whom they bore to me, through the fire* ‡ **23:40 23:40** Hebrew *they sent* § **23:42 23:42** Or *Sabeans* * **23:43 23:43** Qere; Ketiv *she will prostitute herself*

44 And they slept with her as with a prostitute;
they slept with Oholah and Oholibah, those lewd women.
45 But righteous men will sentence them to the
punishment of those who commit adultery and
bloodshed, because they are adulteresses with
blood on their hands.
46 This is what the Lord GOD says: ‘Bring a
mob against them and consign them to terror
and plunder.
47 The mob will stone them and cut them
down with their swords. They will kill their sons
and daughters and burn down their houses.
48 So I will put an end to indecency in the land,
and all the women will be admonished not to
imitate your behavior.
49 They will repay you for your indecency, and
you will bear the consequences of your sins of
idolatry. Then you will know that I am the Lord
GOD.’ ”

24

1 In the ninth year, on the tenth day of the
tenth month, the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 “Son of man, write down today’s date, for on
this very day the king of Babylon has laid siege
to Jerusalem.
3 Now speak a parable to this rebellious house
and tell them that this is what the Lord GOD
says:

‘Put the pot on the fire;
put it on and pour in the water.

4 Put in the pieces of meat,
every good piece—
thigh and shoulder—
fill it with choice bones.
5 Take the choicest of the flock
and pile the bones beneath it.*
Bring it to a boil
and cook the bones in it.'
6 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:

'Woe to the city of bloodshed,
to the pot now rusted,
whose rust will not come off!
Empty it piece by piece;
let no lot fall upon it.†
7 For the blood she shed is still within her;
she poured it out on the bare rock;
she did not pour it on the ground
to cover it with dust.
8 In order to stir up wrath
and take vengeance,
I have placed her blood on the bare rock,
so that it would not be covered.'
9 Yes, this is what the Lord GOD says:

'Woe to the city of bloodshed!
I, too, will pile the kindling high.
10 Pile on the logs and kindle the fire;
cook the meat well
and mix in the spices;
let the bones be burned.
11 Set the empty pot on its coals

* **24:5 24:5** Many translators emend to *logs*; compare verse 10.
† **24:6 24:6** Or *cast no lots for its contents*

until it becomes hot and its copper glows.
Then its impurity will melt within;
its rust will be consumed.
12 It has frustrated every effort;
its thick rust has not been removed,
even by the fire.
13 Because of the indecency of your uncleanness
I tried to cleanse you,
but you would not be purified
from your filthiness.
You will not be pure again
until my wrath against you has subsided.
14 I, the LORD, have spoken;
the time is coming, and I will act.
I will not refrain or show pity,
nor will I relent.
They will judge you‡
according to your ways and deeds,'
declares the Lord GOD."
15 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
16 "Son of man, behold, I am about to take away the desire of your eyes with a fatal blow. But you must not mourn or weep or let your tears flow.
17 Groan quietly; do not mourn for the dead. Put on your turban and strap your sandals on your feet; do not cover your lips or eat the bread of mourners."
18 So I spoke to the people in the morning, and in the evening my wife died. And the next morning I did as I had been commanded.

‡ **24:14 24:14** Some Hebrew manuscripts, LXX, Syriac and Vulgate *I will judge you*

19 Then the people asked me, “Won’t you tell us
what these things you are doing mean to us?”
20 So I answered them, “The word of the LORD
came to me, saying:
21 Tell the house of Israel that this is what the
Lord GOD says: ‘I am about to desecrate my
sanctuary, the pride of your power, the desire of
your eyes, and the delight of your soul. And the
sons and daughters you left behind will fall by
the sword.’
22 Then you will do as I have done: You will
not cover your lips or eat the bread of mourners.
23 Your turbans will remain on your heads and
your sandals on your feet. You will not mourn
or weep, but you will waste away because of
your sins, and you will groan among yourselves.
24 ‘Thus Ezekiel will be a sign for you; you will
do everything that he has done. When this
happens, you will know that I am the Lord GOD.’
25 And you, son of man, know that on the day I
take away their stronghold, their pride and
joy—the desire of their eyes which uplifted their
souls—and their sons and daughters as well,
26 on that day a fugitive will come and tell you
the news.
27 On that day your mouth will be opened to
him who has escaped; you will speak and no
longer be mute. So you will be a sign to them,
and they will know that I am the LORD.”

25

1 Then the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,

2 “Son of man, set your face against the
Ammonites and prophesy against them.
3 Tell the Ammonites to hear the word of the
Lord GOD, for this is what the Lord GOD says:
‘Because you exclaimed, “Aha!” when my
sanctuary was profaned, when the land of Israel
was laid waste, and when the house of Judah
went into exile,
4 therefore I will indeed give you as a
possession to the people of the East. They will set
up their camps and pitch their tents among you.
They will eat your fruit and drink your milk.
5 I will make Rabbah a pasture for camels, and
Ammon* a resting place for sheep. Then you
will know that I am the LORD.’
6 For this is what the Lord GOD says: ‘Because
you clapped your hands and stomped your feet
and rejoiced over the land of Israel with a heart
full of contempt,
7 therefore I will indeed stretch out my hand
against you and give you as plunder to the
nations. I will cut you off from the peoples and
exterminate you from the countries. I will
destroy you, and you will know that I am the
LORD.’
8 This is what the Lord GOD says: ‘Because
Moab and Seir† said, “Look, the house of Judah is
like all the other nations,”
9 therefore I will indeed expose the flank of
Moab beginning with its frontier

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* **25:5 25:5** Hebrew *and the Ammonites* † **25:8 25:8** LXX does not include *and Seir*.

cities—Beth-jeshimoth, Baal-meon, and
Kiriathaim—the glory of the land.
10 I will give it along with the Ammonites as a
possession to the people of the East, so that the
Ammonites will no longer be remembered
among the nations.
11 So I will execute judgments on Moab, and
they will know that I am the LORD.'
12 This is what the Lord GOD says: 'Because
Edom acted vengefully against the house of
Judah, and in so doing incurred grievous guilt,
13 therefore this is what the Lord GOD says: I
will stretch out my hand against Edom and cut
off from it both man and beast. I will make it a
wasteland, and from Teman to Dedan they will
fall by the sword.
14 I will take my vengeance on Edom by the
hand of my people Israel, and they will deal
with Edom according to my anger and wrath.
Then they will know my vengeance, declares the
Lord GOD.'
15 This is what the Lord GOD says: 'Because
the Philistines acted in vengeance, taking
vengeance with malice of soul to destroy Judah
with ancient hostility,
16 therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
Behold, I will stretch out my hand against the
Philistines, and I will cut off the Cherethites and
destroy the remnant along the coast.
17 I will execute great vengeance against them
with furious reproof. Then they will know that I
am the LORD, when I lay my vengeance upon
them.' "

26

1 In the eleventh year,* on the first day of the
month, the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 “Son of man, because Tyre has said of
Jerusalem, ‘Aha! The gate to the nations is
broken; it has swung open to me; now that she
lies in ruins I will be filled,’
3 therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
‘Behold, O Tyre, I am against you, and I will
raise up many nations against you, as the sea
brings up its waves.
4 They will destroy the walls of Tyre and
demolish her towers. I will scrape the soil from
her and make her a bare rock.
5 She will become a place to spread nets in the
sea, for I have spoken, declares the Lord GOD.
She will become plunder for the nations,
6 and the villages on her mainland will be
slain by the sword. Then they will know that I
am the LORD.’
7 For this is what the Lord GOD says: ‘Behold, I
will bring against Tyre from the north
Nebuchadrezzar† king of Babylon, king of kings,
with horses and chariots, with cavalry and a
great company of troops.
8 He will slaughter the villages of your
mainland with the sword; he will set up siege
works against you, build a ramp to your walls,
and raise his shields against you.

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* **26:1 26:1** A probable reconstruction reads *In the eleventh month of the twelfth year* † **26:7 26:7** A variant of *Nebuchadnezzar*; the spelling used throughout Ezekiel.

9 He will direct the blows of his battering rams
against your walls and tear down your towers
with his axes.
10 His multitude of horses will cover you in
their dust.
When he enters your gates as an army
entering a breached city, your walls will shake
from the noise of cavalry, wagons, and chariots.
11 The hooves of his horses will trample all
your streets. He will slaughter your people with
the sword, and your mighty pillars will fall to
the ground.
12 They will plunder your wealth and pillage
your merchandise. They will demolish your
walls, tear down your beautiful homes, and
throw your stones and timber and soil into the
water.
13 So I will silence the sound of your songs, and
the music of your lyres will no longer be heard.
14 I will make you a bare rock, and you will
become a place to spread the fishing nets. You
will never be rebuilt, for I, the LORD, have
spoken, declares the Lord GOD.'
15 This is what the Lord GOD says to Tyre:
'Will not the coastlands quake at the sound of
your downfall, when the wounded groan at the
slaughter in your midst?
16 All the princes of the sea will descend from
their thrones, remove their robes, and strip off
their embroidered garments. Clothed with
terror, they will sit on the ground, trembling
every moment, appalled over you.
17 Then they will lament for you, saying,

“How you have perished, O city of renown
inhabited by seafaring men—
she who was powerful on the sea, along with her people,
who imposed terror on all her inhabitants!‡
18 Now the coastlands tremble
on the day of your downfall;
the islands in the sea
are dismayed by your demise.” ’
19 For this is what the Lord GOD says: ‘When I make you a desolate city like other deserted cities, and when I raise up the deep against you so that the mighty waters cover you,
20 then I will bring you down with those who descend to the Pit, to the people of antiquity. I will make you dwell in the earth below like the ancient ruins, with those who descend to the Pit, so that you will no longer be inhabited; and I will set splendor in the land of the living.§
21 I will make you an object of horror, and you will be no more. You will be sought, but will never be found,’ declares the Lord GOD.”

27

1 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
2 “Now you, son of man, take up a lament for Tyre.

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‡ **26:17 26:17** Or *on all peoples* § **26:20 26:20** LXX *so that you will no longer be inhabited or take your place in the land of the living*

3 Tell Tyre, who dwells at the gateway to the
sea, merchant of the peoples on many coasts,
that this is what the Lord GOD says:

You have said, O Tyre,
'I am perfect in beauty.'
4 Your borders are in the heart of the seas;
your builders perfected your beauty.
5 They constructed all your planking
with cypress* from Senir.†
They took a cedar from Lebanon
to make a mast for you.
6 Of oaks from Bashan
they made your oars;
of wood from the coasts of Cyprus‡
they made your deck, inlaid with ivory.
7 Of embroidered fine linen from Egypt
they made your sail,
which served as your banner.
Of blue and purple from the coasts of Elishah
they made your awning.

8 The men of Sidon and Arvad
were your oarsmen.
Your men of skill, O Tyre,
were there as your captains.
9 The elders of Gebal and her skilled men were
aboard as shipwrights,
repairing your leaks.
All the ships of the sea and their sailors

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* **27:5 27:5** Or *pine* or *juniper* or *fir* † **27:5 27:5** That is, *Mount Hermon* ‡ **27:6 27:6** Hebrew *Kittim*

came alongside to barter for your
merchandise.

10 Men of Persia, Lydia, and Put
served as warriors in your army.
They hung their shields and helmets on your
walls;
they gave you splendor.
11 Men of Arvad and your army§
manned your walls all around,
and the men of Gammad
were in your towers.
They hung their shields around your walls;
they perfected your beauty.

12 Tarshish was your merchant because of
your great wealth of goods; they exchanged
silver, iron, tin, and lead for your wares.
13 Javan,* Tubal, and Meshech were your
merchants. They exchanged slaves and
bronze utensils for your merchandise.
14 The men of Beth-togarmah exchanged
horses, war horses, and mules for your
wares.
15 The men of Dedan† were your clients; many
coastlands were your market; they paid you
with ivory tusks and ebony.
16 Aram‡ was your customer because of your
many products; they exchanged turquoise,

§ **27:11 27:11** Or *and Helech* * **27:13 27:13** That is, Greece
† **27:15 27:15** LXX *Rhodes* ‡ **27:16 27:16** Most Hebrew manuscripts; some Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac *Edom*

purple, embroidered work, fine linen, coral,
and rubies for your wares.
17 Judah and the land of Israel traded with
you; they exchanged wheat from Minnith,
cakes and honey, oil and balm for your
merchandise.
18 Because of your many products and your
great wealth of goods, Damascus traded
with you wine from Helbon, wool from
Zahar,
19 and Dan and Javan from Uzal traded for
your wares.§ Wrought iron, cassia, and sweet
cane* were exchanged for your merchandise.†
20 Dedan was your merchant in saddlecloths
for riding.
21 Arabia and all the princes of Kedar were
your customers, trading in lambs, rams, and
goats.
22 The merchants of Sheba and Raamah traded
with you; for your wares they exchanged
gold, the finest of all spices, and precious
stones.
23 Haran, Canneh, and Eden traded with you,
and so did the merchants of Sheba, Asshur,
and Chilmad.
24 In your marketplace they traded with you
fine garments of blue, embroidered work, and
multicolored rugs with cords tightly twisted and
knotted.

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§ **27:19 27:19** A probable emendation reads *and casks of wine from Izal for your wares* * **27:19 27:19** Or *calamus* † **27:19 27:19** Or *were among your merchandise*

25 The ships of Tarshish‡
carried your merchandise.
And you were filled with heavy cargo
in the heart of the sea.
26 Your oarsmen have brought you
onto the high seas,
but the east wind will shatter you
in the heart of the sea.
27 Your wealth, wares, and merchandise,
your sailors, captains, and shipwrights,
your merchants and all the warriors within you,
with all the other people on board,
will sink into the heart of the sea
on the day of your downfall.

28 The countryside will shake
when your sailors cry out.
29 All who handle the oars
will abandon their ships.
The sailors and all the captains of the sea
will stand on the shore.
30 They will raise their voices for you
and cry out bitterly.
They will throw dust on their heads
and roll in ashes.
31 They will shave their heads for you
and wrap themselves in sackcloth.
They will weep over you
with anguish of soul and bitter mourning.

32 As they wail and mourn over you,
they will take up a lament for you:

‡ **27:25 27:25** Or *A fleet of trading ships*

‘Who was ever like Tyre,
silenced in the middle of the sea?
33 When your wares went out to sea,
you satisfied many nations.
You enriched the kings of the earth
with your abundant wealth and
merchandise.
34 Now you are shattered by the seas
in the depths of the waters;
your merchandise and the people among you
have gone down with you.
35 All the people of the coastlands
are appalled over you.
Their kings shudder with fear;
their faces are contorted.
36 Those who trade among the nations
hiss at you;
you have come to a horrible end
and will be no more.’ ”

28

1 And the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 “Son of man, tell the ruler of Tyre that this is
what the Lord GOD says:

Your heart is proud,
and you have said,
‘I am a god;
I sit in the seat of gods
in the heart of the sea.’
Yet you are a man and not a god,
though you have regarded your heart
as that of a god.

3 Behold, you are wiser than Daniel;
no secret is hidden from you!
4 By your wisdom and understanding
you have gained your wealth
and amassed gold and silver
for your treasuries.
5 By your great skill in trading
you have increased your wealth,
but your heart has grown proud
because of it.

6 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:

Because you regard your heart
as the heart of a god,
7 behold, I will bring foreigners against you,
the most ruthless of nations.
They will draw their swords
against the beauty of your wisdom
and will defile your splendor.
8 They will bring you down to the Pit,
and you will die a violent death
in the heart of the seas.

9 Will you still say, 'I am a god,'
in the presence of those who slay you?
You will be only a man, not a god,
in the hands of those who wound you.
10 You will die the death of the uncircumcised
at the hands of foreigners.

For I have spoken,
declares the Lord GOD."

11 Again the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
12 “Son of man, take up a lament for the king
of Tyre and tell him that this is what the Lord
GOD says:

‘You were the seal of perfection,
full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.
13 You were in Eden,
the garden of God.
Every kind of precious stone adorned you:*
ruby, topaz, and diamond,
beryl, onyx, and jasper,
sapphire,† turquoise, and emerald.
Your mountings and settings were crafted in
gold,
prepared on the day of your creation.

14 You were anointed as a guardian cherub,
for I had ordained you.
You were on the holy mountain of God;
you walked among the fiery stones.
15 From the day you were created
you were blameless in your ways—
until wickedness was found in you.

16 By the vastness of your trade,
you were filled with violence, and you
sinned.
So I drove you in disgrace

* **28:13 28:13** The precise identification of some of these gemstones is uncertain. † **28:13 28:13** Or *lapis lazuli*

from the mountain of God,
and I banished you, O guardian cherub,
from among the fiery stones.
17 Your heart grew proud of your beauty;
you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor;
so I cast you to the earth;
I made you a spectacle before kings.

18 By the multitude of your iniquities
and the dishonesty of your trading
you have profaned your sanctuaries.
So I made fire come from within you,
and it consumed you.
I reduced you to ashes on the ground
in the eyes of all who saw you.
19 All the nations who know you
are appalled over you.
You have come to a horrible end
and will be no more.' "
20 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
21 "Son of man, set your face against Sidon and prophesy against her.
22 And you are to declare that this is what the Lord GOD says:

'Behold, I am against you, O Sidon,
and I will be glorified within you.
They will know that I am the LORD
when I execute judgments against her
and demonstrate my holiness through her.
23 I will send a plague against her

and shed blood in her streets;
the slain will fall within her,
while the sword is against her on every side.

Then they will know that I am the LORD.

24 For the people of Israel will no longer face a
pricking brier or a painful thorn from all
around them who treat them with contempt.
Then they will know that I am the Lord GOD.'

25 This is what the Lord GOD says: 'When I
gather the house of Israel from the peoples
among whom they have been scattered, I will
show myself holy among them in the sight of the
nations.

Then they will dwell in their own land, which
I have given to my servant Jacob.

26 And there they will dwell securely, build
houses, and plant vineyards. They will dwell
securely when I execute judgments against all
those around them who treat them with
contempt. Then they will know that I am the
LORD their God.' "

29

1 In the tenth year, on the twelfth day of the
tenth month, the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,

2 "Son of man, set your face against Pharaoh
king of Egypt and prophesy against him and
against all Egypt.

3 Speak to him and tell him that this is what
the Lord GOD says:

Behold, I am against you,
O Pharaoh king of Egypt,
O great monster who lies
among his rivers,
who says, 'The Nile is mine;
I made it myself.'

4 But I will put hooks in your jaws
and cause the fish of your streams
to cling to your scales.
I will haul you up out of your rivers,
and all the fish of your streams
will cling to your scales.
5 I will leave you in the desert,
you and all the fish of your streams.
You will fall on the open field
and will not be taken away
or gathered for burial.
I have given you as food
to the beasts of the earth
and the birds of the air.
6 Then all the people of Egypt
will know that I am the LORD.

For they were only* a staff of reeds
to the house of Israel.
7 When Israel took hold of you with their hands,†
you splintered, tearing all their shoulders;
when they leaned on you,

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* **29:6 29:6** LXX, Syriac and Vulgate *you were* † **29:7 29:7** Qere; Ketiv *by your hand*

you broke, and you caused their loins to
shake.‡
8 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says: I
will bring a sword against you and cut off from
you man and beast.
9 The land of Egypt will become a desolate
wasteland. Then they will know that I am the
LORD.
Because he said,§ 'The Nile is mine; I made it,'
10 therefore I am against you and against your
rivers. I will turn the land of Egypt into a ruin, a
desolate wasteland from Migdol to Syene, and as
far as the border of Cush.*
11 No foot of man or beast will pass through,
and it will be uninhabited for forty years.
12 I will make the land of Egypt a desolation
among desolate lands, and her cities will lie
desolate for forty years among the ruined cities.
And I will disperse the Egyptians among the
nations and scatter them throughout the
countries.
13 For this is what the Lord GOD says: At the
end of forty years I will gather the Egyptians
from the nations to which they were scattered.
14 I will restore the fortunes of Egypt† and
bring them back to the land of Pathros, the land
of their origin. There they will be a lowly
kingdom.

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‡ **29:7 29:7** Syriac (see also LXX and Vulgate) *and their backs were wrenched* § **29:9 29:9** LXX, Syriac and Vulgate *Because you said*
* **29:10 29:10** That is, the upper Nile region † **29:14 29:14** Or *restore Egypt from captivity*

15 Egypt will be the lowliest of kingdoms and
will never again exalt itself above the nations.
For I will diminish Egypt so that it will never
again rule over the nations.
16 Egypt will never again be an object of trust
for the house of Israel, but will remind them of
their iniquity in turning to the Egyptians. Then
they will know that I am the Lord GOD."
17 In the twenty-seventh year, on the first day
of the first month, the word of the LORD came to
me, saying,
18 "Son of man, Nebuchadrezzar king of
Babylon caused his army to labor strenuously
against Tyre. Every head was made bald and
every shoulder made raw. But he and his army
received no wages from Tyre for the labor they
expended on it.
19 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says: I
will give the land of Egypt to Nebuchadrezzar
king of Babylon, who will carry off its wealth,
seize its spoil, and remove its plunder. This will
be the wages for his army.
20 I have given him the land of Egypt as the
reward for his labor, because it was done for
me, declares the Lord GOD.
21 In that day I will cause a horn to sprout for
the house of Israel, and I will open your mouth
to speak among them. Then they will know that
I am the LORD."

30

1 Again the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,

2 “Son of man, prophesy and declare that this
is what the Lord GOD says:

Wail, ‘Alas
for that day!’
3 For the day is near,
the Day of the LORD is near.
It will be a day of clouds,
a time for the nations.*

4 A sword will come against Egypt,
and there will be anguish in Cush†
when the slain fall in Egypt,
its wealth is taken away,
and its foundations are torn down.
5 Cush, Put, and Lud,‡
and all the various peoples,
as well as Cub§ and the men of the covenant
land,
will fall with Egypt by the sword.

6 For this is what the LORD says:

The allies of Egypt will fall,
and her proud strength will collapse.
From Migdol to Syene*
they will fall by the sword within her,
declares the Lord GOD.
7 They will be desolate among desolate lands,

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* **30:3 30:3** Or *the time of the nations* † **30:4 30:4** That is, the upper Nile region; also in verses 5 and 9 ‡ **30:5 30:5** Or *Lydia* § **30:5 30:5** LXX *Libya* * **30:6 30:6** That is, Aswan; see Isaiah 49:12

and their cities will lie among ruined cities.

8 Then they will know that I am the LORD
when I set fire to Egypt
and all her helpers are shattered.

9 On that day messengers will go out from me
in ships to frighten Cush out of complacency.
Anguish will come upon them on the day of
Egypt's doom.† For it is indeed coming.

10 This is what the Lord GOD says:

I will put an end to the hordes of Egypt
by the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of
Babylon.
11 He and his people with him,
the most ruthless of the nations,
will be brought in to destroy the land.
They will draw their swords against Egypt
and fill the land with the slain.
12 I will make the streams dry up
and sell the land to the wicked.
By the hands of foreigners I will bring desolation
upon the land and everything in it.
I, the LORD, have spoken.

13 This is what the Lord GOD says:

I will destroy the idols
and put an end to the images in Memphis.‡

† **30:9 30:9** Hebrew *the day of Egypt* ‡ **30:13 30:13** Hebrew *Noph*; also in verse 16

There will no longer be a prince in Egypt,
and I will instill fear in that land.

14 I will lay waste Pathros,
set fire to Zoan,
and execute judgment on Thebes.§
15 I will pour out my wrath on Pelusium,*
the stronghold of Egypt,
and cut off the crowds of Thebes.
16 I will set fire to Egypt,
Pelusium will writhe in anguish,
Thebes will be split open,
and Memphis will face daily distress.

17 The young men of Aven and Pi-beseth†
will fall by the sword,
and those cities will go into captivity.
18 The day will be withheld‡ in Tahpanhes
when I break the yoke of Egypt
and her proud strength comes to an end.
A cloud will cover her,
and her daughters will go into captivity.

19 So I will execute judgment on Egypt,
and they will know that I am the LORD."
20 In the eleventh year, on the seventh day of the first month, the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

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§ **30:14 30:14** Hebrew *No*; also in verses 15 and 16 * **30:15 30:15** Hebrew *Sin*; also in verse 16 † **30:17 30:17** *Aven* (*wickedness*) is a play on *On*, that is, Heliopolis (so LXX); *Pi-beseth* is Bubastis. ‡ **30:18 30:18** Many Hebrew manuscripts and ancient versions *darkened*

21 “Son of man, I have broken the arm of
Pharaoh king of Egypt. See, it has not been
bound up for healing, or splinted for strength to
hold the sword.
22 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
Behold, I am against Pharaoh king of Egypt. I
will break his arms, both the strong one and the
one already broken, and will make the sword
fall from his hand.
23 I will disperse the Egyptians among the
nations and scatter them throughout the lands.
24 I will strengthen the arms of Babylon’s king
and place my sword in his hand, but I will break
the arms of Pharaoh, who will groan before him
like a mortally wounded man.
25 I will strengthen the arms of Babylon’s king,
but Pharaoh’s arms will fall limp.
Then they will know that I am the LORD,
when I place my sword in the hand of Babylon’s
king, and he wields it against the land of Egypt.
26 I will disperse the Egyptians among the
nations and scatter them throughout the lands.
Then they will know that I am the LORD.”

31

1 In the eleventh year, on the first day of the
third month, the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 “Son of man, say to Pharaoh king of Egypt
and to his multitude:

‘Who can be compared
to your greatness?

3 Look at Assyria, a cedar in Lebanon,
with beautiful branches that shaded the forest.
It towered on high;
its top was among the thick boughs.*
4 The waters made it grow;
the deep springs made it tall,
directing their streams all around its base
and sending their channels to all the trees of the field.

5 Therefore it towered higher
than all the trees of the field.
Its branches multiplied,
and its boughs grew long
as it spread them out
because of the abundant waters.
6 All the birds of the air
nested in its branches,
and all the beasts of the field
gave birth beneath its boughs;
all the great nations
lived in its shade.

7 It was beautiful in its greatness,
in the length of its limbs,
for its roots extended
to abundant waters.
8 The cedars in the garden of God
could not rival it;
the cypresses† could not compare with its branches,

* **31:3 31:3** LXX *among the clouds*; also in verses 10 and 14
† **31:8 31:8** Or *pines* or *junipers* or *firs*

nor the plane trees‡ match its boughs.
No tree in the garden of God
could compare with its beauty.
9 I made it beautiful with its many branches,
the envy of all the trees of Eden,
which were in the garden of God.'

10 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
'Since you became great§ in height, and it set its top among the thick boughs,* and it grew proud on account of its height,
11 I delivered it into the hand of the ruler of the nations, for him to deal with it according to its wickedness. I have banished it.
12 Foreigners, the most ruthless of the nations, cut it down and left it. Its branches have fallen on the mountains and in every valley; its boughs lay broken in all the earth's ravines. And all the peoples of the earth left its shade and abandoned it.
13 All the birds of the air nested on its fallen trunk, and all the beasts of the field lived among its boughs.
14 This happened so that no other trees by the waters would become great in height and set their tops among the thick boughs,† and no other well-watered trees would reach them in height. For they have all been consigned to death, to the depths of the earth, among the mortals who descend to the Pit.'

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‡ **31:8 31:8** Possibly *chestnut* or *juniper* § **31:10 31:10** LXX and Syriac *it became great* * **31:10 31:10** LXX *among the clouds*
† **31:14 31:14** LXX *among the clouds*

15 This is what the Lord GOD says: ‘On the day
it was brought down to Sheol, I caused
mourning. I covered the deep because of it; I
held back its rivers; its abundant waters were
restrained. I made Lebanon mourn for it, and all
the trees of the field fainted because of it.
16 I made the nations quake at the sound of its
downfall, when I cast it down to Sheol with
those who descend to the Pit.
Then all the trees of Eden, the choicest and
best of Lebanon, all the well-watered trees, were
consoled in the earth below.
17 They too descended with it to Sheol, to those
slain by the sword. As its allies they had lived in
its shade among the nations.
18 Who then is like you in glory and greatness
among the trees of Eden? You also will be
brought down to the depths of the earth to be
with the trees of Eden. You will lie among the
uncircumcised, with those slain by the sword.
This is Pharaoh and all his multitude, declares
the Lord GOD.’ ”

32

1 In the twelfth year, on the first day of the
twelfth month, the word of the LORD came to
me, saying,
2 “Son of man, take up a lament for Pharaoh
king of Egypt and say to him:

‘You are like a lion among the nations;
you are like a monster in the seas.
You thrash about in your rivers,
churning up the waters with your feet

and muddying the streams.'

3 This is what the Lord GOD says:

'I will spread my net over you
with a company of many peoples,
and they will draw you up in my net.
4 I will abandon you on the land
and hurl you into the open field.
I will cause all the birds of the air
to settle upon you,
and all the beasts of the earth
to eat their fill of you.
5 I will put your flesh on the mountains
and fill the valleys with your remains.*
6 I will drench the land
with the flow of your blood,
all the way to the mountains—
the ravines will be filled.

7 When I extinguish you,
I will cover the heavens
and darken their stars.
I will cover the sun with a cloud,
and the moon will not give its light.
8 All the shining lights in the heavens
I will darken over you,
and I will bring darkness
upon your land,'
declares the Lord GOD.
9 'I will trouble the hearts of many peoples,

* **32:5 32:5** Or *your lofty stature*

when I bring about your destruction among
the nations,
in countries† you do not know.
10 I will cause many peoples
to be appalled over you,
and their kings will shudder in horror because
of you
when I brandish my sword before them.
On the day of your downfall
each of them will tremble
every moment for his life.'

11 For this is what the Lord GOD says:

'The sword of the king of Babylon
will come against you!
12 I will make your hordes fall
by the swords of the mighty,
the most ruthless of all nations.
They will ravage the pride of Egypt
and all her multitudes will be destroyed.
13 I will slaughter all her cattle
beside the abundant waters.
No human foot will muddy them again,
and no cattle hooves will disturb them.
14 Then I will let her waters settle
and will make her rivers flow like oil,'
declares the Lord GOD.
15 'When I make the land of Egypt a desolation
and empty it of all that filled it,
when I strike down all who live there,
then they will know that I am the LORD.'

† **32:9 32:9** LXX *when I lead you into captivity among the nations, into countries*

16 This is the lament they will chant for her;
the daughters of the nations will chant it. Over
Egypt and all her multitudes they will chant it,
declares the Lord GOD."
17 In the twelfth year, on the fifteenth day of
the month,‡ the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
18 "Son of man, wail for the multitudes of
Egypt, and consign her and the daughters of the
mighty nations to the depths of the earth with
those who descend to the Pit:

19 Whom do you surpass in beauty?
Go down and be placed with the
uncircumcised!
20 They will fall among those slain by the sword.
The sword is appointed!
Let them drag her away
along with all her multitudes.

21 Mighty chiefs will speak from the midst of
Sheol
about Egypt and her allies:
'They have come down and lie with the
uncircumcised,
with those slain by the sword.'

22 Assyria is there with her whole company;
her graves are all around her.
All of them are slain,
fallen by the sword.

‡ **32:17 32:17** Presumably the fifteenth day of the twelfth month (see verse 1); LXX *on the fifteenth day of the first month.*

23 Her graves are set in the depths of the Pit,
and her company is all around her grave.
All of them are slain,
fallen by the sword—
those who once spread terror
in the land of the living.

24 Elam is there
with all her multitudes around her grave.
All of them are slain,
fallen by the sword—
those who went down uncircumcised
to the earth below,
who once spread their terror
in the land of the living.
They bear their disgrace
with those who descend to the Pit.
25 Among the slain they prepare
a resting place for Elam
with all her hordes,
with her graves all around her.
All of them are uncircumcised,
slain by the sword,
although their terror was once spread
in the land of the living.
They bear their disgrace
with those who descend to the Pit.
They are placed among the slain.

26 Meshech and Tubal are there
with all their multitudes,
with their graves all around them.
All of them are uncircumcised,
slain by the sword,

because they spread their terror
in the land of the living.
27 They do not lie down
with the fallen warriors of the
uncircumcised,§
who went down to Sheol
with their weapons of war,
whose swords were placed under their heads,
whose iniquities* rested on their bones,
although the terror of the mighty
was once in the land of the living.
28 But you too will be shattered
and lie down among the uncircumcised,
with those slain by the sword.

29 Edom is there,
and all her kings and princes,
who despite their might
are laid among those slain by the sword.
They lie down with the uncircumcised,
with those who descend to the Pit.

30 All the leaders of the north
and all the Sidonians are there;
they went down in disgrace with the slain,
despite the terror of their might.
They lie uncircumcised
with those slain by the sword
and bear their shame
with those who descend to the Pit.

31 Pharaoh will see them

§ **32:27 32:27** LXX *warriors of old* * **32:27 32:27** A probable emendation reads *shields*

and be comforted over all his multitude—
Pharaoh and all his army,
slain by the sword,
declares the Lord GOD.
32 For I will spread my terror†
in the land of the living,
so that Pharaoh and all his multitude
will be laid to rest among the
uncircumcised,
with those slain by the sword,
declares the Lord GOD."

33

1 Again the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 "Son of man, speak to your people and tell
them: 'Suppose I bring the sword against a land,
and the people of that land choose a man from
among them, appointing him as their watchman,
3 and he sees the sword coming against that
land and blows the ram's horn to warn the
people.
4 Then if anyone hears the sound of the horn
but fails to heed the warning, and the sword
comes and takes him away, his blood will be on
his own head.
5 Since he heard the sound of the horn but
failed to heed the warning, his blood will be on
his own head. If he had heeded the warning, he
would have saved his life.
6 But if the watchman sees the sword coming
and fails to blow the horn to warn the people,
and the sword comes and takes away a life, then

† **32:32 32:32** Qere; Ketiv *his terror*

that one will be taken away in his iniquity, but I will hold the watchman accountable for his blood.'
7 As for you, O son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; so hear the word from my mouth and give them the warning from me.
8 If I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you will surely die,' but you do not speak out to dissuade him from his way, then that wicked man will die in his iniquity, yet I will hold you accountable for his blood.
9 But if you warn the wicked man to turn from his way, and he does not turn from it, he will die in his iniquity, but you will have saved your life.
10 Now as for you, son of man, tell the house of Israel that this is what they have said: 'Our transgressions and our sins are heavy upon us, and we are wasting away because of them! How can we live?'
11 Say to them: 'As surely as I live, declares the Lord GOD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked should turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?'
12 Therefore, son of man, say to your people: 'The righteousness of the righteous man will not deliver him in the day of his transgression; neither will the wickedness of the wicked man cause him to stumble on the day he turns from his wickedness. Nor will the righteous man be able to survive by his righteousness on the day he sins.'

13 If I tell the righteous man that he will surely
live, but he then trusts in his righteousness and
commits iniquity, then none of his righteous
works will be remembered; he will die because
of the iniquity he has committed.
14 But if I tell the wicked man, 'You will surely
die,' and he turns from his sin and does what is
just and right—
15 if he restores a pledge, makes restitution for
what he has stolen, and walks in the statutes of
life without practicing iniquity—then he will
surely live; he will not die.
16 None of the sins he has committed will be
held against him. He has done what is just and
right; he will surely live.
17 Yet your people say, 'The way of the Lord is
not just.' But it is their way that is not just.
18 If a righteous man turns from his
righteousness and commits iniquity, he will die
for it.
19 But if a wicked man turns from his
wickedness and does what is just and right, he
will live because of this.
20 Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.'
But I will judge each of you according to his
ways, O house of Israel."
21 In the twelfth year of our exile, on the fifth
day of the tenth month, a fugitive from
Jerusalem came to me and reported, "The city
has been taken!"
22 Now the evening before the fugitive arrived,
the hand of the LORD was upon me, and he
opened my mouth before the man came to me in

the morning. So my mouth was opened and I
was no longer mute.
23 Then the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
24 “Son of man, those living in the ruins in the
land of Israel are saying, ‘Abraham was only one
man, yet he possessed the land. But we are
many; surely the land has been given to us as a
possession.’
25 Therefore tell them that this is what the
Lord GOD says: ‘You eat meat with the blood in
it, lift up your eyes to your idols, and shed blood.
Should you then possess the land?
26 You have relied on your swords, you have
committed detestable acts, and each of you has
defiled his neighbor’s wife. Should you then
possess the land?’
27 Tell them that this is what the Lord GOD
says: ‘As surely as I live, those in the ruins will
fall by the sword, those in the open field I will
give to be devoured by wild animals, and those
in the strongholds and caves will die by plague.
28 I will make the land a desolate waste, and
the pride of her strength will come to an end.
The mountains of Israel will become desolate, so
that no one will pass through.
29 Then they will know that I am the LORD,
when I have made the land a desolate waste
because of all the abominations they have
committed.’
30 As for you, son of man, your people are
talking about you near the city walls and in the
doorways of their houses. One speaks to

another, each saying to his brother, ‘Come and
hear the message that has come from the LORD!’
31 So my people come to you as usual, sit
before you, and hear your words; but they do
not put them into practice. Although they
express love with their mouths, their hearts
pursue dishonest gain.
32 Indeed, you are to them like a singer of love
songs with a beautiful voice, who skillfully plays
an instrument. They hear your words but do not
put them into practice.
33 So when it comes to pass—and surely it will
come—then they will know that a prophet has
been among them.”

34

1 Then the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 “Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds
of Israel. Prophesy and tell them that this is
what the Lord GOD says: ‘Woe to the shepherds
of Israel, who only feed themselves! Should not
the shepherds feed their flock?
3 You eat the fat, wear the wool, and butcher
the fattened sheep, but you do not feed the flock.
4 You have not strengthened the weak, healed
the sick, bound up the injured, brought back the
strays, or searched for the lost. Instead, you
have ruled them with violence and cruelty.
5 They were scattered for lack of a shepherd,
and when they were scattered they became food
for all the wild beasts.

6 My flock went astray on all the mountains
and every high hill. They were scattered over
the face of all the earth, with no one to search
for them or seek them out.'
7 Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of
the LORD:
8 'As surely as I live, declares the Lord GOD,
because my flock lacks a shepherd and has
become prey and food for every wild beast, and
because my shepherds did not search for my
flock but fed themselves instead,
9 therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of
the LORD!'
10 This is what the Lord GOD says: 'Behold, I
am against the shepherds, and I will demand
from them my flock and remove them from
tending the flock, so that they can no longer feed
themselves. For I will deliver my flock from
their mouths, and it will no longer be food for
them.'
11 For this is what the Lord GOD says: 'Behold,
I myself will search for my flock and seek them
out.
12 As a shepherd looks for his scattered sheep
when he is among the flock, so I will look for my
flock.
I will rescue them from all the places to which
they were scattered on a day of clouds and
darkness.
13 I will bring them out from the peoples,
gather them from the countries, and bring them
into their own land. I will feed them on the
mountains of Israel, in the ravines, and in all the
settlements of the land.

14 I will feed them in good pasture, and the
lofty mountains of Israel will be their grazing
land. There they will lie down in a good grazing
land; they will feed in rich pasture on the
mountains of Israel.

15 I will tend my flock and make them lie
down, declares the Lord GOD.
16 I will seek the lost, bring back the strays,
bind up the broken, and strengthen the weak;
but the sleek and strong I will destroy. I will
shepherd them with justice.'

17 This is what the Lord GOD says to you, my
flock: 'I will judge between one sheep and
another, between the rams and the goats.
18 Is it not enough for you to feed on the good
pasture? Must you also trample the rest of the
pasture with your feet? Is it not enough for you
to drink the clear waters? Must you also muddy
the rest with your feet?
19 Why must my flock feed on what your feet
have trampled, and drink what your feet have
muddied?'

20 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says to
them: 'Behold, I myself will judge between the
fat sheep and the lean sheep.
21 Since you shove with flank and shoulder,
butting all the weak ones with your horns until
you have scattered them abroad,
22 I will save my flock, and they will no longer
be prey. I will judge between one sheep and
another.

23 I will appoint over them one shepherd, my
servant David, and he will feed them. He will
feed them and be their shepherd.
24 I, the LORD, will be their God, and my
servant David will be a prince among them. I,
the LORD, have spoken.
25 I will make with them a covenant of peace
and rid the land of wild animals, so that they
may dwell securely in the wilderness and sleep
in the forest.
26 I will make them and the places around my
hill a blessing. I will send down showers in
season—showers of blessing.
27 The trees of the field will give their fruit,
and the land will yield its produce; my flock will
be secure in their land. Then they will know
that I am the LORD, when I have broken the
bars of their yoke and delivered them from the
hands that enslaved them.
28 They will no longer be prey for the nations,
and the beasts of the earth will not consume
them. They will dwell securely, and no one will
frighten them.
29 And I will raise up for them a garden of
renown, and they will no longer be victims of
famine in the land or bear the scorn of the
nations.
30 Then they will know that I, the LORD their
God, am with them, and that they, the house of
Israel, are my people,' declares the Lord GOD.
31 'You are my flock, the sheep of my pasture;
you are men, and I am your God,*' declares the

* **34:31 34:31** LXX does not include *you are men.*

Lord GOD."

35

1 Moreover, the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 "Son of man, set your face against Mount Seir
and prophesy against it,
3 and declare that this is what the Lord GOD
says:

Behold, I am against you,
O Mount Seir.
I will stretch out my hand against you
and make you a desolate waste.
4 I will turn your cities into ruins,
and you will become a desolation.

Then you will know that I am the LORD.
5 Because you harbored an ancient hatred and
delivered the Israelites over to the sword in the
time of their disaster at the final stage of their
punishment,
6 therefore as surely as I live, declares the
Lord GOD, I will give you over to bloodshed and
it will pursue you. Since you did not hate
bloodshed, it will pursue you.
7 I will make Mount Seir a desolate waste and
will cut off from it those who come and go.
8 I will fill its mountains with the slain; those
killed by the sword will fall on your hills, in
your valleys, and in all your ravines.
9 I will make you a perpetual desolation, and
your cities will not be inhabited. Then you will
know that I am the LORD.

10 Because you have said, ‘These two nations
and countries will be ours, and we will possess
them,’ even though the LORD was there,
11 therefore as surely as I live, declares the
Lord GOD, I will treat you according to the anger
and jealousy you showed in your hatred against
them, and I will make myself known among
them when I judge you.
12 Then you will know that I, the LORD, have
heard every contemptuous word you uttered
against the mountains of Israel when you said,
‘They are desolate;* they are given to us to
devour!’
13 You boasted against me with your mouth
and multiplied your words against me. I heard it
myself!
14 This is what the Lord GOD says: While the
whole earth rejoices, I will make you desolate.
15 As you rejoiced when the inheritance of the
house of Israel became desolate, so will I do to
you. You will become a desolation, O Mount Seir,
and so will all of Edom. Then they will know
that I am the LORD.

36

1 “And you, son of man, prophesy to the
mountains of Israel and say: O mountains of
Israel, hear the word of the LORD.
2 This is what the Lord GOD says: Because the
enemy has said of you, ‘Aha! The ancient heights
have become our possession,’

* **35:12 35:12** Qere; Ketiv *It is desolate*

3 therefore prophesy and declare that this is
what the Lord GOD says: Because they have
made you desolate and have trampled you on
every side, so that you became a possession of
the rest of the nations and were taken up in
slander by the lips of their talkers,
4 therefore, O mountains of Israel, hear the
word of the Lord GOD.

This is what the Lord GOD says to the
mountains and hills, to the ravines and valleys,
to the desolate ruins and abandoned cities,
which have become a spoil and a mockery to the
rest of the nations around you.
5 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
Surely in my burning zeal I have spoken against
the rest of the nations, and against all Edom,
who took my land as their own possession with
wholehearted joy and utter contempt, so that its
pastureland became plunder.

6 Therefore, prophesy concerning the land of
Israel and tell the mountains and hills, the
ravines and valleys, that this is what the Lord
GOD says: Behold, I have spoken in my burning
zeal because you have endured the reproach of
the nations.

7 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says: I
have sworn with an uplifted hand that surely
the nations around you will endure reproach of
their own.
8 But you, O mountains of Israel, will produce
branches and bear fruit for my people Israel, for
they will soon come home.

9 For behold, I am on your side; I will turn
toward you, and you will be tilled and sown.
10 I will multiply the people upon you—the
house of Israel in its entirety. The cities will be
inhabited and the ruins rebuilt.
11 I will fill you with people and animals, and
they will multiply and be fruitful. I will make
you as inhabited as you once were, and I will
make you prosper more than before. Then you
will know that I am the LORD.
12 Yes, I will cause my people Israel to walk
upon you; they will possess you, and you will be
their inheritance, and you will no longer
deprive them of their children.
13 For this is what the Lord GOD says: Because
people say to you, 'You devour men and deprive
your nation of its children,'
14 therefore you will no longer devour men or
deprive your nations of their children,* declares
the Lord GOD.
15 I will no longer allow the taunts of the
nations to be heard against you, and you will no
longer endure the reproach of the peoples or
cause your nation to stumble, declares the Lord
GOD."
16 Again the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
17 "Son of man, when the people of Israel lived
in their land, they defiled it by their own ways
and deeds. Their behavior before me was like
the uncleanness of a woman's impurity.

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* **36:14 36:14** Qere; Ketiv *or cause your nation to stumble*

18 So I poured out my wrath upon them
because of the blood they had shed on the land,
and because they had defiled it with their idols.
19 I dispersed them among the nations, and
they were scattered throughout the lands. I
judged them according to their ways and deeds.
20 And wherever they went among the
nations, they profaned my holy name, because it
was said of them, 'These are the people of the
LORD, yet they had to leave his land.'
21 But I had concern for my holy name, which
the house of Israel had profaned among the
nations to which they had gone.
22 Therefore tell the house of Israel that this is
what the Lord GOD says: It is not for your sake
that I will act, O house of Israel, but for my holy
name, which you profaned among the nations to
which you went.
23 I will show the holiness of my great name,
which has been profaned among the
nations—the name you have profaned among
them. Then the nations will know that I am the
LORD, declares the Lord GOD, when I show my
holiness in you before their eyes.
24 For I will take you from among the nations
and gather you out of all the countries, and I
will bring you back into your own land.
25 I will also sprinkle clean water on you, and
you will be clean. I will cleanse you from all
your impurities and all your idols.
26 I will give you a new heart and put a new
spirit within you; I will remove your heart of
stone and give you a heart of flesh.

27 And I will put my spirit within you and
cause you to walk in my statutes and to carefully
observe my ordinances.
28 Then you will live in the land that I gave
your forefathers; you will be my people, and I
will be your God.
29 I will save you from all your uncleanness. I
will summon the grain and make it plentiful,
and I will not bring famine upon you.
30 I will also make the fruit of the trees and the
crops of the field plentiful, so that you will no
longer bear reproach among the nations on
account of famine.
31 Then you will remember your evil ways and
wicked deeds, and you will loathe yourselves for
your iniquities and abominations.
32 It is not for your sake that I will act, declares
the Lord GOD—let it be known to you. Be
ashamed and disgraced for your ways, O house
of Israel!
33 This is what the Lord GOD says: On the day
I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will
cause the cities to be resettled and the ruins to
be rebuilt.
34 The desolate land will be cultivated instead
of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass
through.
35 Then they will say, 'This land that was
desolate has become like the garden of Eden.
The cities that were once ruined, desolate, and
destroyed are now fortified and inhabited.'
36 Then the nations around you that remain
will know that I, the LORD, have rebuilt what
was destroyed, and I have replanted what was

desolate. I, the LORD, have spoken, and I will do it.
37 This is what the Lord GOD says: Once again I will hear the plea of the house of Israel and do for them this: I will multiply their people like a flock.
38 Like the numerous flocks for sacrifices at Jerusalem during her appointed feasts, so the ruined cities will be filled with flocks of people. Then they will know that I am the LORD."

37

1 The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out by his spirit and set me down in the middle of the valley, and it was full of bones.
2 He led me all around among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, and indeed, they were very dry.
3 Then he asked me, "Son of man, can these bones come to life?"
"O Lord GOD," I replied, "only you know."
4 And he said to me, "Prophesy concerning these bones and tell them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!
5 This is what the Lord GOD says to these bones: I will cause breath* to enter you, and you will come to life.
6 I will attach tendons to you and make flesh grow upon you and cover you with skin. I will put breath within you so that you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.' "

* **37:5 37:5** Or *spirit*; also in verses 6, 9, and 10

7 So I prophesied as I had been commanded.
And as I prophesied, there was suddenly a noise,
a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to
bone.
8 As I looked on, tendons appeared on them,
flesh grew, and skin covered them; but there
was no breath in them.
9 Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath;
prophesy, son of man, and tell the breath that
this is what the Lord GOD says: Come from the
four winds, O breath, and breathe into these
slain, so that they may live!”
10 So I prophesied as he had commanded me,
and the breath entered them, and they came to
life and stood on their feet—a vast army.
11 Then he said to me, “Son of man, these
bones are the whole house of Israel. Look, they
are saying, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our
hope has perished; we are cut off.’
12 Therefore prophesy and tell them that this
is what the Lord GOD says: ‘O my people, I will
open your graves and bring you up from them,
and I will bring you back to the land of Israel.
13 Then you, my people, will know that I am
the LORD, when I open your graves and bring
you up from them.
14 I will put my spirit in you and you will live,
and I will settle you in your own land. Then you
will know that I, the LORD, have spoken, and I
will do it, declares the LORD.’ ”
15 Again the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,

16 “And you, son of man, take a single stick†
and write on it: ‘Belonging to Judah and to the
Israelites associated with him.’ Then take
another stick and write on it: ‘Belonging to
Joseph—the stick of Ephraim—and to all the
house of Israel associated with him.’
17 Then join them together into one stick, so
that they become one in your hand.
18 When your people ask you, ‘Won’t you
explain to us what you mean by these?’
19 you are to tell them that this is what the
Lord GOD says: ‘I will take the stick of Joseph,
which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes
of Israel associated with him, and I will put
them together with the stick of Judah. I will
make them into a single stick, and they will
become one in my hand.’
20 When the sticks on which you write are in
your hand and in full view of the people,
21 you are to tell them that this is what the
Lord GOD says: ‘I will take the Israelites out of
the nations to which they have gone, and I will
gather them from all around and bring them
into their own land.
22 I will make them one nation in the land, on
the mountains of Israel, and one king will rule
over all of them. Then they will no longer be‡
two nations and will never again be divided into
two kingdoms.
23 They will no longer defile themselves with
their idols or detestable images, or with any of

† **37:16 37:16** Or *branch*; also in verses 17, 19, and 20 ‡ **37:22 37:22** Qere; Ketiv *it will no longer be*

their transgressions. I will save them from all
their dwelling places where they sinned,§ and I
will cleanse them. Then they will be my people,
and I will be their God.
24 My servant David will be king over them,
and there will be one shepherd for all of them.
They will follow my ordinances and keep and
observe my statutes.
25 They will live in the land that I gave to my
servant Jacob, where your fathers lived. They
will live there forever with their children and
grandchildren, and my servant David will be
their prince forever.
26 And I will make a covenant of peace with
them; it will be an everlasting covenant. I will
establish them and multiply them, and I will set
my sanctuary among them forever.
27 My dwelling place* will be with them; I will
be their God, and they will be my people.
28 Then the nations will know that I the LORD
sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary is among
them forever.' "

38

1 And the word of the LORD came to me,
saying,
2 "Son of man, set your face against Gog of the
land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and
Tubal.* Prophesy against him

§ **37:23 37:23** Leningrad Codex and most Hebrew manuscripts; many Hebrew manuscripts (see also LXX) *all their apostasies by which they sinned* * **37:27 37:27** Or *my tabernacle* * **38:2 38:2** Or *of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal*

3 and declare that this is what the Lord GOD
says: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, chief
prince of Meshech and Tubal.†
4 I will turn you around, put hooks in your
jaws, and bring you out with all your
army—your horses, your horsemen in full
armor, and a great company armed with shields
and bucklers, all brandishing their swords.
5 Persia, Cush,‡ and Put will accompany them,
all with shields and helmets,
6 as well as Gomer with all its troops, and
Beth-togarmah from the far north with all its
troops—the many nations with you.
7 Get ready; prepare yourself, you and all your
company gathered around you; you will be their
guard.
8 After a long time you will be summoned. In
the latter years you will enter a land that has
recovered from war, whose people were
gathered from many nations to the mountains of
Israel, which had long been desolate. They had
been brought out from the nations, and all now
dwell securely.
9 You and all your troops, and many peoples
with you will go up, advancing like a
thunderstorm; you will be like a cloud covering
the land.
10 This is what the Lord GOD says: On that day,
thoughts will arise in your mind, and you will
devise an evil plan.

† **38:3 38:3** Or *Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal* ‡ **38:5 38:5** That is, the upper Nile region

11 You will say, ‘I will go up against a land of
unwalled villages; I will come against a quiet
people who dwell securely, all of them living
without walls or bars or gates—
12 in order to seize the spoil and carry off the
plunder, to turn a hand against the desolate
places now inhabited and against a people
gathered from the nations, who have acquired
livestock and possessions and who live at the
center of the land.’
13 Sheba and Dedan and the merchants of
Tarshish with all its young lions§ will ask, ‘Have
you come to capture the plunder? Have you
assembled your hordes to carry away loot, to
make off with silver and gold, to take cattle and
goods, to seize great spoil?’
14 Therefore prophesy, son of man, and tell
Gog that this is what the Lord GOD says: On that
day when my people Israel are dwelling
securely, will you not take notice of this?*
15 And you will come from your place out of
the far north—you and many peoples with you,
all riding horses—a mighty horde, a huge army.
16 You will advance against my people Israel
like a cloud covering the land. It will happen in
the latter days, O Gog, that I will bring you
against my land, so that the nations may know
me when I show myself holy in you before their
eyes.
17 This is what the Lord GOD says: Are you the
one of whom I have spoken in former days

§ **38:13 38:13** Or *villages* * **38:14 38:14** LXX *will you not rouse yourself?*

through my servants, the prophets of Israel, who
in those times prophesied for years that I would
bring you against them?
18 Now on that day when Gog comes against
the land of Israel, declares the Lord GOD, my
wrath will flare up.
19 In my zeal and fiery rage I proclaim that on
that day there will be a great earthquake in the
land of Israel.
20 The fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the
beasts of the field, every creature that crawls
upon the ground, and all mankind on the face of
the earth will tremble at my presence. The
mountains will be thrown down, the cliffs will
collapse, and every wall will fall to the ground.
21 And I will summon a sword against Gog on
all my mountains, declares the Lord GOD, and
every man's sword will be against his brother.
22 I will execute judgment upon him with
plague and bloodshed. I will pour out torrents of
rain, hailstones, fire, and sulfur on him and on
his troops and on the many nations with him.
23 I will magnify and sanctify myself, and I will
reveal myself in the sight of many nations. Then
they will know that I am the LORD.

39

1 "As for you, O son of man, prophesy against
Gog and declare that this is what the Lord GOD
says: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, chief
prince of Meshech and Tubal.*

* **39:1 39:1** Or *Gog, prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal*

2 I will turn you around, drive you along,
bring you up from the far north, and send you
against the mountains of Israel.
3 Then I will strike the bow from your left
hand and dash down the arrows from your right
hand.
4 On the mountains of Israel you will fall—you
and all your troops and the nations with you. I
will give you as food to every kind of ravenous
bird and wild beast.
5 You will fall in the open field, for I have
spoken, declares the Lord GOD.

6 I will send fire on Magog and on those who
dwell securely in the coastlands, and they will
know that I am the LORD.
7 So I will make my holy name known among
my people Israel and will no longer allow it to
be profaned. Then the nations will know that I
am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.
8 Yes, it is coming, and it will surely happen,
declares the Lord GOD. This is the day of which I
have spoken.

9 Then those who dwell in the cities of Israel
will go out, kindle fires, and burn up the
weapons—the bucklers and shields, the bows
and arrows, the clubs and spears. For seven
years they will use them for fuel.
10 They will not gather wood from the
countryside or cut it from the forests, for they
will use the weapons for fuel. They will loot
those who looted them and plunder those who
plundered them, declares the Lord GOD.

11 And on that day I will give Gog a burial
place in Israel, the Valley of the Travelers, east
of the Sea.† It will block those who travel
through, because Gog and all his hordes will be
buried there. So it will be called the Valley of
Hamon-gog.‡
12 For seven months the house of Israel will be
burying them in order to cleanse the land.
13 All the people of the land will bury them,
and it will bring them renown on the day I
display my glory,§ declares the Lord GOD.
14 And men will be employed to continually
pass through the land to cleanse it by burying
the invaders who remain on the ground. At the
end of the seven months they will begin their
search.
15 As they pass through the land, anyone who
sees a human bone will set up a pillar next to it,
until the gravediggers have buried it in the
Valley of Hamon-gog.
16 (Even the city will be named Hamonah.*)
And so they will cleanse the land.
17 And as for you, son of man, this is what the
Lord GOD says: Call out to every kind of bird
and to every beast of the field: 'Assemble and
come together from all around to the sacrificial
feast that I am preparing for you, a great feast
on the mountains of Israel. There you will eat
flesh and drink blood.

† **39:11 39:11** That is, the Dead Sea ‡ **39:11 39:11** *Hamon-gog* means *multitude of Gog.* § **39:13 39:13** Or *and the day I display my glory will be a day of renown* * **39:16 39:16** *Hamonah* means *multitude* or *horde.*

18 You will eat the flesh of the mighty and
drink the blood of the princes of the earth as
though they were rams, lambs, goats, and
bulls—all the fattened animals of Bashan.
19 At the sacrifice I am preparing, you will eat
fat until you are gorged and drink blood until
you are drunk.
20 And at my table you will eat your fill of
horses and riders, of mighty men and warriors
of every kind,' declares the Lord GOD.

21 I will display my glory among the nations,
and all the nations will see the judgment that I
execute and the hand that I lay upon them.
22 From that day forward the house of Israel
will know that I am the LORD their God.
23 And the nations will know that the house of
Israel went into exile for their iniquity, because
they were unfaithful to me. So I hid my face
from them and delivered them into the hands of
their enemies, so that they all fell by the sword.
24 I dealt with them according to their
uncleanness and transgressions, and I hid my
face from them.

25 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says:
Now I will restore the fortunes of Jacob† and will
have compassion on the whole house of Israel,
and I will be jealous for my holy name.
26 They will bear‡ their disgrace and all the
treachery they committed against me, when

† **39:25 39:25** Or *restore Jacob from captivity* ‡ **39:26 39:26** Leningrad Codex and most Hebrew manuscripts; a few Hebrew manuscripts *They will forget*

they dwell securely in their land, with no one to frighten them.
27 When I bring them back from the peoples and gather them out of the lands of their enemies, I will show my holiness in them in the sight of many nations.
28 Then they will know that I am the LORD their God, when I regather them to their own land, not leaving any of them behind after their exile among the nations.
29 And I will no longer hide my face from them, for I will pour out my spirit on the house of Israel, declares the Lord GOD."

40

1 In the twenty-fifth year of our exile, at the beginning of the year, on the tenth day of the month—in the fourteenth year after Jerusalem had been struck down—on that very day the hand of the LORD was upon me, and he took me there.
2 In visions of God he took me to the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain, on whose southern slope was a structure that resembled a city.

3 So he took me there, and I saw a man whose appearance was like bronze. He was standing in the gateway with a linen cord and a measuring rod in his hand.
4 "Son of man," he said to me, "look with your eyes, hear with your ears, and pay attention to everything I am going to show you, for that is

why you have been brought here. Report to the
house of Israel everything you see."

5 And I saw a wall surrounding the temple
area. Now the length of the measuring rod in
the man's hand was six long cubits* (each
measuring a cubit and a handbreadth), and he
measured the wall to be one rod thick and one
rod high.

6 Then he came to the gate facing east and
climbed its steps. He measured the threshold of
the gate to be one rod deep, even the one
threshold, one rod deep.†
7 Each gate chamber was one rod long and one
rod wide, and there were five cubits‡ between
the gate chambers. The inner threshold of the
gate by the portico facing inward was one rod
deep.
8 Then he measured the portico of the gateway
inside; it was one rod.
9 He measured the portico of the gateway; it
was eight cubits deep,§ and its jambs were two
cubits thick.* And the portico of the gateway
faced the temple.

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* **40:5 40:5** *6 long cubits*, the length of the reed used for measuring, is approximately 10.5 feet or 3.2 meters; similarly in verses 6, 7, and 12. The long cubit of about 21 inches or 53.3 centimeters is the basic unit of length throughout Ezekiel 40 to 48. † **40:6 40:6** LXX does not include this repetition. ‡ **40:7 40:7** *5 (long) cubits* is approximately 8.75 feet or 2.7 meters; also in verses 30 and 48.
§ **40:9 40:9** *8 (long) cubits* is approximately 14 feet or 4.3 meters.
* **40:9 40:9** *2 (long) cubits* is approximately 3.5 feet or 1.1 meters.

10 There were three gate chambers on each
side of the east gate, each with the same
measurements, and the gateposts on either side
also had the same measurements.
11 And he measured the width of the gateway
entrance to be ten cubits,† and its length was
thirteen cubits.‡
12 In front of each gate chamber was a wall
one cubit high, and the gate chambers were six
cubits square.
13 Then he measured the gateway from the
roof of one gate chamber to the roof of the
opposite one; the distance was twenty-five
cubits§ from doorway to doorway.
14 Next he made the gateposts* to be sixty
cubits high.† The gateway extended around to
the gatepost of the courtyard.
15 And the distance from the entrance of the
gateway to the far end of its inner portico was
fifty cubits.‡
16 The gate chambers and their side pillars§
had beveled windows all around the inside of
the gateway. The porticos also had windows all

† **40:11 40:11** *10 (long) cubits* is approximately 17.5 feet or 5.3 meters. ‡ **40:11 40:11** *13 (long) cubits* is approximately 22.75 feet or 6.9 meters. § **40:13 40:13** *25 (long) cubits* is approximately 43.75 feet or 13.3 meters; also in verses 21, 25, 29, 30, 33, and 36. * **40:14 40:14** Many translators emend to *measured* † **40:14 40:14** *60 (long) cubits* is approximately 105 feet or 32 meters. ‡ **40:15 40:15** *50 (long) cubits* is approximately 87.5 feet or 26.7 meters; also in verses 21, 25, 29, 33, and 36. § **40:16 40:16** Or *gateposts* or *jambs* or *projecting walls*; here and throughout Ezekiel 40 and 41.

around on the inside. Each side pillar was
decorated with palm trees.
17 Then he brought me into the outer court,
and there were chambers and a pavement laid
out all around the court. Thirty chambers faced
the pavement,
18 which flanked the gateways and
corresponded to the length of the gates; this was
the lower pavement.
19 Then he measured the distance from the
front of the lower gateway to the outside of the
inner court; it was a hundred cubits* on the east
side as well as on the north.
20 He also measured the length and width of
the gateway of the outer court facing north.
21 Its three gate chambers on each side, its side
pillars, and its portico all had the same
measurements as the first gate: fifty cubits long
and twenty-five cubits wide.
22 Its windows, portico, and palm trees had the
same measurements as those of the gate facing
east. Seven steps led up to it, with its portico
opposite them.
23 There was a gate to the inner court facing
the north gate, just as there was on the east. He
measured the distance from gateway to gateway
to be a hundred cubits.
24 Then he led me to the south side, and I saw
a gateway facing south. He measured its side
pillars and portico, and they had the same
measurements as the others.

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* **40:19** **40:19** *100 (long) cubits* is approximately 175 feet or 53.3 meters; also in verses 23, 27, and 47.

25 Both the gateway and its portico had
windows all around, like the other windows. It
was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.
26 Seven steps led up to it, and its portico was
opposite them; it had palm trees on its side
pillars, one on each side.

27 The inner court also had a gate facing south,
and he measured the distance from gateway to
gateway toward the south to be a hundred
cubits.

28 Next he brought me into the inner court
through the south gate, and he measured the
south gate; it had the same measurements as the
others.
29 Its gate chambers, side pillars, and portico
had the same measurements as the others. Both
the gateway and its portico had windows all
around; it was fifty cubits long and twenty-five
cubits wide.
30 (The porticoes around the inner court were
twenty-five cubits long and five cubits deep.†)
31 Its portico faced the outer court, and its side
pillars were decorated with palm trees. Eight
steps led up to it.

32 And he brought me to the inner court on the
east side, and he measured the gateway; it had
the same measurements as the others.
33 Its gate chambers, side pillars, and portico
had the same measurements as the others. Both
the gateway and its portico had windows all

† **40:30 40:30** The porticoes were approximately 43.75 feet long and 8.75 feet deep (13.3 meters long and 2.7 meters deep).

around. It was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.
34 Its portico faced the outer court, and its side pillars were decorated with palm trees on each side. Eight steps led up to it.
35 Then he brought me to the north gate and measured it. It had the same measurements as the others,
36 as did its gate chambers, side pillars, and portico. It also had windows all around. It was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.
37 Its jambs‡ faced the outer court, and its side pillars were decorated with palm trees on each side. Eight steps led up to it.
38 There was a chamber with a doorway by the side pillars§ in each of the inner gateways. There the burnt offering was to be washed.
39 Inside the portico of the gateway were two tables on each side, on which the burnt offerings, purification offerings, and guilt offerings were to be slaughtered.
40 Outside, as one goes up to the entrance of the north gateway, there were two tables on one side and two more tables on the other side of the gate's portico.
41 So there were four tables inside the gateway and four outside—eight tables in all—on which the sacrifices were to be slaughtered.
42 There were also four tables of dressed stone for the burnt offering, each a cubit and a half

‡ **40:37 40:37** LXX and Vulgate (see also verses 26, 31, and 34) *Its portico* § **40:38 40:38** Or *jambs*; many translators emend to *by the portico*

long, a cubit and a half wide, and a cubit high.* On these were placed the utensils used to slaughter the burnt offerings and the other sacrifices.
43 The shelves,† each a handbreadth long,‡ were fastened all around the inside of the room, and the flesh of the offering was to be placed on the tables.
44 Outside the inner gate, within the inner court, were chambers for the singers,§ one beside the north gate and facing south, and another beside the east gate* and facing north.
45 Then the man said to me: "The chamber that faces south is for the priests who keep charge of the temple,
46 and the chamber that faces north is for the priests who keep charge of the altar. These are the sons of Zadok, the only Levites who may approach the LORD to minister before him."
47 Next he measured the court. It was square, a hundred cubits long and a hundred cubits wide. And the altar was in front of the temple.
48 Then he brought me to the portico of the temple and measured the side pillars of the portico to be five cubits on each side. The width of the gateway was three cubits on either side.†

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* **40:42 40:42** The tables were approximately 2.6 feet in length and width, and 1.75 feet high (79.2 centimeters in length and width, and 53.3 centimeters high). † **40:43 40:43** Or *double-pronged hooks* ‡ **40:43 40:43** *A handbreadth* is approximately 2.9 inches or 7.4 centimeters long. § **40:44 40:44** LXX *two chambers* * **40:44 40:44** LXX *the south gate* † **40:48 40:48** LXX *The width of the gateway was fourteen cubits and its sidewalls were three cubits on either side*

49 The portico was twenty cubits wide‡ and
eleven cubits deep,§ and steps led up to it.*
There were columns by the side pillars, one on
each side.

41

1 Then the man brought me into the outer
sanctuary and measured the side pillars to be
six cubits wide* on each side—the width of the
tent.†
2 The width of the entrance was ten cubits,‡
and the sides of the entrance were five cubits§
on each side. He also measured the length of the
outer sanctuary to be forty cubits, and the width
to be twenty cubits.*

3 And he went into the inner sanctuary and
measured the side pillars at the entrance to be
two cubits wide.† The entrance was six cubits

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‡ **40:49 40:49** *20 (long) cubits* is approximately 35 feet or 10.7 meters. § **40:49 40:49** LXX *twelve cubits deep*; *11 (long) cubits* is approximately 19.25 feet or 5.9 meters. * **40:49 40:49** LXX *and ten steps led up to it* * **41:1 41:1** *6 (long) cubits* is approximately 10.5 feet or 3.2 meters; also in verses 3, 5, and 8. † **41:1 41:1** Leningrad Codex and most Hebrew manuscripts; one Hebrew manuscript and LXX lack *the width of the tent* ‡ **41:2 41:2** *10 (long) cubits* is approximately 17.5 feet or 5.3 meters. § **41:2 41:2** *5 (long) cubits* is approximately 8.75 feet or 2.7 meters; also in verses 9, 11, and 12. * **41:2 41:2** The outer sanctuary was approximately 70 feet long and 35 feet wide (21.3 meters long and 10.7 meters wide). † **41:3 41:3** *2 (long) cubits* is approximately 3.5 feet or 1.1 meters.

wide, and the width of the entrance was seven
cubits.‡§
4 Then he measured the inner sanctuary* to
be twenty cubits long and twenty cubits wide.†
And he said to me, “This is the Holy of Holies.‡”
5 Next he measured the wall of the temple to
be six cubits thick, and the width of each side
room around the temple was four cubits.§
6 The side rooms were arranged one above
another in three levels of thirty rooms each.
There were ledges all around the wall of the
temple to serve as supports for the side rooms,
so that the supports would not be fastened into
the wall of the temple itself.
7 The side rooms surrounding the temple
widened at each successive level, because the
structure surrounding the temple ascended by
stages corresponding to the narrowing of the
temple wall as it rose upward. And so a stairway
went up from the lowest story to the highest,
through the middle one.
8 I saw that the temple had a raised base all
around it, forming the foundation of the side
rooms. It was the full length of a rod, six long
cubits.

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‡ **41:3 41:3** LXX *and the side walls of the entrance were seven cubits on each side* § **41:3 41:3** *7 (long) cubits* is approximately 12.25 feet or 3.7 meters. * **41:4 41:4** Or *the room adjacent to the inner sanctuary* † **41:4 41:4** The room was approximately 35 feet long and 35 feet wide (10.7 meters long and 10.7 meters wide). ‡ **41:4 41:4** Or *the Most Holy Place* § **41:5 41:5** *4 (long) cubits* is approximately 7 feet or 2.1 meters.

9 The outer wall of the side rooms was five
cubits thick, and the open area between the side
rooms of the temple
10 and the outer chambers was twenty cubits
wide all around the temple.
11 The side rooms opened into this area, with
one entrance on the north and another on the
south. The open area was five cubits wide all
around.
12 Now the building that faced the temple
courtyard on the west was seventy cubits wide,*
and the wall of the building was five cubits thick
all around, with a length of ninety cubits.†
13 Then he measured the temple to be a
hundred cubits long,‡ and the temple courtyard
and the building with its walls were also a
hundred cubits long.
14 The width of the temple courtyard on the
east, including the front of the temple, was a
hundred cubits.
15 Next he measured the length of the building
facing the temple courtyard at the rear of the
temple, including its galleries on each side; it
was a hundred cubits. The outer sanctuary, the
inner sanctuary, and the porticoes facing the
court,
16 as well as the thresholds and the beveled
windows and the galleries all around with their
three levels opposite the threshold, were

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* **41:12 41:12** *70 (long) cubits* is approximately 122.5 feet or 37.3 meters. † **41:12 41:12** *90 (long) cubits* is approximately 157.5 feet or 48 meters. ‡ **41:13 41:13** *100 (long) cubits* is approximately 175 feet or 53.3 meters; similarly in verses 14 and 15.

overlaid with wood on all sides. They were
paneled from the ground to the windows, and
the windows were covered.
17 In the space above the outside of the
entrance to the inner sanctuary on all the walls,
spaced evenly around the inner and outer
sanctuary,
18 were alternating carved cherubim and palm
trees. Each cherub had two faces:
19 the face of a man was toward the palm tree
on one side, and the face of a young lion was
toward the palm tree on the other side. They
were carved all the way around the temple.
20 Cherubim and palm trees were carved on
the wall of the outer sanctuary from the floor to
the space above the entrance.
21 The outer sanctuary had a rectangular
doorframe, and the doorframe of the sanctuary
was similar.
22 There was an altar of wood three cubits high
and two cubits long.§ Its corners, its length,*
and its sides were of wood. And the man told
me, “This is the table that is before the LORD.”
23 Both the outer sanctuary and the inner
sanctuary had double doors,
24 and each door had two swinging panels.
There were two panels for one door and two for
the other.
25 Cherubim and palm trees like those on the
walls were carved on the doors of the outer

§ **41:22 41:22** Or *square*; the altar was approximately 5.25 feet high and 3.5 feet long (1.6 meters high and 1.1 meters long)
* **41:22 41:22** LXX *its base*

sanctuary, and there was a wooden canopy
outside, on the front of the portico.
26 There were beveled windows and palm
trees on the sidewalls of the portico. The side
rooms of the temple also had canopies.

42

1 Then the man led me out northward into the
outer court, and he brought me to the group of
chambers opposite the temple courtyard and the
outer wall on the north side.
2 The building with the door facing north was
a hundred cubits long and fifty cubits wide.*
3 Gallery faced gallery in three levels opposite
the twenty cubits† that belonged to the inner
court and opposite the pavement that belonged
to the outer court.
4 In front of the chambers was an inner
walkway ten cubits wide and one cubit long.‡
Their doors were on the north.
5 Now the upper chambers were smaller
because the galleries took more space from the
chambers on the lower and middle floors of the
building.
6 For they were arranged in three stories, and
unlike the courts, they had no pillars. So the
upper chambers were set back further than the
lower and middle floors, from the ground up.

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* **42:2** **42:2** The building was approximately 175 feet long and 87.5 feet wide (53.3 meters long and 26.7 meters wide). † **42:3** **42:3** *20 (long) cubits* is approximately 35 feet or 10.7 meters. ‡ **42:4** **42:4** Literally *a way of one cubit*; LXX *a hundred cubits long*. The walkway was approximately 17.5 feet (5.3 meters) wide.

7 An outer wall in front of the chambers was
fifty cubits long and ran parallel to the
chambers and the outer court.
8 For the chambers on the outer court were
fifty cubits long, while those facing the temple
were a hundred cubits long.
9 And below these chambers was the entrance
on the east side as one enters them from the
outer court.
10 On the east side§ along the length of the
wall of the outer court were chambers adjoining
the courtyard and opposite the building,
11 with a passageway in front of them, just like
the chambers that were on the north. They had
the same length and width, with similar exits
and dimensions.
12 And corresponding to the doors of the
chambers that were facing south, there was a
door in front of the walkway that was parallel to
the wall extending eastward, as one enters them.
13 Then the man said to me, "The north and
south chambers facing the temple courtyard are
the holy chambers where the priests who
approach the LORD will eat the most holy
offerings. There they will place the most holy
offerings—the grain offerings, the purification
offerings, and the guilt offerings—for the place
is holy.
14 Once the priests have entered the holy area,
they must not go out into the outer court until
they have left behind the garments in which
they minister, for these are holy. They are to put

§ **42:10** **42:10** LXX *south side*

on other clothes before they approach the places
that are for the people."
15 Now when the man had finished measuring
the interior of the temple area, he led me out by
the gate that faced east, and he measured the
area all around:

16 With a measuring rod he measured the east
side to be five hundred* reeds long by the
measuring rod all around.†
17 He measured the north side to be five
hundred reeds long.
18 He measured the south side to be five
hundred reeds long.
19 And he came around and measured the
west side to be five hundred reeds long.
20 So he measured the area on all four sides. It
had a wall all around, five hundred long and
five hundred wide,‡ to separate the holy from
the common.

43

1 Then the man brought me back to the gate
that faces east,
2 and I saw the glory of the God of Israel
coming from the east. His voice was like the
roar of many waters, and the earth shone with
his glory.

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* **42:16** **42:16** Qere; Ketiv *five cubits* † **42:16** **42:16** LXX *five hundred cubits* (about 875 feet or 266.7 meters), also in verses 17–20. *500 reeds* is approximately 5,250 feet or 1,600 meters; similarly in verses 17, 18, and 19. ‡ **42:20** **42:20** The Hebrew gives no unit here; LXX *cubits*

3 The vision I saw was like the vision I had
seen when I came* to destroy the city and like
the visions I had seen by the River Kebar. I fell
facedown,
4 and the glory of the LORD entered the temple
through the gate facing east.
5 Then the spirit lifted me up and brought me
into the inner court, and the glory of the LORD
filled the temple.

6 While the man was standing beside me, I
heard someone speaking to me from inside the
temple,
7 and he said to me, "Son of man, this is the
place of my throne and the place for the soles of
my feet, where I will dwell among the Israelites
forever. The house of Israel will never again
defile my holy name—neither they nor their
kings—by their prostitution and by the funeral
offerings† for their kings on their high places.‡
8 When they placed their threshold next to my
threshold and their doorposts beside my
doorposts, with only a wall between me and
them, they defiled my holy name by the
abominations they committed. Therefore I have
consumed them in my anger.
9 Now let them remove far from me their
prostitution and the funeral offerings for their
kings, and I will dwell among them forever.

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* **43:3** **43:3** Leningrad Codex and most Hebrew manuscripts; some Hebrew manuscripts and Vulgate *when he came* † **43:7** **43:7** Or *the monuments*; also in verse 9 ‡ **43:7** **43:7** Some Hebrew manuscripts *for their kings at their deaths*

10 As for you, son of man, describe the temple
to the people of Israel, so that they may be
ashamed of their iniquities. Let them measure
the plan,
11 and if they are ashamed§ of all they have
done, then make known to them the design of
the temple—its arrangement and its exits and
entrances—its whole design along with all its
statutes, forms, and laws. Write it down in their
sight, so that they may keep its complete design
and all its statutes and may carry them out.

12 This is the law of the temple: All its
surrounding territory on top of the mountain
will be most holy. Yes, this is the law of the
temple.

13 These are the measurements of the altar in
long cubits* (a cubit and a handbreadth): Its
gutter shall be a cubit deep and a cubit wide,
with a rim of one span† around its edge.

And this is the height of the altar:
14 The space from the gutter on the ground to
the lower ledge shall be two cubits, and the
ledge one cubit wide.‡ The space from the
smaller ledge to the larger ledge shall be four

§ **43:11 43:11** LXX and Vulgate *and they will be ashamed* * **43:13 43:13** The *long cubit*, about 21 inches or 53.3 centimeters, is the basic unit for linear measurement throughout Ezekiel 40–48. † **43:13 43:13** *One span* is approximately 9 inches or 22.9 centimeters. ‡ **43:14 43:14** The space was to be approximately 3.5 feet (1.1 meters), and the ledge was to be approximately 1.75 feet wide (53.3 centimeters wide).

cubits, and the ledge one cubit wide.§

15 The altar hearth shall be four cubits high,
and four horns shall project upward from the
hearth.
16 The altar hearth shall be square at its four
corners, twelve cubits long and twelve cubits
wide.*
17 The ledge shall also be square, fourteen
cubits long and fourteen cubits wide,† with a
rim of half a cubit‡ and a gutter of a cubit all
around it. The steps of the altar shall face east."

18 Then he said to me: "Son of man, this is
what the Lord GOD says: 'These are the statutes
for the altar on the day it is constructed, so that
burnt offerings may be sacrificed on it and
blood may be splattered on it:
19 You are to give a young bull from the herd
as a purification offering to the Levitical priests
who are of the family of Zadok, who approach
me to minister before me, declares the Lord
GOD.
20 You are to take some of its blood and put it
on the four horns of the altar, on the four
corners of the ledge, and all around the rim;
thus you will cleanse the altar and make
atonement for it.

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§ **43:14 43:14** The space was to be approximately 7 feet (2.1 meters), and the ledge was to be approximately 1.75 feet wide (53.3 centimeters wide). * **43:16 43:16** *12 (long) cubits* is approximately 21 feet or 6.4 meters. † **43:17 43:17** *14 (long) cubits* is approximately 24.5 feet or 7.5 meters. ‡ **43:17 43:17** *A half cubit* is approximately 10.5 inches or 26.7 centimeters.

21 Then you are to take away the bull for the
purification offering and burn it in the
appointed part of the temple area outside the
sanctuary.
22 On the second day you are to present an
unblemished male goat as a purification
offering, and the altar is to be cleansed as it was
with the bull.
23 When you have finished the purification,
you are to present a young, unblemished bull
and an unblemished ram from the flock.
24 You must present them before the LORD;
the priests are to sprinkle salt on them and
sacrifice them as a burnt offering to the LORD.
25 For seven days you are to provide a male
goat daily for a purification offering; you are
also to provide a young bull and a ram from the
flock, both unblemished.
26 For seven days the priests are to make
atonement for the altar and cleanse it; so they
shall consecrate it.§
27 At the end of these days, from the eighth
day on, the priests are to present your burnt
offerings and peace offerings on the altar. Then I
will accept you, declares the Lord GOD.' "

44

1 The man then brought me back to the outer
gate of the sanctuary that faced east, but it was
shut.
2 And the LORD said to me, "This gate is to
remain shut. It shall not be opened, and no man

§ **43:26 43:26** Hebrew *fill its hands* (Qere); Ketiv *fill its hand*

shall enter through it, because the LORD, the
God of Israel, has entered through it. Therefore
it will remain shut.
3 Only the prince himself may sit inside the
gateway to eat in the presence of the LORD. He
must enter by way of the portico of the gateway
and go out the same way."
4 Then the man brought me to the front of the
temple by way of the north gate. I looked and
saw the glory of the LORD filling his temple, and
I fell facedown.
5 The LORD said to me: "Son of man, pay
attention; look carefully with your eyes and
listen closely with your ears to everything I tell
you concerning all the statutes and laws of the
house of the LORD. Take careful note of the
entrance to the temple, along with all the exits
of the sanctuary.
6 Tell the rebellious house of Israel that this is
what the Lord GOD says: 'I have had enough of
all your abominations, O house of Israel.
7 In addition to all your other abominations,
you brought in foreigners uncircumcised in
both heart and flesh to occupy my sanctuary;
you defiled my temple when you offered my
food—the fat and the blood; they broke my
covenant.*
8 And you have not kept charge of my holy
things, but have appointed others to keep charge
of my sanctuary for you.'
9 This is what the Lord GOD says: No foreigner
uncircumcised in heart and flesh may enter my

* **44:7 44:7** LXX, Syriac and Vulgate *you broke*

sanctuary—not even a foreigner who lives among the Israelites.

10 Surely the Levites who wandered away
from me when Israel went astray, and who
wandered away from me after their idols, will
bear the consequences of their iniquity.
11 Yet they shall be ministers in my sanctuary,
having charge of the gates of the temple and
ministering there. They shall slaughter the
burnt offerings and other sacrifices for the
people and stand before them to minister to
them.
12 Because they ministered before their idols
and became a stumbling block of iniquity to the
house of Israel, therefore I swore with an
uplifted hand concerning them that they would
bear the consequences of their iniquity, declares
the Lord GOD.
13 They must not approach me to serve me as
priests or come near any of my holy things or
the most holy things. They will bear the shame
of the abominations they have committed.
14 Yet I will appoint them to keep charge of all
the work for the temple and everything to be
done in it.
15 But the Levitical priests, who are descended
from Zadok and who kept charge of my
sanctuary when the Israelites went astray from
me, are to approach me to minister before me.
They will stand before me to offer me fat and
blood, declares the Lord GOD.
16 They alone shall enter my sanctuary and
draw near to my table to minister before me.

They will keep my charge.

17 When they enter the gates of the inner
court, they are to wear linen garments; they
must not wear anything made of wool when
they minister at the gates of the inner court or
inside the temple.
18 They are to wear linen turbans on their
heads and linen undergarments around their
waists. They must not wear anything that makes
them perspire.

19 When they go out to the outer court, to the
people, they are to take off the garments in
which they have ministered, leave them in the
holy chambers, and dress in other clothes so
that they do not transmit holiness to the people
with their garments.

20 They must not shave their heads or let their
hair grow long, but must carefully trim their
hair.
21 No priest may drink wine before he enters
the inner court.
22 And they shall not marry a widow or a
divorced woman, but must marry a virgin of the
descendants of the house of Israel, or a widow of
a priest.
23 They are to teach my people the difference
between the holy and the common and show
them how to discern between the clean and the
unclean.

24 In any dispute, they shall officiate as judges
and judge according to my ordinances. They
must keep my laws and statutes regarding all

my appointed feasts, and they must keep my Sabbaths holy.

25 A priest must not defile himself by going near a dead person. However, for a father, a mother, a son, a daughter, a brother, or an unmarried sister, he may do so,
26 and after he is cleansed, he must count off seven days for himself.
27 And on the day he goes into the sanctuary, into the inner court, to minister in the sanctuary, he must present his purification offering, declares the Lord GOD.

28 In regard to their inheritance, I am their inheritance. You are to give them no possession in Israel, for I am their possession.

29 They shall eat the grain offerings, the purification offerings, and the guilt offerings. Everything in Israel devoted to the LORD will belong to them.
30 The best of all the firstfruits and of every contribution from all your offerings will belong to the priests. You are to give your first batch of dough to the priest, so that a blessing may rest upon your homes.
31 The priests may not eat any bird or animal found dead or torn by wild beasts.

45

1 “When you divide the land by lot as an inheritance, you are to set aside a portion for the LORD, a holy portion of the land 25,000

cubits long and 10,000 cubits wide.* This entire
tract of land will be holy.
2 Within this area there is to be a section for
the sanctuary 500 cubits square,† with 50 cubits‡
around it for open land.
3 From this holy portion, you are to measure
off a length of 25,000 cubits and a width of
10,000 cubits,§ and in it will be the sanctuary, a
most holy place.
4 It will be a holy portion of the land to be
used by the priests who minister in the
sanctuary, who draw near to minister before the
LORD. It will be a place for their houses, as well
as a holy area for the sanctuary.
5 An adjacent area 25,000 cubits long and
10,000 cubits wide shall belong to the Levites
who minister in the temple; it will be their
possession: twenty chambers.*
6 As the property of the city, you are to set
aside an area 5,000 cubits wide and 25,000
cubits long,† adjacent to the holy district. It will
belong to the whole house of Israel.

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* **45:1 45:1** LXX *20,000 cubits wide*; see also verses 3 and 5 and Ezekiel 48:9. The portion was to be approximately 8.3 miles long and 3.3 miles wide (13.3 kilometers long and 5.3 kilometers wide). † **45:2 45:2** *500 (long) cubits* is approximately 875 feet or 266.7 meters. ‡ **45:2 45:2** *50 (long) cubits* is approximately 87.5 feet or 26.7 meters. § **45:3 45:3** The portion was to be approximately 8.3 miles long and 3.3 miles wide (13.3 kilometers long and 5.3 kilometers wide); similarly in verse 5. * **45:5 45:5** LXX *their possession for towns in which to live* † **45:6 45:6** The property of the city was to be approximately 1.7 miles wide and 8.3 miles long (2.7 kilometers wide and 13.3 kilometers long).

7 Now the prince will have the area bordering
each side of the area formed by the holy district
and the property of the city, extending westward
from the western side and eastward from the
eastern side, running lengthwise from the
western boundary to the eastern boundary and
parallel to one of the tribal portions.
8 This land will be his possession in Israel.
And my princes will no longer oppress my
people, but will give the rest of the land to the
house of Israel according to their tribes.
9 For this is what the Lord GOD says: 'Enough,
O princes of Israel! Cease your violence and
oppression, and do what is just and right. Stop
dispossessing my people, declares the Lord GOD.'
10 You must use honest scales, a just ephah,‡
and a just bath.§
11 The ephah and the bath shall be the same
quantity so that the bath will contain a tenth of
a homer, and the ephah a tenth of a homer; the
homer will be the standard measure for both.*
12 The shekel will consist of twenty gerahs.†
Twenty shekels plus twenty-five shekels plus
fifteen shekels will equal one mina.‡

‡ **45:10 45:10** *An ephah* is a dry measure of approximately 20 dry quarts or 22 liters. § **45:10 45:10** *A bath* was a liquid measure of approximately 5.8 gallons or 22 liters. * **45:11 45:11** *A homer* was a dry measure of approximately 6.24 bushels or 220 liters; also in verses 13 and 14. † **45:12 45:12** *20 gerahs* is equivalent to one shekel (approximately 0.4 ounces or 11.4 grams). ‡ **45:12 45:12** That is, 60 shekels total; elsewhere, the common mina was 50 shekels. Sixty shekels weighed approximately 1.5 pounds or 683.8 grams.

13 This is the contribution you are to offer: a
sixth of an ephah from each homer of wheat,
and a sixth of an ephah from each homer of
barley.§
14 The prescribed portion of oil, measured by
the bath, is a tenth of a bath from each cor* (a
cor consists of ten baths or one homer, since ten
baths are equivalent to a homer).
15 And one sheep shall be given from each
flock of two hundred from the well-watered
pastures of Israel. These are for the grain
offerings, burnt offerings, and peace offerings,
to make atonement for the people, declares the
Lord GOD.
16 All the people of the land must participate
in this contribution for the prince in Israel.
17 And it shall be the prince's part to provide
the burnt offerings, grain offerings, and drink
offerings for the feasts, New Moons, and
Sabbaths—for all the appointed feasts of the
house of Israel. He will provide the purification
offerings,† grain offerings, burnt offerings, and
peace offerings to make atonement for the
house of Israel.
18 This is what the Lord GOD says: 'On the first
day of the first month you are to take a young
bull without blemish and purify the sanctuary.

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§ **45:13 45:13** That is, a sixtieth of the harvest of wheat and of barley; *a sixth of an ephah* was approximately 3.3 dry quarts or 3.7 liters. * **45:14 45:14** That is, one percent of one's oil; *a tenth of a bath* was approximately 2.3 quarts or 2.2 liters. † **45:17 45:17** Or *sin offerings*; also in verses 19, 22, 23, and 25

19 And the priest is to take some of the blood
from the purification offering and put it on the
doorposts of the temple, on the four corners of
the ledge of the altar, and on the gateposts of the
inner court.
20 You must do the same thing on the seventh
day of the month for anyone who strays
unintentionally or in ignorance. In this way you
will make atonement for the temple.

21 On the fourteenth day of the first month you
are to observe the Passover, a feast of seven
days, during which unleavened bread shall be
eaten.
22 On that day the prince shall provide a bull
as a purification offering for himself and for all
the people of the land.
23 Each day during the seven days of the feast,
he shall provide seven bulls and seven rams
without blemish as a burnt offering to the LORD,
along with a male goat for a purification
offering.
24 He shall also provide as a grain offering an
ephah for each bull and an ephah for each ram,
along with a hin of olive oil for each ephah of
grain.‡
25 During the seven days of the feast that
begins on the fifteenth day of the seventh

‡ **45:24 45:24** Literally *a hin of oil for each ephah*; that is, approximately 0.97 gallons or 3.67 liters of oil for each ephah of grain

month,§ he is to make the same provision for purification offerings, burnt offerings, grain offerings, and oil.'

46

1 "This is what the Lord GOD says: 'The gate of the inner court that faces east must be kept shut during the six days of work, but on the Sabbath day and on the day of the New Moon it shall be opened.

2 The prince is to enter from the outside through the portico of the gateway and stand by the gatepost, while the priests sacrifice his burnt offerings and peace offerings. He is to bow in worship at the threshold of the gate and then depart, but the gate must not be shut until evening.

3 On the Sabbaths and New Moons the people of the land are also to bow in worship before the LORD at the entrance to that gateway.

4 The burnt offering that the prince presents to the LORD on the Sabbath day shall be six unblemished male lambs and an unblemished ram.

5 The grain offering with the ram shall be one ephah,* and the grain offering with the lambs

§ **45:25 45:25** That is, Sukkot, the autumn feast of pilgrimage to Jerusalem; also translated as *the Feast of Tabernacles* or *the Feast of Shelters* and originally called *the Feast of Ingathering* (see Exodus 23:16 and Exodus 34:22). * **46:5 46:5** *An ephah* is approximately 20 dry quarts or 22 liters (probably about 38.3 pounds or 17.4 kilograms of grain); also in verses 7 and 11.

shall be as much as he is able, along with a hin
of oil per ephah.
6 On the day of the New Moon he shall offer a
young, unblemished bull, six lambs, and a ram
without blemish.
7 He is to provide a grain offering of an ephah
with the bull, an ephah with the ram, and as
much as he is able with the lambs, along with a
hin of oil per ephah.
8 When the prince enters, he shall go in
through the portico of the gateway, and he shall
go out the same way.
9 When the people of the land come before the
LORD at the appointed feasts, whoever enters by
the north gate to worship must go out by the
south gate, and whoever enters by the south
gate must go out by the north gate. No one is to
return through the gate by which he entered,
but each must go out† by the opposite gate.
10 When the people enter, the prince shall go in
with them, and when they leave, he shall leave.
11 At the festivals and appointed feasts, the
grain offering shall be an ephah with a bull, an
ephah with a ram, and as much as one is able to
give with the lambs, along with a hin of oil per
ephah.
12 When the prince makes a freewill offering
to the LORD, whether a burnt offering or a peace
offering, the gate facing east must be opened for
him. He is to offer his burnt offering or peace
offering just as he does on the Sabbath day.

† **46:9 46:9** Qere; Ketiv *they must go out*

Then he shall go out, and the gate must be
closed after he goes out.
13 And you shall provide an unblemished
year-old lamb as a daily burnt offering to the
LORD; you are to offer it every morning.
14 You are also to provide with it every
morning a grain offering of a sixth of an ephah‡
with a third of a hin of oil§ to moisten the fine
flour—a grain offering to the LORD. This is a
permanent statute.
15 Thus they shall provide the lamb, the grain
offering, and the oil every morning as a regular
burnt offering.'
16 This is what the Lord GOD says: 'If the
prince gives a gift to any of his sons as an
inheritance, it will belong to his descendants. It
will become their property by inheritance.
17 But if he gives a gift from his inheritance to
one of his servants, it will belong to that servant
until the year of freedom; then it will revert to
the prince. His inheritance belongs only to his
sons; it shall be theirs.
18 The prince must not take any of the
inheritance of the people by evicting them from
their property. He is to provide an inheritance
for his sons from his own property, so that none
of my people will be displaced from his
property.' "

‡ **46:14 46:14** *A sixth of an ephah* is approximately 3.3 dry quarts or 3.7 liters (probably about 4.2 pounds or 1.9 kilograms of flour).

§ **46:14 46:14** Or *a third of a hin of olive oil*; that is, approximately 1.3 quarts or 1.2 liters

19 Then the man brought me through the
entrance at the side of the gate into the holy
chambers facing north, which belonged to the
priests, and he showed me a place there at the
far western end
20 and said to me, “This is the place where the
priests shall boil the guilt offering and the
purification offering, and where they shall bake
the grain offering, so that they do not bring
them into the outer court and transmit holiness
to the people.”
21 Then he brought me into the outer court
and led me around to its four corners, and I saw
a separate court in each of its corners.
22 In the four corners of the outer court there
were enclosed courts, each forty cubits long and
thirty cubits wide.* Each of the four corner
areas had the same dimensions.
23 Around the inside of each of the four courts
was a row of masonry with ovens built at the
base of the walls on all sides.
24 And he said to me, “These are the kitchens
where those who minister at the temple will
cook the sacrifices offered by the people.”

47

1 Then the man brought me back to the
entrance of the temple, and I saw water flowing
from under the threshold of the temple toward
the east (for the temple faced east). The water

* **46:22 46:22** The enclosed courts were approximately 70 feet long and 52.5 feet wide (21.3 meters long and 16 meters wide).

was coming down from under the south side of
the temple, south of the altar.
2 Next he brought me out through the north
gate and led me around the outside to the outer
gate facing east, and there I saw the water
trickling out from the south side.
3 As the man went eastward with a measuring
line in his hand, he measured off a thousand
cubits* and led me through ankle-deep water.
4 Then he measured off a thousand cubits and
led me through knee-deep water.
Again he measured a thousand cubits and led
me through waist-deep water.
5 Once again he measured off a thousand
cubits, but now it was a river that I could not
cross, because the water had risen and was deep
enough for swimming—a river that could not be
crossed on foot.
6 "Son of man, do you see this?" he asked.
Then he led me back to the bank of the river.
7 When I arrived, I saw a great number of
trees along both banks of the river.
8 And he said to me, "This water flows out to
the eastern region and goes down into the
Arabah. When it empties into the Dead Sea,† the
water there becomes fresh.‡
9 Wherever the two rivers flow,§ there will be
swarms of living creatures and a great number
of fish, because it flows there and makes the

* **47:3 47:3** *1,000 (long) cubits* is approximately 1,750 feet or 533.4 meters. † **47:8 47:8** Literally *the Sea* ‡ **47:8 47:8** Hebrew *is healed*; similarly in verses 9 and 11 § **47:9 47:9** LXX and Syriac *the river*

waters fresh; so wherever the river flows,
everything will flourish.
10 Fishermen will stand by the shore; from
En-gedi to En-eglaim they will spread their nets
to catch fish of many kinds, like the fish of the
Great Sea.*
11 But the swamps and marshes will not
become fresh; they will be left for salt.
12 Along both banks of the river, fruit trees of
all kinds will grow. Their leaves will not wither,
and their fruit will not fail. Each month they
will bear fruit, because the water from the
sanctuary flows to them. Their fruit will be used
for food and their leaves for healing."
13 This is what the Lord GOD says: "These are
the boundaries by which you are to divide the
land as an inheritance among the twelve tribes
of Israel; Joseph shall receive two portions.†
14 You are to divide it equally among them.
Because I swore with an uplifted hand to give it
to your forefathers, this land will fall to you as
an inheritance.
15 This shall be the boundary of the land:

On the north side it will extend from the Great
Sea by way of Hethlon through Lebo to
Zedad,
16 Hamath, Berothah, and Sibraim‡ (which is
on the border between Damascus and Hamath),

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* **47:10 47:10** That is, the Mediterranean Sea; also in verses 15, 19, and 20 † **47:13 47:13** Since Levi had no portion, Joseph's sons Ephraim and Manasseh received land as two tribes. ‡ **47:16 47:16** LXX *(15)...through Lebo-hamath to Zedad, (16) Berothah, and Sibraim*

as far as Hazer-hatticon, which is on the border
of Hauran.
17 So the border will run from the Sea to
Hazar-enan, along the northern border of
Damascus, with the territory of Hamath to the
north. This will be the northern boundary.
18 On the east side the border will run
between Hauran and Damascus, along the
Jordan between Gilead and the land of
Israel. From the border to the Eastern Sea
you are to measure.§ This will be the
eastern boundary.
19 On the south side it will run from Tamar to
the waters of Meribath-kadesh, and along
the Brook* to the Great Sea. This will be the
southern boundary.
20 And on the west side, the Great Sea will be
the boundary up to a point opposite
Lebo-hamath. This will be the western
boundary.
21 You are to divide this land among
yourselves according to the tribes of Israel.
22 You shall allot it as an inheritance for
yourselves and for the foreigners who dwell
among you and who have children. You are to
treat them as native-born Israelites; along with
you, they shall be allotted an inheritance among
the tribes of Israel.
23 In whatever tribe a foreigner dwells, you
are to assign his inheritance there," declares the
Lord GOD.

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§ **47:18 47:18** Syriac *to the Eastern Sea and as far as Tamar*

* **47:19 47:19** That is, the Brook of Egypt

48

1 “Now these are the names of the tribes:

At the northern frontier, Dan will have one
portion bordering the road of Hethlon to
Lebo-hamath and running on to Hazar-enan
on the border of Damascus with Hamath to
the north, and extending from the east side
to the west side.
2 Asher will have one portion bordering the
territory of Dan from east to west.
3 Naphtali will have one portion bordering the
territory of Asher from east to west.
4 Manasseh will have one portion bordering
the territory of Naphtali from east to west.
5 Ephraim will have one portion bordering the
territory of Manasseh from east to west.
6 Reuben will have one portion bordering the
territory of Ephraim from east to west.
7 Judah will have one portion bordering the
territory of Reuben from east to west.
8 Bordering the territory of Judah, from east to
west, will be the portion you are to set apart. It
will be 25,000 cubits wide,* and the length of a
tribal portion from east to west. In the center
will be the sanctuary.
9 The special portion you set apart to the LORD
shall be 25,000 cubits long and 10,000 cubits
wide.†

* **48:8 48:8** *25,000 (long) cubits* is approximately 8.3 miles or 13.3 kilometers; also in verses 9, 10, 13, 15, 20, and 21. † **48:9 48:9** *10,000 (long) cubits* is approximately 3.3 miles or 5.3 kilometers; also in verses 10, 13, and 18.

10 This will be the holy portion for the priests.
It will be 25,000 cubits long on the north side,
10,000 cubits wide on the west side, 10,000
cubits wide on the east side, and 25,000 cubits
long on the south side. In the center will be the
sanctuary of the LORD.
11 It will be for the consecrated priests, the
descendants of Zadok, who kept my charge and
did not go astray as the Levites did when the
Israelites went astray.
12 It will be a special portion for them set
apart from the land, a most holy portion‡
adjacent to the territory of the Levites.
13 Bordering the territory of the priests, the
Levites shall have an area 25,000 cubits long and
10,000 cubits wide. The whole length will be
25,000 cubits, and the width 10,000 cubits.
14 They must not sell or exchange any of it,
and they must not transfer this best part of the
land, for it is holy to the LORD.
15 The remaining area, 5,000 cubits§ wide and
25,000 cubits long, will be for common use by
the city, for houses, and for pastureland. The
city will be in the center of it
16 and will have these measurements: 4,500
cubits* on the north side, 4,500† cubits on the
south side, 4,500 cubits on the east side, and
4,500 cubits on the west side.

‡ **48:12 48:12** Or *a Most Holy Place* § **48:15 48:15** *5,000 (long) cubits* is approximately 1.7 miles or 2.7 kilometers. * **48:16 48:16** *4,500 (long) cubits* is approximately 1.5 miles or 2.4 kilometers; also in verses 30, 32, 33, and 34. † **48:16 48:16** Ketiv adds *five*, not read

17 The pastureland of the city will extend 250
cubits‡ to the north, 250 cubits to the south, 250
cubits to the east, and 250 cubits to the west.
18 The remainder of the length bordering the
holy portion and running adjacent to it will be
10,000 cubits on the east side and 10,000 cubits
on the west side. Its produce will supply food for
the workers of the city.
19 The workers of the city who cultivate it will
come from all the tribes of Israel.
20 The entire portion will be a square, 25,000
cubits by 25,000 cubits. You are to set apart the
holy portion, along with the city property.
21 The remaining area on both sides of the
holy portion and of the property of the city will
belong to the prince. He will own the land
adjacent to the tribal portions, extending
eastward from the 25,000 cubits of the holy
district toward the eastern border, and
westward from the 25,000 cubits to the western
border. And in the center of them will be the
holy portion and the sanctuary of the temple.
22 So the Levitical property and the city
property will lie in the center of the area
belonging to the prince—the area between the
borders of Judah and Benjamin.
23 As for the rest of the tribes:

Benjamin will have one portion extending
from the east side to the west side.
24 Simeon will have one portion bordering the
territory of Benjamin from east to west.

‡ **48:17 48:17** *250 (long) cubits* is approximately 437.5 feet or 133.4 meters.

25 Issachar will have one portion bordering
the territory of Simeon from east to west.
26 Zebulun will have one portion bordering
the territory of Issachar from east to west.
27 And Gad will have one portion bordering
the territory of Zebulun from east to west.

28 The southern border of Gad will run from
Tamar to the waters of Meribath-kadesh, then
along the Brook§ and out to the Great Sea.*
29 This is the land you are to allot as an
inheritance to the tribes of Israel, and these will
be their portions," declares the Lord GOD.

30 "These will be the exits of the city:

Beginning on the north side, which will be
4,500 cubits long,
31 the gates of the city will be named after the
tribes of Israel. On the north side there will be
three gates: the gate of Reuben, the gate of
Judah, and the gate of Levi.
32 On the east side, which will be 4,500 cubits
long, there will be three gates: the gate of
Joseph, the gate of Benjamin, and the gate of
Dan.
33 On the south side, which will be 4,500 cubits
long, there will be three gates: the gate of
Simeon, the gate of Issachar, and the gate of
Zebulun.
34 And on the west side, which will be 4,500
cubits long, there will be three gates: the

§ **48:28 48:28** That is, the Brook of Egypt * **48:28 48:28** That is, the Mediterranean Sea

gate of Gad, the gate of Asher, and the gate
of Naphtali.
35 The perimeter of the city will be 18,000
cubits,† and from that day on the name of the
city will be:
THE LORD IS THERE.‡”

† **48:35 48:35** *18,000 (long) cubits* is approximately 6 miles or 9.6 kilometers. ‡ **48:35 48:35** Hebrew *YHWH Shammah*

Masoretic English Tanakh

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