

## TYRE AND SIDON IN PROPHECY

George Tabac - March 1998

In our study today we will see how Tyre and Sidon in prophecy refers to the mother and daughter systems of Babylon. Tyre picturing Papacy, and Sidon the nominal Protestant Churches.

As we consider these prophecies we want to state from the offset that they are not referring to the good honest and sincere individuals of these systems, but to the systems and their teachings from an overall standpoint.

Their teachings of errors instigated by Satan have terribly misrepresented God's word and his loving character.

Instead of proclaiming God's wondrous plan to bless all mankind in His kingdom, they have portrayed Him as a god who will torture billions upon billions of human beings in everlasting flames of Hell fire for all eternity.

Thus as we proceed we will understand why the language of scripture at times is rather strong in it's denunciations of these systems who were misled and continue to be directed by the Adversary.

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<p>MAP OF TYRE AND SIDON Atlas of Bible Lands Page 26</p>
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Tyre and Sidon were literally sister cities 20 miles apart, just North of Israel on the Mediterranean Sea. They were the two main cities of Phoenicia, Tyre was about 30 miles north of Nazareth. In Matthew 15:21 were told that Jesus visited both Tyre and Sidon.

The people of both cities were Canaanites. They worshipped the same idol God, BAAL, and the Goddess of fertility Ashtoreth. Together it resulted in depraved worship which influenced Israel and the nations around them.

Tyre was a great sea trading power with ships going to countless nations throughout the world. There were two portions to the city. One part was on the mainland, and a 2<sup>nd</sup> part was on an Island offshore.

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This brings us to the scripture that helps us identify who Tyre represents.

Ezek. 28:12-19 is a prophecy about Satan who is referred to as the **KING OF TYRE**.

<p><b>Ezek 28:12-19 NAS</b></p>
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<p>"Son of man, take up a lamentation over the <b>KING OF TYRE</b>, and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, You had the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in <b>EDEN</b>, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering,...</p>
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<p>On the day that you were created they were prepared. You were the anointed cherub who covers, and I placed you there... You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created, until unrighteousness was found in you... therefore I have cast you as profane from the mountain of God... and you shall be no more.</p>
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We see this is referring to Satan who was covering Cherub in the garden of Eden. But note in addition he is referred to as the **King of Tyre**

Having Satan identified with being the **King of Tyre** lays the groundwork for understanding that Tyre represents Papacy. For truly it is his master of piece of error over which he reigns as King.

In this scripture we see Satan is **King** of Tyre or Papacy. In our next scripture we will see how the **Princes** of Tyre refer to the Popes, who claim to be, as if they were God on earth.

But first let's read from a Catholic book how Papacy views the Pope.

**Ferraris' Roman Catholic Ecclesiastical Dictionary:**

"The Pope is of such dignity and highness that he is not simply a man but, as it were, God, and the vicar (representative) of God....Hence the pope is crowned with a triple crown, as king of heaven, of earth and of hell. Nay, the pope's excellence and power are not only about heavenly, terrestrial and infernal things, but he is also above angels, and is their superior; so that if it were possible that angels could err from the faith, or entertain sentiments contrary thereto, they could be judged and excommunicated by the pope....

He is of such great dignity and power that he occupies one and the same tribunal with Christ; so that whatsoever the pope does seems to proceed from the mouth of God....The pope is, as it were, God on earth, the only prince of the faithful of Christ, the greatest king of all kings possessing the plenitude of power; to whom the government of the earthly and heavenly kingdom is entrusted."

Now let's see how biblical prophecy responds to Papacy's boastful claims.

**Ezek 28:1-9**

The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying, Son of man, say unto **the prince of Tyre**, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thine heart is lifted up, and thou hast said, **I am a God, I sit in the seat of God**, in the midst of the seas; yet thou art a man, and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God,...

With thy wisdom and with thine understanding thou hast gotten thee riches, and hast gotten gold and silver into thy treasures. By thy great wisdom and by thy traffick hast thou increased thy riches, and thine heart is lifted up because of thy riches. Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; **Because thou hast set thine heart as the heart of God;**

Behold, therefore I will bring strangers upon thee, ...and they shall defile thy brightness. They shall bring thee down to the pit, and thou shalt die the deaths of them that are slain in the midst of the seas. Wilt thou yet say before him that slayeth thee, **I am God?** but thou shalt be a man, and no God, in the hand of him that slayeth thee.

Here we can easily see that it is the office of the Pope who is referred to in symbol as the **Prince of Tyre**. For no one else of mankind makes this claim for themselves, even as we read from the Catholic dictionary.

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Continuing we find the word **Tyre** means = a rock. Again pointing to the Papal Church. We read in Matt.16:15-18:

**Matt 16:15-18**

He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God...And Jesus answered and said unto him, That thou art Peter, and upon this **rock** I will build my church

What Jesus meant when he said “upon **this rock** I will build my church,” was the statement Peter made, “Thou art the Christ the son of the living God.” Christ was the **foundation rock** upon whom the church would be built.

Papacy however claims the rock was Peter who they believe was their first pope, and each successive Pope is a rock upon which the church is built.

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Continuing our study we want to recall the time Ahab king of Israel married Jezebel, and how this in turn was a picture of the illicit union of the church joining together with civil governments.

It is for this reason that the false church is often referred to in symbolic prophecy as being a **Harlot**. For the true church was to be a chaste virgin espoused to Christ.

But the false church instead symbolically committed harlotry, by seducing civil governments to join together with her to accomplish her purposes.

We read of Jezebel as a picture of Papacy committing adultery, in God’s message to the church of Thyatira.

**Rev 2:20-23**

But I have this against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess and is teaching and beguiling my servants to practice immorality and to eat food sacrificed to idols. I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to repent of her immorality. Behold, I will throw her on a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her I will throw into great tribulation, unless they repent of her doings.

Now notice how the picture of Jezebel ties in with our parallel prophecies of Tyre.

**In 1 Kings 16:31 we are told Jezebel was the daughter of Ethbaal,**

- ◆ Ethbaal was a priest of Baal.
- ◆ He murdered his own father who was the King of Tyre.
- ◆ He then succeeded his father as King over Tyre
- ◆ Thus Jezebel's father Ethbaal became King of Tyre and Sidon.

Earlier we saw in Ezek. 28 that Satan was referred to as the King of Tyre.

**Thus in symbol the false church pictured by Jezebel had as her father (or life giver) the King of Tyre, - who pictured Satan.**

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As we continue in our study we will find many scriptures which mention **both Tyre and Sidon together**. The reason being is because they symbolize the two divisions of Babylon that are often linked together.

**That is, = Tyre pictures Papacy and Sidon pictures Protestantism.**

These two divisions of Babylon are referred to in Revelation 17, as Papacy being the Mother and her daughters being Protestantism.

**Rev 17:1-5**

Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters, **with whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication**, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication...

And upon her forehead was a name written, **MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH**. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.

THE GREAT WHORE SITTING UPON MANY WATERS = Pictures Papacy supported by many people and nations.

SHECOMMITTED FORNICATION WITH KINGS = Illicit union of Church and State

MOTHER OF HARLOTS (PLURAL) = Papacy was the mother system, - The Protestant churches are the daughters, - who similarly committed adultery when they joined with the Kings or civil leaders of nations.

We mention this scripture of the mother-daughter relationship of Christendom, for the purpose of seeing the similar parallel picture shown in the prophecies of Tyre and Sidon.

Tyre symbolizes the mother system papacy, while it's companion city Sidon which was nearly identical in it's people, -worship, - and customs, = pictures the daughter systems of Protestantism.

As we continue we will notice the combination of these two cities mentioned together in many prophecies, for as we have studied in the past, they are similar in makeup and purpose, and will unite together prior to the culmination of this present evil order.

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Let's consider Sidon for a moment. Sidon means FISHERY! How appropriate! For Jesus told us, to be fishers of men. Meaning we were to be God's ambassadors to call out a consecrated people for his name.

However we see the goal of Protestantism in being fishers of men, is to try and save as many as possible from being tortured for all eternity in a hell of burning fire.

As we continue we will shortly consider prophecies about the fall of Tyre, of the fall of Tyre and Sidon together, and now a prophecy of the fall of Sidon.

Notice this next prophecy must be symbolic, for the judgment against Sidon who was literally destroyed long ago, takes place after Israel has been regathered from the nations.

Ezek 28:20-26 (NAS)  
20 And the word of the LORD came to me saying, "Son of man, set your face toward **Sidon**, prophesy against her, and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "**Behold, I am**

**against you, O Sidon...** I shall send pestilence to her and blood to her streets...then they will know that I am the LORD

"And there will be no more for the house of Israel a **prickling brier or a painful thorn** from any round about them who **scorned them**; then they will know that I am the Lord GOD."

'Thus says the Lord GOD, "**When I gather the house of Israel from the peoples among whom they are scattered**, and shall manifest My holiness in them in the sight of the nations, then they will live in their land which I gave to My servant Jacob... when I **execute judgments upon all who scorn** them round about them.

Thus we see that God's judgments will come on Protestantism in the form of pestilence or plagues, because they were as thorns and briars who scorned both natural Israel, as well as God's true church members.

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Jesus spoke of Tyre and Sidon together in:

**Matt 11:21-22**

Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in **Tyre and Sidon**, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for **Tyre and Sidon** at the day of judgment, than for you.

We believe we can gain two lessons from this scripture.

First it will be more tolerable in the kingdom for the literal cities of Tyre and Sidon, even though they practiced degraded worship, - than it will be for the literal cities of Chorazin and Bethsaida.

But in addition we believe it will be more tolerable for symbolic Tyre and Sidon as well.

That is it will be more tolerable for the sincere people of the nominal church systems who were blinded, than it will be for the people of Chorazin and Bethsaida.

For Chorazin and Bethsaida had the privilege of actually seeing Jesus perform miracles and hearing his teachings as never man taught, yet because of hardness of heart refused to accept him. The principal is true:

**Luke 12:48**

For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required.

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Next we would like to briefly review some of the hi-lights of Revelation 18 to see how much our next prophecy of Ezekiel 27 parallels it.

You recall Revelation 18 begins by telling us Babylon, (that is the false churches of Papacy and Protestantism,) was fallen or cast out of favor because the kings of the earth had committed fornication with her. Referring not necessarily to crowned Kings but those in political power who have made cooperative agreements with Babylon.

Babylon then boastfully claims, I sit a queen, and am no widow, therefore we're told plaques will come in one day and destroy her.

The kings lament when they see the smoke of her burning. Also all the merchants of the earth, the ship masters and sailors who became rich by her, will weep and mourn over her, because no one wants to buy their merchandise any more of gold, silver, precious stones, pearls, ivory and all other kinds of commodities.

Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.

The end result of Babylon's destruction will be that everyone who had benefited from Babylon's existence will weep. For whether they were priests, clergy, civil leaders, or powerful business interests, the source of their luxurious revenue will be no more.

Countless numbers of these so called kings and merchants have been enriched, but at the expense and impoverishment of the poorer mass's in the nations these systems have had influence over.

Now notice a very similar parallel passage in Ezekiel 27 only now under the symbol of Tyre. Notice how Tyre's builders used resources from many other nations.

**Ezek 27:1-7 NAS**

Moreover, the word of the LORD came to me saying, "And you, son of man, take up a lamentation over Tyre, and say to Tyre, who dwells at the entrance to the sea, **merchant of the peoples to many coastlands**, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "O Tyre, you have said, **'I am perfect in beauty.'**

"Your borders are in the heart of the seas; **your builders have perfected your beauty.** "They have made all your planks of fir trees from Senir; they have taken a cedar from Lebanon to make a mast for you. "Of oaks from Bashan they have made your oars; with ivory they have inlaid your deck of boxwood from the coastlands of Cyprus. Your sail was of fine embroidered linen from Egypt so that it became your distinguishing mark; your awning was blue and purple from the coastlands of Elishah.

The system is merchant to people of many coastlands. She has brought her teachings to all the Christian nations, proudly announcing **'I am perfect in beauty.'**

**"Your builders have perfected your beauty =** Notice HOW? Papacies builders used resources from all the other nations.

**Ezek. 27:8-10 NAS**

"The inhabitants of **Sidon... were your rowers**; ..."The elders of Gebal and her wise men were with you repairing your seams; **all the ships of the sea and their sailors were with you in order to deal in your merchandise.** "Persia and Lud and Put were in your army, your men of war. They hung shield and helmet in you; they **set forth your splendor.**

"The inhabitants of Sidon were your rowers. = Protestantism will help to power or propel Papacy. All those dealing in merchandising Babylon or putting forth it's teachings, set forth her splendor.

What follows in verses 11-25 is describing 20 nations who traded with Tyre mentioning every form of luxurious merchandise imaginable which enriched the system. Then we read in verse 26.

**Ezek. 27:26-31 NAS**

**The east wind has broken you** in the heart of the seas. "Your wealth, your wares, your merchandise, your sailors,...your dealers in merchandise,... will fall into the heart of the seas on the day of your overthrow...And they will make their voice heard over you and will cry bitterly. They will cast dust on their heads, they will wallow in ashes...they will gird themselves with sackcloth; and they will weep for you in bitterness of soul with bitter mourning.

**The east wind has broken you** = Yes the wind or trouble caused by the Kings of the East, that is our Lord with his glorified true church will break or destroy the system. Then all will mourn who were her teachers or had dealings with her.

**Ezek. 27: 32-36 NAS**

"Moreover, in their wailing they will take up a lamentation for you and lament over you: 'Who is like Tyre? 'When your wares went out from the seas, you satisfied many peoples; with the abundance of your wealth and your merchandise you enriched the kings of earth.

'Now that you are broken by the seas in the depths of the waters, your merchandise and all your company have fallen in the midst of you. 'All the inhabitants of the coastlands are appalled at you, and their kings are horribly afraid; they are troubled in countenance. 'The merchants among the peoples hiss at you; you have become terrified, and **you will be no more.**'

The fall of Babylon will be a surprising shock to all, and will bring fear into the hearts of the kings or political leaders of earth, for the false church will be no more.

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The next scripture we would like to consider has to do with Elijah during the 3 ½ years in which there was no rain, picturing the 1260 years of Papal reign when the true church fled into the wilderness.

You recall Elijah was fed for a time by ravens. Then God told him in:

**I King 17:9-12 NAS**

9 "Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and stay there; behold, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you."

10 So he arose and went to Zarephath, and when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks; and he called to her and said, "Please get me a little water in a jar, that I may drink."

11 And as she was going to get {it,} he called to her and said, "Please bring me a piece of bread in your hand."

12 But she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have no bread, only a handful of flour in the bowl and a little oil in the jar; and behold, I am gathering a few sticks that I may go in and prepare for me and my son, that we may eat it and die."

You remember the rest of the story. Because of her faith in sharing her last meal with Elijah, her flour and oil did not diminish for the entire length of the drought.

Now what we want to note is where the widow lived. In Zarephath.

**Map of Zarephath between Tyre and Sidon**  
Page 15 - Atlas of the Bible Lands

Notice it is between the cities of Tyre and Sidon.

Now notice what Jesus said about this incident, in:

**Luke 4:25-26 NAS**  
25 "But I say to you in truth, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the sky was shut up for three years and six months, when a great famine came over all the land;  
26 and yet Elijah was sent to none of them, but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow.

Jesus is calling to our attention there was a reason for Elijah bypassing all the widows in Isarel and instead going outside Israel to Zarephath. WHY?

**Map of Zarephath between Tyre and Sidon**  
Page 15 - Atlas of the Bible Lands

Elijah we realize pictured the true church going into the wilderness condition during the 1260 years of Papacies reign from 539 AD to 1799 AD. It was a time of 3 ½ years of no rain picturing the 1260 years of drought for spiritual truth.

Why was he sent outside Israel to Zarephath? To show us how the true church had to go outside the nominal church systems in order to be fed spiritually.

Notice how this is similarly shown when we see Zarephath's location is not only outside Israel, but in addition it is outside the cities of Tyre and Sidon which pictured the nominal church systems. Yet at the same time they were geographically close to them with their being on either side of them.

Another lesson we can gain from this is how God can take care of his children. Sometimes by others of his children, sometimes by ravens, sometimes as in this picture by a widow not in covenant relationship with God.

Not only was Elijah blessed by being fed by this widow, but she and her son were blessed as well. Later her son was actually raised from the dead by Elijah. I think this shows us how God appreciates those of mankind who are not in covenant relationship with him, but have good hearts and are motivated to help one of his people. They will be blessed accordingly.

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Another prophecy about Tyre's great wealth is in:

**Zech 9:2-4 (NAS)**  
Tyre and Sidon, though they are very wise, for Tyre built herself a fortress And piled up silver like dust, and gold like the mire of the streets. Behold, the Lord will dispossess her and cast her wealth into the sea; and she will be consumed with fire.



Tyre and Sidon, built a great fortress or religious system who's wealth is so great it's likened to her silver being like dust, and her gold like the dirt of the streets. But God will cast all her wealth into the sea of restless humanity, and she will be consumed.

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Our next prophecy is found in Isa. 23.

**Isa. 23:1-14**

The burden of Tyre. Howl, ye ships of Tarshish; for it is **laid waste**,... howl, ye inhabitants of the isle. Is this your joyous city, whose antiquity is of ancient days?...Who hath taken this counsel against Tyre, the crowning city, **whose merchants are princes, whose traffickers are the honourable of the earth?**

The LORD of hosts hath purposed it, to stain the pride of all glory, and to bring into contempt all the honourable of the earth...He stretched out his hand over the sea, he shook the kingdoms: the LORD hath given a commandment against the merchant city, to destroy the strong holds thereof. And he said, Thou shalt no more rejoice,... also shalt thou have no rest...(14) Howl, ye ships of Tarshish: for your strength is **laid waste**.

These highlights of the first 14 verses of Isaiah 23 describe a mighty humbling blow that comes to Tyre. We believe this refers to the events associated with the French revolution, which ended the 1260 years of Papacy's reign in 1799.

The New American Standard translation says "Tyre is destroyed" in verse one and 14, but this is an incorrect thought. The meaning of the Hebrew word is "laid waste, or savaged" as the King James has it, as well as Rotherham.

In addition we see it can't mean destroyed for notice in verses 15 to 17 to follow, it goes on to describe how Tyre after being savaged, would then be forgotten for 70 years, after which she would resume her harlotry.

**Isa. 23:14-17**

Howl, ye ships of Tarshish: for your strength is **laid waste**. (15) And it shall come to pass **in that day**, that **Tyre shall be forgotten seventy years**, according to the days of one king: **after the end of seventy years shall Tyre sing as an harlot**.

Take an harp, go about the city, thou harlot that hast been forgotten; make sweet melody, sing many songs, **that thou mayest be remembered**. And it shall come to pass **after the end of seventy years**, that the LORD will visit Tyre, and she shall turn to her hire, and **shall commit fornication with all the kingdoms of the world upon the face of the earth**.

The 70 years Papacy was forgotten after being laid waste, refers we believe to the time from 1799 to 1869.

After the French Revolution with the Pope imprisoned by Napoleon, and half of the French priests either executed or put in prison, papacy's influence upon the world was practically non-existent. It was as if truly she was forgotten!

**Quote from World Book Encyclopedia Under  
Roman Catholic Church**

The forces of democracy and nationalism swept across Europe from the start of the French Revolution through the 1800's. These forces were accompanied by strong feelings against the Roman Catholic Church.

**(Subheading) The decline of church influence.**

The church suffered enormous losses as a result of the French Revolution. For example, the great abbeys of Europe disappeared, and with them the influence of the monastic orders as the papacy's most effective instrument of government, Catholic influence over public life was seriously reduced, often by civil laws. In many countries, the church suffered from a shortage of priests. This was especially true in France.

During the French Revolution, the church lost half its clergy. Many priests were executed or died in prison. Others left the church. The papacy had governed certain Italian and French territories called the Papal States, which were gradually absorbed by secular states. By 1870, the papacy had lost the last of the land that once made up the Papal States. The Pope's territory was reduced to Vatican City.

**In the book "A Concise History of the Catholic Church" written by a Catholic writer Thomas Bokenkotter, we read on page 262 "**

The revolutionary period saw the Church stripped of its privileges, its Pope imprisoned, its property confiscated, its monasteries emptied, its priests and nuns slaughtered and driven into exile, **its very existence called into question.** And even though it was propped up again by Napoleon, it was treated by the Corsican adventurer as his handmaid; He humiliated the papacy, considered the bishops his creatures, even rewrote the Church's catechism and dictated the discipline it was to follow."

Further we read in the book:

**"Prophetic Faith of our Fathers by Leroy Froom in Vol.2 page 763**

As a result of the French Revolution, "It looked as if the Papacy were dead. In fact, half of Europe thought the Papacy was dead."

Thus it was for 70 years Tyre was forgotten, it looked as if Papacy was dead. It was during this time that Protestantism took center stage as it were. In 1804 the British and Foreign Bible Society was formed. Others followed in quick succession on the European continent. The American Bible Society was founded in 1816. The American Tract Society in 1825.

William Miller's Adventist movement brought world wide attention to focus on prophecies of the 2<sup>nd</sup> advent of Christ. The stage was being set for the greatest clarification of Biblical truths of the entire Gospel Age by the 7<sup>th</sup> messenger, Bro. Russell.

(Don't Read)

**Isa. 23:14-17**

Howl, ye ships of Tarshish: for your strength is **laid waste.** (15) And it shall come to pass in that day, that Tyre **shall be forgotten seventy years,** according to the days of one king: **after the end of seventy years shall Tyre sing as an harlot.** Take an harp, go about the city, thou harlot that hast been forgotten; make sweet melody, sing many songs, **that thou mayest be remembered.**

**And it shall come to pass after the end of seventy years, that the LORD will visit Tyre, and she shall turn to her hire, and shall commit fornication with all the kingdoms of the world upon the face of the earth.**

Thus Tyre or Papacy was forgotten for 70 years, it looked as if Papacy was dead, from 1799 to 1869. But then what happened to fulfill the rest of the prophecy?

(Read from slide above)

“And it shall come to pass after the end of seventy years, that the LORD will visit Tyre, and she shall turn to her hire, and shall commit fornication with all the kingdoms of the world upon the face of the earth.”

Exactly 70 years after 1799, in December of 1869, began Papacy’s Vatican Council 1. It was the first ecumenical council held since 1563. It resulted in a constitution that declared the **infallibility of the Pope and a primacy** that set the stage for the reawakening of Papacy’s influence in the world.

It was the beginning of the renewal of Tyre’s or Papacy’s harlotry with the political leaders of the nations of Christendom. The period of Papacy being forgotten for 70 years had come to an end.

Let’s consider a few Quotes from history.

**WORLD BOOK ENCYCLOPEDIA - Under  
VATICAN COUNCIL 1**

“Pope Pius 9<sup>th</sup> summoned the council Rome from December 1869 to September 1870. It was the first ecumenical council since the end of the Council of Trent in 1563. About 800 bishops and other important churchmen participated in the council, and it gathered for the first time bishops from throughout the world.

It promoted a centralized church extending beyond national boundaries with supreme authority residing in the pope. The council proclaimed **the infallibility of the pope’s teaching authority** in the constitution (The Eternal Shepherd). The constitution stated that the pope cannot commit error when he speaks as head of the church to define solemnly, in matters of faith and morals, what is to be accepted by all Roman Catholics as the revelation coming from Jesus Christ and His apostles.”

The council ended after the new Kingdom of Italy annexed Rome, causing the pope to withdraw to the Vatican Palace. Thus the period of Vatican 1 witnessed both **the peak of the pope’s religious authority** and the disappearance of his civil power.

Thus 1870 witnessed the peak of the pope’s religious authority. HE WAS INFALLIBLE! A question might be asked what was meant by the phrase, “It was also the disappearance of his civil power?”

**MAP OF PAPAL STATES**

Prior to 1870 the Papacy had control of large tracts of land in Italy.

But residents of the Papal States revolted against Papal control in 1831, in 1848 and again in 1860. During the revolt of 1860 Victor Emanuel conquered all of central Italy

with the exception of the city of Rome. He declared the formation of the Kingdom of Italy and became its first King.

In 1870 He captured the city of Rome and asked Roman citizens whether the city should become the political capital of a united Italy. The people voted for unification, thus the popes territory was reduced to merely the Vatican City.

### MAP OF VATICAN CITY

Thus the Pope lost all civil power until in the Lateran Treaty of 1929, when Vatican City was officially recognized as an official state under control of the Vatican. The Vatican State however consists of only 109 acres within the city of Rome.

Coming back to the Vatican Council of 1869 it might be asked just how important was it?

### ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANICA Under Vatican Council 1

The Vatican Council of 1869 and 1870 was the most important event in its historical development since the (1563) Tridentine Synod...The resolutions of the Vatican Council entirely revolutionized the position of the pope within the Church...

The general position of Roman Catholicism was consolidated by the Vatican Council in more respects than one; for not only did it promote the centralization of government in Rome, but the process of unification soon made further progress, and the attempts to control the intellectual and spiritual life of the Church assumed dimensions which, a few decades ago, would have been regarded as anachronistic.

### FROM "THE NEW ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANICA" Under Roman Catholicism

#### The reign of Pope Pius 9<sup>th</sup> (1846-1878)

Few popes of modern times have presided over so momentous a series of decisions and actions as Pius 9<sup>th</sup>. During his reign the development of the modern papacy reached a kind of climax with the promulgation of the dogma of papal infallibility.

### From "THE NEW CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA"

#### VATICAN COUNCIL 1 RESULTS

Within the Church the definitions of primacy and infallibility strengthen the spiritual power of the papacy at a time when it was losing the temporal authority it had held for a millennium... It also prepared the way for theological developments of the subsequent century by establishing the position of the pope firmly and unequivocally.

(Don't read)

#### Isa. 23:14-17

Howl, ye ships of Tarshish: for your strength is **laid waste**. (15) And it shall come to pass in that day, that Tyre **shall be forgotten seventy years**, according to the days of one king: **after the end of seventy years shall Tyre sing as an harlot**. Take an harp,

go about the city, thou harlot that hast been forgotten; make sweet melody, sing many songs, **that thou mayest be remembered.**

**And it shall come to pass after the end of seventy years, that the LORD will visit Tyre, and she shall turn to her hire, and shall commit fornication with all the kingdoms of the world upon the face of the earth.**

Thus we see how this prophecy of Isaiah was fulfilled. Papacy was forgotten for 70 years, **then reemerged singing it's praises of infallibility that she might be remembered.**

And there began the renewal of Papacy's harlotry of influencing and joining with the political leaders of the nations of Christendom.

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Our next prophecy is found in Ezek. 26. As so many prophecies, it has a dual application, referring to the destruction of literal Tyre, but of greater importance to us, the destruction of Symbolic Tyre.

This prophecy brings out an additional reason why God will bring an end to the systems of Babylon and the civil governments she will unite with. Which is because she takes a spoil from Israel at the time of her downfall in Jacob's trouble.

**Ezek 26:1-21**

**Because Tyre said concerning Jerusalem, 'Aha, the gate of the peoples is broken, it has swung open to me; I shall be replenished, now that she is laid waste,'**

Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I am against you, O Tyre, and will bring up many nations against ...They shall destroy the walls of Tyre, and break down her towers,... and her daughters on the mainland shall be slain by the sword....They will make a spoil of your riches and a prey of your merchandise,...

**Then all the princes of the sea will step down from their thrones, and remove their robes, and strip off their embroidered garments;**...they will sit upon the ground and **tremble** every moment, and be appalled at you. And they will raise a **lamentation** over you,... Thus says the Lord GOD,...I will bring you to a dreadful end, and you shall be no more; though you be sought for, you will never be found again, says the Lord GOD."

Here we see another reason God is against Tyre, Because at the time of Jerusalem's fall in Jacobs Trouble, the gates of the city will be broken and swung wide open providing easy access to plunder the city. Christendom says "I shall be replenished now that she is laid waste."

The remainder of the verse is very similar to Revelation 18 and Ezekiel 28, in that God will bring about the destruction of Tyre and her daughters, and all the princes or civil rulers will step down from their thrones trembling and lamenting at the downfall of Babylon, who as systems will be destroyed forever.

Let's note again the first sentence where Tyre said concerning Jerusalem at the time of Jacob's Trouble, 'Aha, the gate of the peoples is broken, it has swung open to me; I shall be replenished, now that she is laid waste,"

When we consider this sentence we do not want to get the thought that Christendom will be the prime attackers of Israel in Jacob's Trouble. But rather, we believe that the primary attackers will be Russia coming from the North.

Christendom's armies however will be on the scene, not as attackers at first, but as Israel's allies to help protect Israel and Christendom's interests in the middle east..

But when they see Jerusalem's gates broken down by others, they will seize on the opportunity to take a spoil for themselves. Saying, '**Aha, the gate of the peoples is broken, it has swung open to me; I shall be replenished, now that she is laid waste.**' Now that she is laid waste, the thought is that is has been laid waste by others.

This is the same thought contained in Obad. 10-15. Where it prophecies of Christendom's position and downfall at the time of Jacob's Trouble. Only in Obadiah's prophecy Christendom is symbolized by Esau and Edom picturing the false church who sold their birthright for a bowl of pottage.

**Obadiah 10-18 (NE)**

Speaking of Edom it says, "For the murderous violence done to your brother Jacob you shall be covered with shame and cut off for ever." (Then it tells why.)

"On the day when you stood **ALOOF**, on the day when strangers carried off his wealth, when foreigners trooped in by his gates and parceled out Jerusalem by lot, you yourselves were of one mind with them.

Do not gloat over your brother on the day of his misfortune, nor rejoice over Judah on his day of ruin,...nor seize his treasure on the day of his downfall....Then shall the house of Jacob be fire, the house of Joseph flame, and the house of Esau shall be chaff, they shall blaze through it and consume it."

Thus we see Esau and Edom picturing Christendom's church state union at the time of Jacob's Trouble being destroyed, because she stood ALOOF when strangers (from the North) came in and carried off Israel's wealth. Christendom was there to protect Israel but instead she stood Aloof, and partook of the spoil herself and even gloated over Israel's initial downfall.

(Don't Read)

**Ezek 26:1-21**

**Because Tyre said concerning Jerusalem, 'Aha, the gate of the peoples is broken, it has swung open to me; I shall be replenished, now that she is laid waste,'**

Just like our prophecy of Tyre picturing Christendom saying about Jerusalem, '**Aha, the gate of the peoples is broken, it has swung open to me; I shall be replenished, now that she is laid waste,**' This is said after the gates were opened and Israel was made waste by others, then Christendom says I might as well be replenished too.

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The context of our next prophecy is one we are quite familiar with. The battle of Joel 3 in the Valley of Jehoshaphat in Joel 3:1-21

**Joel 3:1-5**

"For behold, in those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem. I will gather **all the nations**, and bring them down to **the valley of Jehoshaphat**. Then I will enter into **judgment** with them there on behalf of My people and My inheritance, Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; and they have divided up My land.

"They have also cast lots for My people, traded a boy for a harlot, and sold a girl for wine that they may drink. "Moreover, what are you to Me, **O Tyre, and Sidon**, and all the regions of Philistia? Are you rendering Me a recompense? But if you do recompense Me, swiftly and speedily I will return your recompense on your head, because **you have taken My silver and My gold, and brought My precious treasures to your temples**.

We've no doubt considered this chapter often, of the final phase of Armageddon when God gathers all the nations to the Valley of Jehoshaphat for their final Judgment as nations.

But now notice how God singles out and mentions Tyre and Sidon specifically. This we believe is because Christendom is most responsible for the persecutions to God's people, both to natural and spiritual Israel, as well as for all the errors and false teachings regarding God's word and Plan.

Notice the last line, "**you have taken My silver and My gold, and brought My precious treasures to your temples.**" Yes Christendom has taken God's precious truths of silver and gold from the sanctuary of His word the Bible, to their false Temples, or great cathedrals where God's plan and character have been completely dishonored.

As a result God says,

**Joel 3:9-14**

...Proclaim this among the nations: prepare a war; rouse the mighty men! Let all the soldiers draw near, let them come up! Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning hooks into spears; let the weak say, "I am a mighty man." Hasten and come, all you surrounding nations, and gather yourselves there...

Let the nations be aroused and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat, for there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations. **Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, tread, for the wine press is full; the vats overflow, for their wickedness is great.** Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision...

We notice the wording of this prophecy regarding the harvest is very similar to that in Revelation 14 which describes the Harvest of the false vine of the earth. Our prophecy continues:

**Joel 3:16-21**

...But the LORD is a refuge for His people and a stronghold to the sons of Israel. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God, dwelling in Zion My holy mountain. So Jerusalem will be holy, and strangers will pass through it no more. And it will come about in that day that the mountains will drip with sweet wine, and the hills will flow with milk, and all the brooks of Judah will flow with water; and a spring will go out from the house of the LORD, to water the valley of Shittim.

**Egypt will become a waste, and Edom will become a desolate wilderness**, because of the violence done to the sons of Judah, in whose land they have shed innocent blood.

But Judah will be inhabited forever, and Jerusalem for all generations. And I will avenge their blood which I have not avenged, for the LORD dwells in Zion.

Here we see the aftermath of Jacob's Trouble. The symbols change from Tyre and Sidon to Egypt and Edom for the purpose of showing us these symbols all tie together referring to Christendom. Egypt the civil aspect of the Western world of Christendom, and Edom the religious aspect known as Babylon will be no more.

Then the kingdom in full power and glory will cause Judah or Israel to flow with the waters of truth, the mountains or kingdoms will be blest with sweet wine of pure uplifting doctrine, and the hills will flow with the refreshing milk of fundamental truths.

And Judah and Jerusalem will be inhabited forever.

A beautiful tranquil word picture of the blessings of the kingdom to end our study of Tyre and Sidon which as systems will come to end.

But what about the individual people of Tyre and Sidon, what will happen to them? There's one more prophecy left.

It's found in Psalm 45:10-14. The context is describing the wedding of Jesus and the Church.

**Ps 45:10-16**

Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house; So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty: for he is thy Lord; and worship thou him.

**And the daughter of Tyre shall be there with a gift; even the rich among the people shall intreat thy favour.**

The king's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold. She shall be brought unto the king in raiment of needlework: the virgins her companions that follow her shall be brought unto thee. With gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought: they shall enter into the king's palace. Instead of thy fathers shall be thy children, whom thou mayest make princes in all the earth.

The context shows that this is referring to the Kingdom when the marriage of Jesus and Church takes place, and the Ancient Worthies are raised to become the children of the church.

The thought of the daughter of Tyre bringing a gift, seems to be referring to the children of Christendom being personified, who will entreat the favor of the Christ by bringing a gift, a gift of themselves in consecration, - as even the rich among the people shall similarly intreat the favor of The Christ.

Thus our prophecies come to a beautiful ending. Though the false systems must come to an end the people we realize will not. For the most part we realize they were blinded by Satan. But in the kingdom they will all be raised from the tomb and will be instructed with the sweet waters of truth, which will result in them bringing a gift to Christ. A gift of themselves in fullness of consecration.