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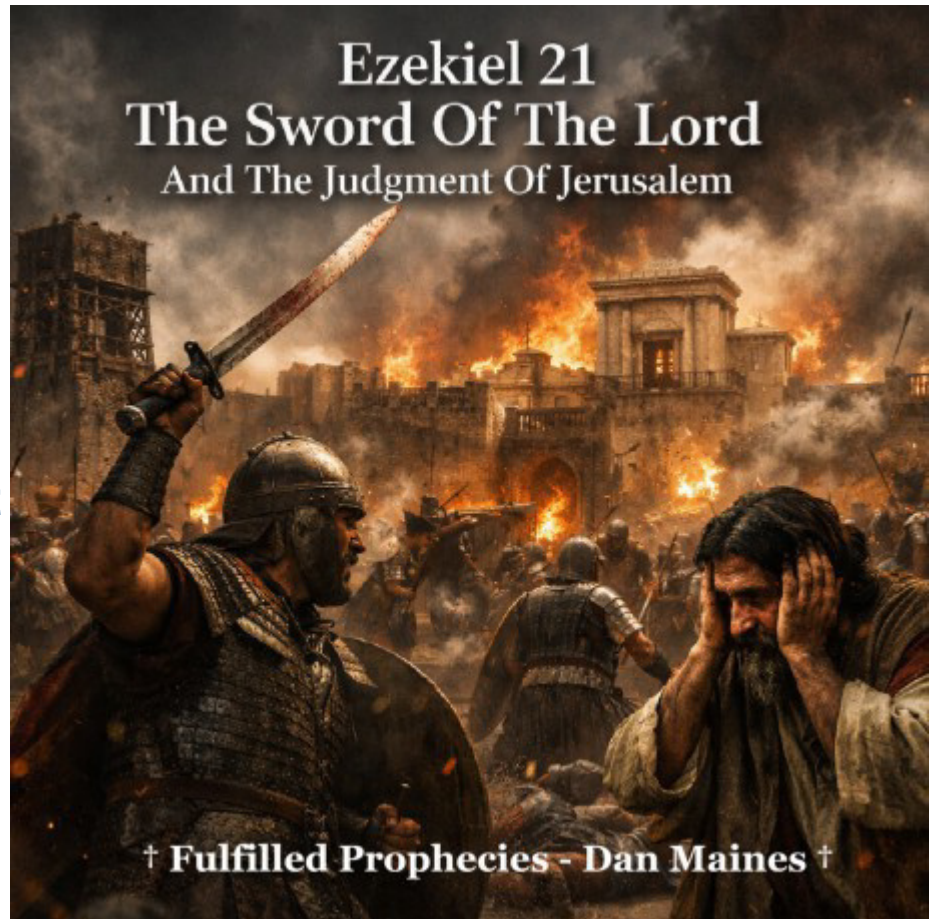
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## Ezekiel 21 The Sword Of The Lord And The Judgment Of Jerusalem



By Dan Maines

## Ezekiel 21 The Sword Of The Lord And The Judgment Of Jerusalem

### Introduction

† Ezekiel 21 continues the same theme, God is declaring unavoidable judgment upon Jerusalem, and it's real, historical, and about to happen through Babylon.

† This chapter shows that God's patience had reached its limit, the sword was drawn, and nothing would stop what was

coming.

† From the fulfilled perspective, we see this as a pattern, just like Babylon judged Jerusalem then, Rome judged Jerusalem in AD 70, exactly as Jesus warned.

### **Ezekiel 21:1-2**

Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, Son of man, set your face toward Jerusalem and speak against the sanctuaries, and prophesy against the land of Israel;

† God directs the message specifically toward Jerusalem, His covenant people who had become corrupt.

† The sanctuaries are mentioned because judgment begins where God was supposed to be honored, they had defiled His house.

† Judgment begins with the household of God, and that was true in Ezekiel's day and again in AD 70.

### **Ezekiel 21:3**

and say to the land of Israel, Thus says the LORD, Behold, I am against you, and I will draw My sword out of its sheath and cut off from you the righteous and the wicked.

† God Himself says He is against them, this is covenant reversal.

† The sword represents Babylon, but it's God's sword bringing judgment.

† Both righteous and wicked are affected outwardly, showing national judgment.

### **Ezekiel 21:4-5**

Because I will cut off from you the righteous and the wicked,

therefore My sword will go forth from its sheath against all flesh from south to north. So all flesh will know that I, the LORD, have drawn My sword out of its sheath; it will not return again.

† The judgment would be widespread and undeniable.

† It will not return shows finality, nothing would stop it.

† This was a completed act of covenant justice.

### **Ezekiel 21:6-7**

As for you, son of man, groan with breaking heart and bitter grief; groan in their sight. And it will be when they say to you, Why do you groan? that you shall say, Because of the news that is coming; and every heart will melt, all hands will go limp, every spirit will faint, and all knees will drip with water. Behold, it comes and it will happen, declares the Lord GOD.

† Ezekiel is told to visibly mourn, this was imminent.

† The reaction described is total fear and collapse.

† The phrase it will happen shows certainty.

### **Ezekiel 21:8-10**

Again the word of the LORD came to me saying, Son of man, prophesy and say, Thus says the Lord, Say, A sword, a sword sharpened and also polished! Sharpened to make a slaughter, polished to flash like lightning! Shall we rejoice? The rod of My son despises every tree.

† The repetition emphasizes urgency, the sword is ready.

† There was no room for denial, judgment was at the door.

† Israel's authority was being rejected.

## **Ezekiel 21:11-13**

The sword is given to be polished, that it may be handled; the sword is sharpened and polished, to give it into the hand of the slayer. Cry out and wail, son of man, for it is against My people, it is against all the princes of Israel; they are delivered over to the sword with My people. Therefore strike your thigh. For there is a testing; and what if even the rod which despises will be no more? declares the Lord GOD.

† The sword is placed in the hand of the slayer, Babylon is the instrument.

† Leaders and people alike are judged.

† No one escapes based on position.

## **Ezekiel 21:14-17**

You therefore, son of man, prophesy and strike your hands together; and let the sword be doubled the third time, the sword for the slain. It is the sword for the great slain which surrounds them, that their hearts may melt and many stumble. At all their gates I have given the glittering sword. Ah! it is made for striking like lightning, it is wrapped up for slaughter. Show yourself sharp, go to the right; set yourself, go to the left, wherever your edge is directed. I will also strike My hands together, and I will satisfy My wrath; I, the LORD, have spoken.

† The invasion would be complete, no safety anywhere.

† God's wrath would be fully poured out.

† This was total covenant judgment.

## **Ezekiel 21:18-23**

The word of the LORD came to me again, saying, As for you, son of man, make two ways for the sword of the king of Babylon to come; both of them will come from one land. And make a

signpost, make it at the head of the way to the city. You shall make a way for the sword to come to Rabbah of the sons of Ammon, and to Judah into fortified Jerusalem. For the king of Babylon stands at the fork in the road, at the head of the two ways, to use divination; he shakes the arrows, he consults the household idols, he looks at the liver. In his right hand is the divination for Jerusalem, to set battering rams, to open the mouth for slaughter, to lift the voice with a battle cry, to set battering rams against the gates, to cast up ramps, to build siege walls. And it will be to them like a false divination in their eyes, they who have sworn solemn oaths; but he brings their wrongdoing to remembrance, so that they will be seized.

† Even pagan means are used by God to direct Babylon.

† The people would think it was false, showing denial.

† God brings their sin to remembrance, tying judgment to covenant violation.

### **Ezekiel 21:24-27**

Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, Because you have made your wrongdoing to be remembered, in that your transgressions are uncovered, so that in all your deeds your sins appear, because you have come to remembrance, you will be seized by the hand. And you, slain wicked one, the prince of Israel, whose day has come, at the time of the punishment of the end, this is what the Lord GOD says, Remove the turban and take off the crown; this will no longer be the same. Exalt that which is low and humble that which is high. A ruin, a ruin, a ruin, I will make it. This also will be no more until He comes whose right it is, and I will give it to Him.

† The crown is removed, leadership stripped away.

† The kingdom is overturned completely.

† This points to Christ, the one whose right it is.

### **Ezekiel 21:28-32**

And you, son of man, prophesy and say, Thus says the Lord GOD concerning the sons of Ammon and concerning their taunt, say, A sword, a sword drawn for the slaughter, polished to consume, so as to flash like lightning, while they see false visions for you, while they divine lies for you, to place you on the necks of the wicked who are slain, whose day has come, at the time of the punishment of the end. Return it to its sheath. In the place where you were created, in the land of your origin, I will judge you. And I will pour out My indignation on you; I will blow on you with the fire of My wrath, and I will hand you over to brutal men, skilled in destruction. You will be fuel for the fire; your blood will be in the midst of the land. You will not be remembered, for I, the LORD, have spoken.

† Judgment extends beyond Israel, God rules over all nations.

† False visions did not stop what God declared.

† The judgment is final and complete.

### **Historical References**

† Josephus describes the destruction of Jerusalem with fire, slaughter, and total devastation matching this pattern.

† Eusebius records how believers fled Jerusalem before its destruction, showing fulfillment of Christ's warning.

† Irenaeus affirms God's consistent judgment pattern against covenant breakers.

### **How It Applies To Us Today**

† God keeps His word, what He declares comes to pass.

† We don't live waiting for this judgment, it's already been fulfilled.

† The kingdom is established and cannot be shaken.

† We are called to walk faithfully and not ignore truth.

† Christ is ruling now as the rightful King.

## **Q & A Appendix**

**Q** Who was the sword in Ezekiel 21?

**A** Babylon, used by God, Ezekiel 21:19-20

**Q** Did this judgment actually happen?

**A** Yes, in the Babylonian destruction of Jerusalem, Ezekiel 21:4-5

**Q** What does A ruin, a ruin, a ruin mean?

**A** The complete removal of the old system until Christ's reign, Ezekiel 21:27

**Q** Who is the one whose right it is?

**A** Jesus Christ, Ezekiel 21:27

**Q** Was this judgment avoidable?

**A** No, God declared it will happen, Ezekiel 21:7

**† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †**

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**Source Index**

† Ezekiel

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History;  
Irenaeus, Against Heresies

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