

Ezekiel 25-28:19 – 6 September 2015

Introduction –

People will remember how you act toward them in hard times. **Today we'll look at 4 attitudes not to have towards others when their enduring hard times.**

Chapter 25:1-7 –**The Ammonites**

1. Background
 - a. Descendants of Lot's son Ben-ammi.
 - b. Israel constantly struggled with them for the fertile region of Gilead within the tribe of Gad.
 - c. Now during the time of Judah's captivity in Babylon, Ammonites are expanding into the tribal area of Gad again.
 - d. Rabbath is modern Amman, Jordan.
 - e. Jeremiah 49 gave us a hint at the sin of the Ammonites, their pride in trusting the valleys and treasures for wealth and provision.

- f. They had a great, great opportunity to learn of the faith of their great uncle Abraham, but they missed it.
- g. Amos 1:13 speaks of their cruelty toward the Israelites living in Gilead of Gad as reason for their punishment. (So it also does in Zep 2:10)
- h. The Greeks renamed Rabbah, or modern Amman as Philadelphia
 - i. Under the Romans it became one of the 10 cities known as Decapolis which the NT speaks of.
- i. God will NOT make a full end to the Ammonites. They will continue until the end.
- j. Notice that Ammon, Edom, and Moab make up modern day Jordan.
- k. Makes sense if the boundaries of Jordan stay as they are until the Lord returns, b/c these 3 territories are important in the end days.

2. Eze 25:1-7

- a. **The 1st attitude not to have towards others when their enduring hard times is to rejoice when others fall.**
 - i. Vs 3 – They laughed
 - ii. Vs 6 – They rejoiced
 - iii. This isn't the actions of a people that wanted the best for God's people.
 - iv. Do you want the best for the Christians around you?

Chapter 25:8-11 – **The Moabites**

- 1. Background
 - a. Moab and Ammon came from Lot and his daughter IAW Gen 19:31-38
 - b. Moab has always been against Israel and Judah even from the wilderness wanderings
 - i. Mount Nebo in Moab is where Moses viewed the Promised Land from.
 - ii. King Balak of Moab was the one who hired Balaam to curse Israel (Num 22)
 - iii. Judges had to rid Israel of Eglon king of Moab.

- iv. Ruth came to Israel during this contention time from Moab.
- v. Enemies thru the time of David; “Moab is my washpot” (Psa 60:8)
- c. There is an interesting prophecy of Moab actually helping Israel in the future in Isa 15-16
 - i. Isaiah write this about 110 years before Jeremiah’s time (Read 16:4)
 - ii. Rev 12:1-6, 13-17
- 2. Eze 25:8-11
 - a. **The 2nd attitude not to have towards others when their enduring hard times is to treat them with little dignity, not as special.**
 - i. They didn’t believe that Israel had a unique relationship with God.
 - ii. Do you believe Israel has a unique relationship with God?
 - iii. Do you believe that other Christian that you struggle to deal with has a special relationship with God?

Chapter 25:12-14 – **The Edomites**

1. Background

- a. Edom comes from Esau
(Edom=Esau=Seir)
- b. Gave Israel trouble passing thru their land in the days of Moses.
- c. The whole one chapter book of Obadiah is about judgment on Edom.
- d. The Nabataeans from the area of modern Saudi Arabia conquered Edom somewhere between 500-300 BC.
- e. Only the western side of Edom continued with the equivalent name Idumea that we hear in the NT.
- f. The Herods were from Idumea.
- g. Vs 11- The remnant have intermarried and are not known as a distinct bloodline today
- h. Babylon would lay waste this land even before the Nabataeans could finish them off centuries later.
- i. They took great pride in their impenetrable city of Sela (meaning 'rock').

- j. Israel conquered this city in II Kings 14:7 naming it Joktheel (meaning 'to obey God')
 - k. Today it is named Petra (meaning 'rock')
 - l. Some of the walls of Petra are 2000ft high.
2. Eze 25:12-14
- a. **The 3rd attitude not to have towards others when their enduring hard times is they shouldn't have taken a spoil during their hard times.**
 - i. Vs 12 – by taking vengeance
 - ii. Obad 11-14 – They took spoil from Judah.
 - iii. Do you work other people's hardships into your advantage?

Chapter 25:15-17 – **The Philistines**

- 1. Background
 - a. Pharaoh smote Gaza in 609 when he killed Josiah.
 - b. Canaan's brother Mizraim had Caphtor and Casluhim of whom come the Philistines IAW Gen 10 and I Chr 1.

- c. Came from Caphtor (Crete): These “Sea People” had many great battles w/ Egypt.
- d. Under Joshua: the tribe of Dan wouldn’t drive them out.
- e. Gave King David fits. (Goliath, taking the Ark of the Covenant, etc)
- f. Now here, God prophecies of their ruin to come around 580 at the hands of Nebu.
- g. Their ultimate fall would come around 165BC at the hands of the Maccabees.

2. Eze 25:15-17

- a. Their sin? They kept a bitter grudge of hatred against Israel.
 - i. Are we keeping a grudge against anyone?
 - ii. Are we free to talk to anyone today to see how they’re doing?