

“The Infamous Downfall!”

1. Intro:

- 1.1. Have you seen the new **Chase Credit Card Commercial**, a wife has had it with their family television. She says to the man "You're right, we need a new TV." He brightens up and goes shopping for a new HD TV. Then the music starts "I Want It All, I want it all; I want it all... & I Want it Now!" The commercial mentions "*text chase*" to get your balance and ends with the tag line "*Chase what matters.*"
 - 1.1.1. Let's meet **a king & the power** behind the king, who enjoyed this as their **theme song!**
- 1.2. Ch.26-28 deal with the judgment of more gentile nations... **Tyre & Sidon.**
 - 1.2.1. **Last week** Ezekiel painted 2 pictures of these proud & wealthy cities: [1] The scraping of a rock [2] the sinking of a ship
 - 1.2.2. **This week** he finishes their judgment with the 3rd picture: [3] The dethroning of a king.

2. THE INFAMOUS DOWNFALL! (1-8)

- 2.1. **KING OF TYRE!** (1-10)
- 2.2. The Declaration of their Sin (1-5)
- 2.3. (1) **Prince/Ruler** (nageed) means "*the man at the top*".
 - 2.3.1. This was **Ethbaal III**, who ruled from 591-572B.C.
- 2.4. (2) In absolute arrogance the king **sat enthroned** in his **island fortress** as though he was **a god.**
 - 2.4.1. This is similar to what the Antichrist will do one day.
 - 2.4.2. 2 Thes.2:4 He will oppose and will exalt himself **over everything** that is called God or is worshiped, so that **he sets himself up** in God's temple, **proclaiming himself** to be God.
- 2.5. **Pride!** (2,5,17) {haughty attitude}
 - 2.5.1. His chief sin was pride, (as per deacons in 1 Tim.3:6) "**not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.**"
 - 2.5.2. What was the pre-eminent sin of the king Tyre? **Pride**
 - 2.5.3. **Sin** is a 3 letter word with "**I**" in the middle!
 - 2.5.4. **Pride** is a 5 letter word with "**I**" in the middle!
- 2.6. **Ali on airplane:** when told to fasten seatbelts. "Superman don't need no seatbelt!" Stewardess, "Superman don't need no airplane".
- 2.7. (3) In a statement dripping with irony Ezekiel asked the king, **Are you wiser than Daniel? Is no secret hidden from you?**

- 2.7.1. Probably the Prophet Daniel. **Daniel** had already achieved a reputation for his wisdom in the courts of **Nebuchadnezzar**.
- 2.7.2. The irony was that **Ethbaal III** felt his wisdom exceeded that of even Daniel who served **the country that would ultimately defeat Tyre**.
- 2.7.3. Daniel attributed all his wisdom **to God** (Dan. 2:27-28), was much wiser than Ethbaal III, who claimed to be a god!
- 2.8. **Resulting Punishment** (6-1)
- 2.9. Like the king of Babylon who exalted himself as king (Is.14) in this very same way.
- 2.10. The king himself would be brought down to the pit (the grave).
- 2.10.1. The king would come to an inglorious end, dying a violent death.
- 2.11. (9) **His pride does vanish...but it's when he is in the presence of his slayer!**
- 2.12. **ANOINTED CHERUB!** (11-19)
- 2.13. Here is where the figure of the **human ruler** seems to morph into **Satan** himself.
- 2.13.1. He was the **originator** of the sins of which Tyre was guilty.
- 2.14. **The language** of these verses indicates that this discussion passed **beyond** the king of Tyre to a description of Satan, the power behind this king.
- 2.14.1. **"Perfect in beauty"**(12); **"Eden, the garden of God"**(13); **"anointed cherub"**(14); **"holy mountain of God"**(14); **"perfect/blameless"**(15) - This language demands this discussion moved beyond the king of Tyre.
- 2.15. He was once the highest of all created intelligences, standing as the *"anointed cherub"* (Ezek.28:14)
- 2.15.1. Driven by **ambition** he thought he could lead a coup against the throne of God...and great was his fall!
- 2.16. **Why did God make Lucifer?** (*Light Bearer*) To **reflect** God's Glory...not steal it!
- 2.16.1. That's all of His creations **goal** to simply **REFLECT God's glory**, not steal it!
- 2.16.2. **Reflect = send something back:** to redirect something that strikes a surface, especially light, sound, or heat, usually back toward its point of origin. (Encarta)
- 2.17. This passage **parallels Is.14:12-17** describing Satan's high position as a preeminent angel prior to his fall.
- 2.17.1. **But why here?** Because he is the real source behind the king of Tyre & really...all pride! (**Father of...lies**, pride, etc)
- 2.18. Listen to the **contrast** of **Satan's** description in Is.14 & in **Jesus'** ministry!
- 2.18.1. The 6 **"I will"** statements (I = pride; will = rebellion)
- 2.18.2. **I will ascend into heaven** - I will **descend** from heaven.

- 2.18.3. I will exalt my throne - I will **leave** my throne.
- 2.18.4. I will sit on the mount - I will **kneel & wash feet**.
- 2.18.5. I will ascend above the clouds - I will **descend** below the clouds
- 2.18.6. I will be like the Most High - I will **become man**.
- 2.18.7. Which of these is closer to your approach? In getting ahead at work? To excelling in your ministry? In regards to dealing with marriage issues? To your overall leadership?
- 2.18.7.1. Is it by being demanding, pushy, usurping, climbing over people...or is it **the humble servant path?**
- 2.18.8. If God is using you...be sure **God gets the glory!**
- 2.19. **Wow!** Lucifer was “anointed, beautiful, powerful, amazing, & glorious”...but he wasn’t **divine & would never be**. He had **favor** with God. He was **close** to God.
- 2.19.1. It’s like **Pharaoh** esteeming **Joseph** to the top in his kingdom, holding nothing back, but **his wife**. It would be like him turning around & saying...“*I want your wife too!*”
- 2.19.2. Lucifer looked hard in to the mirror...& **liked** what he saw. So instead of reflecting it back, starred too long! [*Rudolph The Red-Nose Reindeer* cartoon, Clarice told him he was cute. He ran around “I cute, I cute!”]
- 2.20. He finally sang, "I Want It All, I want it all; I want it all...& I Want it Now!"
- 2.21. Satan was cast to earth & took a 3rd of the angels **Rev.12:7-9**.
- 2.21.1. **Pride** will be the **national religion** of hell!
- 2.21.2. Humility on the other hand “receives praise, & then passes it on to **God untouched!**”
- 2.22. **SIDON!** (20-24)
- 2.23. 23 miles north of Tyre. Didn’t become more prominent than Tyre till she fell.
- 2.24. God was going to be **glorified** in his judgment of Sidon, just as He was with Pharaoh (22).
- 2.24.1. **Ex.14:4 And I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and he will pursue them. But I will gain glory for myself through Pharaoh and all his army, and the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD.”**
- 2.25. Sidon would know through the pestilence, blood, & sword, it was **the Lord!**
- 2.26. No longer be a **pricking brier** or a **painful thorn** –
- 2.26.1. **Num 33:55 But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then it shall be that those whom you let remain *shall be irritants in your eyes and thorns in your sides*, and they shall harass you in the land where you dwell.**
- 2.27. **ISRAEL’S FUTURE BLESSING!** (25,26)
- 2.28. He wraps up with a beautiful picture of Israel’s enemies subdued.

- 2.28.1. In this future millennium, Israel will dwell in **shalom!**
- 2.29. **End:**
- 2.30. We have been **promised victory**, but how do we **experience this promised victory?**
- 2.31. The **spiritual** battlefield is the same as a **physical** battlefield!
- 2.31.1. [1] You must know your **own weakness!**
- 2.31.2. [2] You must know your **own strengths!**
- 2.31.3. [3] You must know your **enemies weakness!**
- 2.31.4. [4] You must know your **enemies strengths!**
- 2.32. To either **over** or **under-estimate** any of these 4, could prove **fatal**.
- 2.33. [1] **You must know your own weakness!**
- 2.33.1. Paul admitted, “For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find.” Rom.7:18
- 2.33.2. Also, *w/o Jesus we can do nothing!*
- 2.34. [2] **You must know your own strengths!**
- 2.34.1. Paul, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” Phil.4:13
- 2.35. [3] **You must know your enemies weakness!**
- 2.35.1. We talked about his limitations above.
- 2.35.2. 1 Cor.10:13 “God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.”
- 2.36. [4] **You must know your enemies strengths!**
- 2.37. Wilmington calls these the **16 deadly “D’s”** of the Devil.
- 2.38. **Disappointment** (*dis-appointments* are when we forget that situations are “*just-appointments*”...*God’s appointments!*);
Discouragement; Despair; Doubt; Disbelief (which is the final form of doubt
Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of **unbelief in departing from the living God Heb.3:12);**
Distractions (any!); **Double-mindedness** (i.e. having 2 masters. Or depicted by the neutral observer during the American Civil War who put on a *confederate pants & a Yankee coat* only to be *shot by both sides!*);
Dishonesty (this might be as simple as being less than we should be: as pastors, husbands, wives, workers); **Deceit; Dullness** (maybe dull of hearing);
Deadness (unchecked dullness); **Delay** (putting off salvation or working for Him);
Discord; Defilement (Vance Havner, addressing a group of youth that came forward to give their lives to full-time service to God said, “Don’t pray “**Lord, use me.**” He’ll do that alright. In fact, He’ll wear you out, for there’s not enough of you to go around as it is! What you should pray is “**Lord, make me useable!**”);
Defame (criticize, or belittle other believers); **& Disobedience.**
- 2.38.1. The **16 deadly “D’s”** of the Devil.