

Prophecy About Tyre:

Here's an article from Hank Hanegraaff on Prophecy about the nation of Tyre- one more evidence to give to people about the divine origin of the Scriptures...

...In addition to Messianic prophecies, the Bible contains nearly 2,000 prophecies concerning almost every nation within a thousand miles of Jerusalem... As an illustration let me detail the prophecy about the city of Tyre in Ezekiel 26 and its fulfillment.

Tyre was no small, obscure village. It was a great Phoenician city and a world capital for over 2,000 years. It was to the sea what mighty Babylon was to the land. Yet, in the heyday of its power, the prophet Ezekiel had the audacity to predict for it a violent future and ultimate destruction.

This downfall would be due to Tyre's flagrant wickedness and arrogance, traits that were personified in its ruler, Ittobal II, who claimed to be God. Ezekiel predicted that many nations would come up against Tyre (Ezek. 26:3); that Babylon under Nebuchadnezzar would be the first to attack it (v. 7); that Tyre's walls and towers would be broken down (vv. 4,9); that the stones, timbers, and debris of that great city would be thrown into the sea (v. 12); that its location would become a bare rock and a place for the drying of fishermen's nets (vv. 4-5,14); and finally, that the city of Tyre would never be rebuilt (v.14). History bears eloquent testimony to the fact that all this is precisely what happened. Many nations did come up against Tyre - the Babylonians, the Greeks, the Romans, the Muslims, and the Crusaders, to name a few. And Nebuchadnezzar was indeed the first of these invaders, who - after a thirteen year siege - broke down the walls and towers of mainland Tyre,

thus fulfilling the first of Ezekiel's prophecies. Nebuchadnezzar massacred all of Tyre's inhabitants except for those who escaped to an island fortress a half mile out in the Mediterranean Sea. Centuries after Ezekiel's body had decomposed in his grave, Alexander the Great fulfilled a major portion of the prophecy. In order to conquer the island fortress of Tyre (without the luxury of a navy), he and his celebrated architect Diades devised one of the most brilliant engineering feats of ancient warfare. They built a causeway from Tyre's mainland to the island fortress, using the millions of cubic feet of rubble left over on mainland Tyre. Thus Tyre was scraped bare as a rock, just as Ezekiel predicted.

The most astonishing of Ezekiel's predictions was that Tyre would never be rebuilt. This is singularly incredible because Tyre is strategically located on the east coast of the Mediterranean Sea. It also contains the Springs of Reselain, which pump ten million gallons of fresh water daily - enough to take care of the needs of a modern city. Yet, history records that after a succession of invasions, Tyre finally and irrevocably fell in A.D. 1291 - never to be rebuilt again. Today Tyre has been humbled to the point of becoming a place for the drying of fishermen's nets - just as Ezekiel prophesied two-and-one-half millennia ago.

This prophecy of Tyre is but one among many examples of meticulously detailed and fulfilled prophecies, any one of which is sufficient to demonstrate the truth and accuracy of Scripture. "I have spoken," says the Lord of Hosts. The Scripture cannot be broken (John 10:35)...

- Hank Hanegraaff