### Ezekiel

## Chapter 19

1‘Now, against the rulers of IsraEl,  
 I want you to sing this lament:  
  
 2‘Your mother was a lion with cubs…  
 For in the midst of lions, she had many cubs.  
 3Then, one of her cubs made the leap  
 Into becoming a lion…  
 He learned to attack and eat men.  
  
 4‘But the nations soon heard about him,  
 And in their corruption, they caught him,  
 Then in a cage, they brought him to Egypt.  
  
 5‘Well, when she saw that [her son] had been caught  
 And that she had lost her support;  
 She took another one of her cubs  
 And made him grow into a lion.  
  
 6‘So he started to walk among lions,  
 And very soon, he became one…  
 He captured prey and ate many men.  
  
 7‘In their cities, he then boldly fed  
 Until the whole land was destroyed  
 And filled with the sounds of his roaring.  
  
 8‘So the nations all came from their places…  
 They surrounded and then they attacked him…  
 In their corruption, they threw nets and caught him.  
  
 9‘Into a cage, he was put,  
 And to the king of Babylon, they took him.  
 So, because he was kept in a cage,  
 His roar was no longer heard  
 In IsraEl’s mountains, thereafter.  
  
 10‘Now, this mother was much like a grape vine  
 Or a pomegranate planted near water.  
 And because there was so much water,  
 Soon she grew buds and fruit.  
  
 11‘Among the head tribe, she became a strong rod,  
 And she was esteemed for her greatness  
 Amidst the rest of those great trunks [of trees]…  
 And she saw that her branches were what made her great.  
  
 12‘But in rage, she was thereafter broken…  
 Yes, she was cut to the ground  
 And by burning winds, she was dried.  
 Then her choicest of branches – the rods of her strength –  
 Were punished, dried out, and burned.  
  
 13‘For, she’d moved herself into the desert…  
 To a land that was thirsty and dry.  
 14So the flames on her choicest of branches  
 Also reached down and consumed her,  
 Which left her without the rod of her strength.  
 So, to her tribe, she became a sad song  
 About one who will surely be missed.’