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My friend John...

Matthew 18:15-17

If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. ¹⁶But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses." ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

How to Restore 15-17

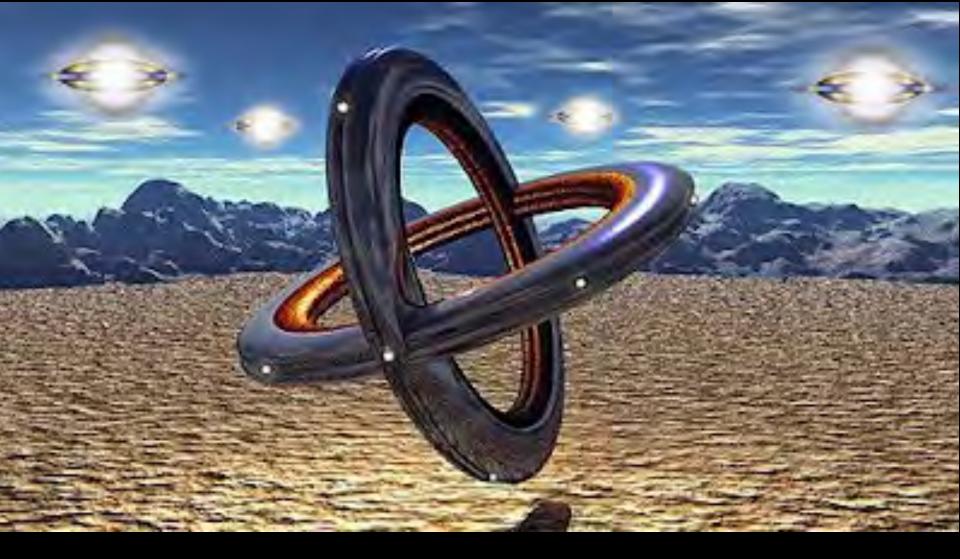


Have you ever seen God discipline an errant believer?

How should we respond when God disciplines his own people?

The Exile

—Ezekiel— "The Involuntary Expat"



Wheels of God's Glory —Ezekiel 1—

How can you share his glory?



Questions

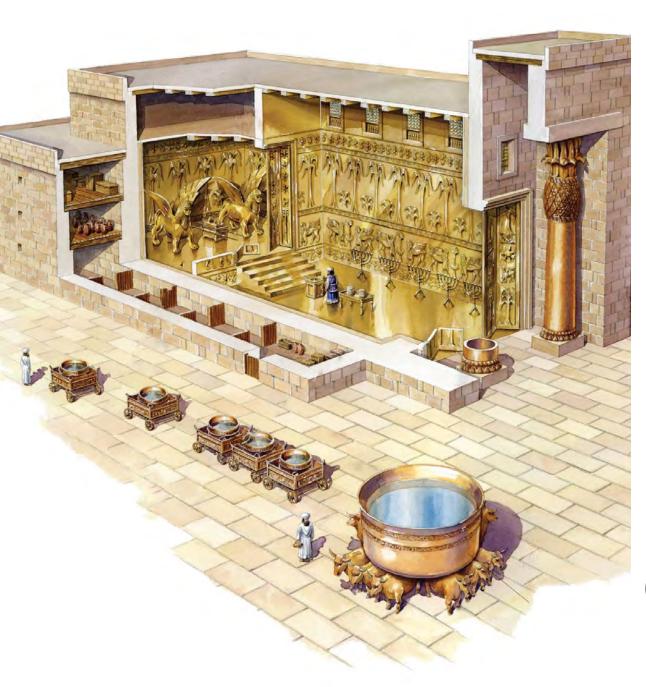
1. Did God's covenant with His people guarantee that they would be blessed? 2. Was the LORD "bound" to the temple? Is He bound to protect the church building today? 3. Does God guarantee to be present with His church today despite what we've done? 4. Does the LORD delight in death and judgment? 5. Why must there be judgment?

Be Expectant

How should we respond when God disciplines his own people?

Israel





Israel needed to admit that the Spirit left the temple before God destroyed it (Ezek 4–24).

Sovereign Departing and Return of Glory

Glory Departs 1–24		Nations Judged (No Glory) 25–32			Glory Returns 33–48	
Exile		Sovereignty Vindicated			Restoration	
Judgment of Judah		Judgment of Nations			Blessing of Israel	
Judah's Fall		Judah's Foes			Judah's Future	
Before the Siege		During the Siege			After the Siege	
Call in glory 1–3	Pre-exile Hopeless -ness 4–24	Ammon, Moab, Edom, Philistia 25	Tyre and Sidon 26–28	Egypt 29–32	New Life 33–39	New Order 40–48
Babylon (592-570 BC)						

Israel needed to admit that the Spirit left the temple for its rebellion (Ezekiel 4–11).

The Siege Signified (Ezekiel 4)



"And now, son of man, take a large clay brick and set it down in front of you. Then draw a map of the city of Jerusalem on it" (Ezek. 4:1).



"Show the city under siege. Build a wall around it so no one can escape. Set up the enemy camp, and surround the city with siege ramps and battering rams."



"³ Then take an iron griddle and place it between you and the city. Turn toward the city and demonstrate how harsh the siege will be against Jerusalem. This will be a warning to the people of Israel" (Ezek. 4:2-3).

Ezekiel spent more than a year lying on his side to illustrate God's discipline of Israel

Ezekiel 4:5-6

Right Side

Bears the sins of Judah for 40 days—one day for each year of Judah's sins

Faces the siege of Jerusalem and prophesies against the people

Left Side

Bears the sins of Israel for 390 days—one day for each year of Israel's sins

Cooks his meals over cow manure and eats them in small increments, symbolizing the impending siege and exile

"Son of man, take a sharp sword and use it as a razor to shave your head and beard. Use a scale to weigh the hair into three equal parts."

"² Place a third of it at the center of your map of Jerusalem. After acting out the siege, burn it there."



"Scatter another third across your map and chop it with a sword."

"Scatter the last third to the wind, for I will scatter my people with the sword" (Ezekiel 5:1-2 NLT).

"³Keep just a bit of the hair and tie it up in your robe. ⁴Then take some of these hairs out and throw them into the fire, burning them up. A fire will then spread from this remnant and destroy all of Israel" (Ezekiel 5:3-4 NLT).



Israel's Strategic Location

How has God placed **you** in a strategic place for His purposes?

Mycenae.



"Thus says the LORD God: This is Jerusalem; I have set her in the center of the nations, with countries round about her"

Ezekiel 5:5

"Again a message came to me from the LORD: ² 'Son of man, turn and face the mountains of Israel and prophesy against them" (Ezekiel 6:1-2 NLT). "Proclaim this message from the Sovereign LORD against the mountains of Israel. This is what the Sovereign LORD says to the mountains and hills and to the ravines and valleys: I am about to bring war upon you, and I will smash your pagan shrines. ⁴ All your altars will be demolished, and your places of worship will be destroyed. I will kill your people in front of your idols" (Ezekiel 6:3-4 NLT).

"Then this message came to me from the LORD: ² 'Son of man, this is what the Sovereign LORD says to Israel: "The end is here! Wherever you look east, west, north, or southyour land is finished. ³ No hope remains, for I will unleash my anger against you. I will call you to account for all your detestable sins. ⁴ I will turn my eyes away and show no pity. I will repay you for all your detestable sins. Then you will know that I am the LORD"" (Ezekiel 7:1-4 NLT).



"Then on September 17, during the sixth year of King Jehoiachin's captivity [592 BC], while the leaders of Judah were in my home, the Sovereign LORD took hold of me" (Ezekiel 8:1 NLT).

"I saw a figure that appeared to be a man. From what appeared to be his waist down, he looked like a burning flame. From the waist up he looked like gleaming amber" (Ezekiel 8:2 NLT).

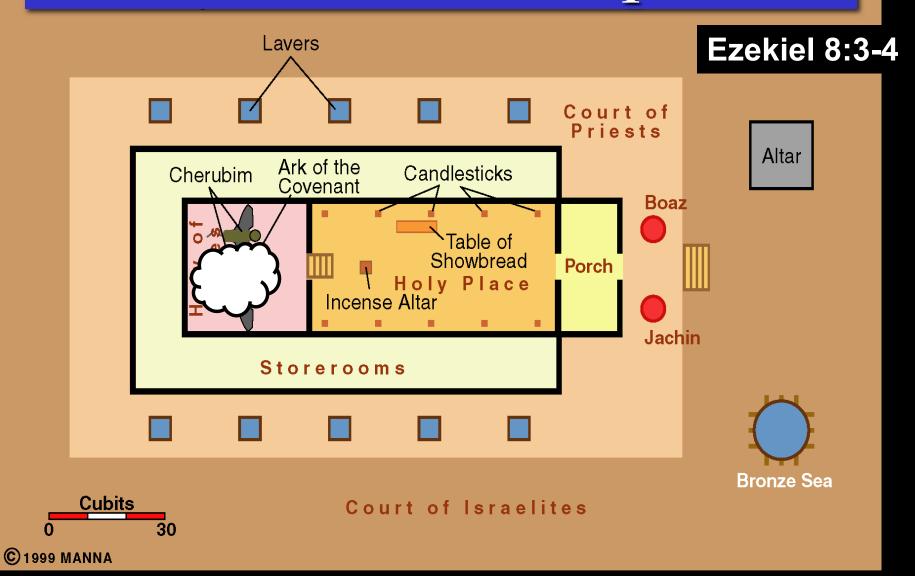
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"He reached out what seemed to be a hand and took me by the hair. Then the Spirit lifted me up into the sky and transported me to Jerusalem in a vision from God. I was taken to the north gate of the inner courtyard of the Temple, where there is a large idol that has made the LORD very jealous. ⁴ Suddenly, the glory of the God of Israel was there, just as I had seen it before in the valley" (Ezekiel 8:3-4 NLT).

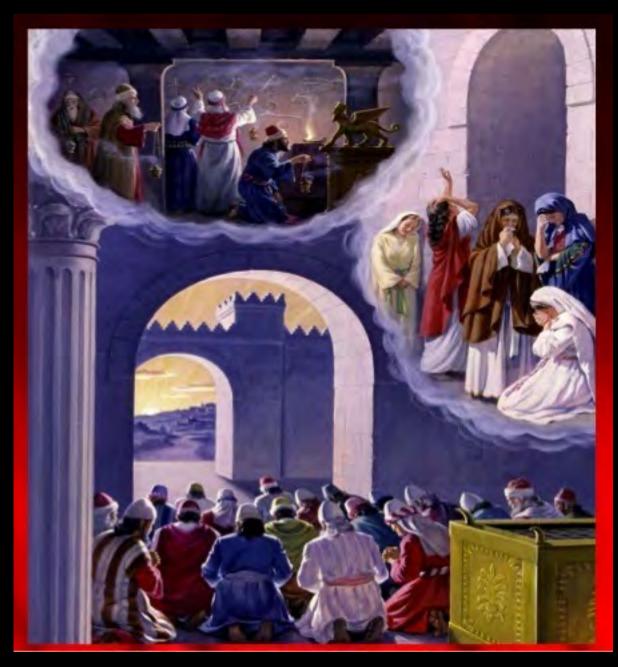


Solomon's Temple

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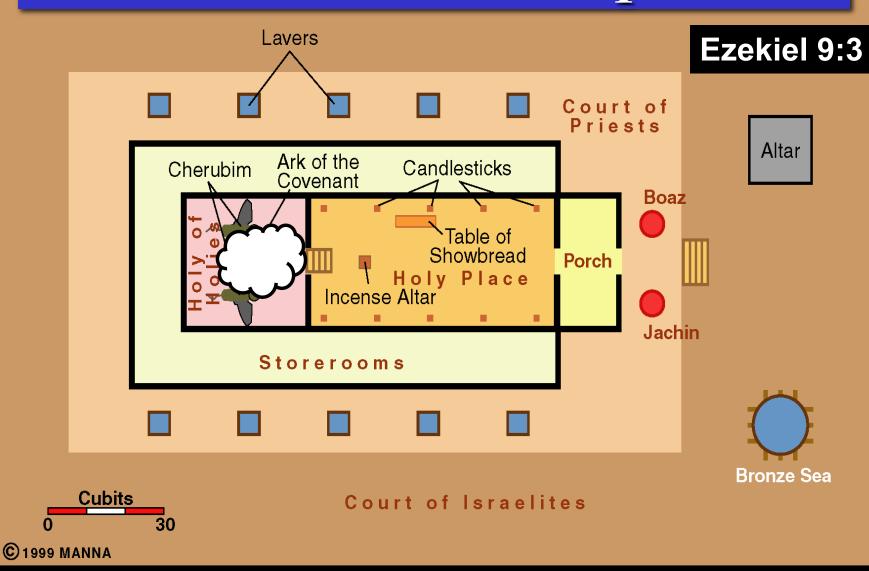
Temple Idolatry (Ezekiel 8):

1. Detestable images (9-13)

2. Weeping for Tammuz (14-15)

3. Worshipping the Sun (16-18)

Solomon's Temple



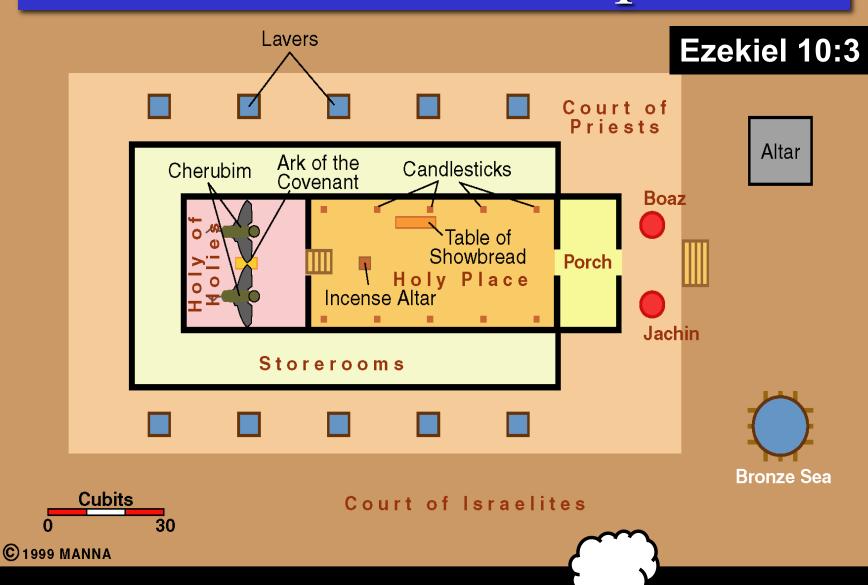
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The execution of the godless in Jerusalem while sparing the righteous showed that God will end open rebellion (Ezekiel 9).

"Put a mark on the foreheads of all who weep and sigh because of the detestable sins being committed in their city" (9:5).

Solomon's Temple

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"Then the glory of the LORD rose up from above the cherubim and went over to the door of the Temple. The Temple was filled with this cloud of glory, and the courtyard glowed brightly with the glory of the LORD."

Ezekiel 10:4 NLT

Creatures with Four Faces (Ezek. 10:12 NLT)

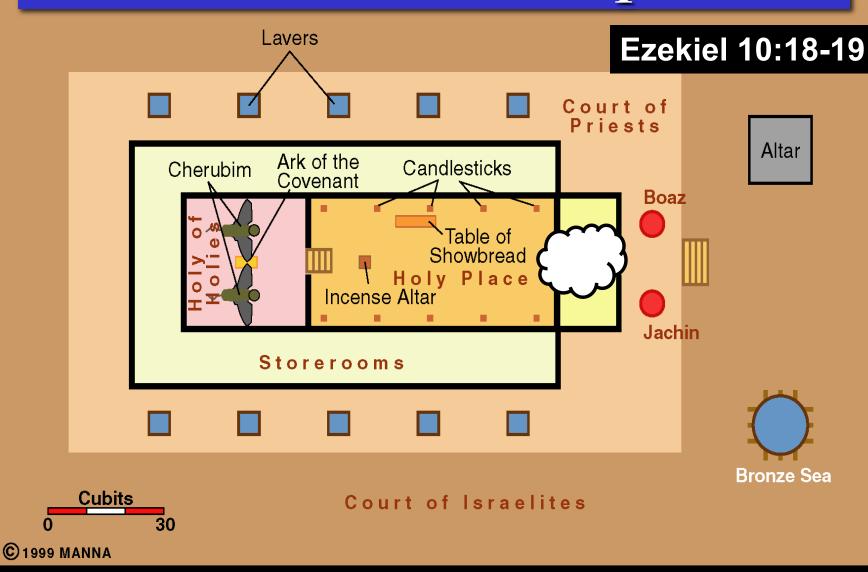
"Both the cherubim and the wheels were covered with eyes. The cherubim had eyes all over their bodies, including their hands, their backs, and their wings."



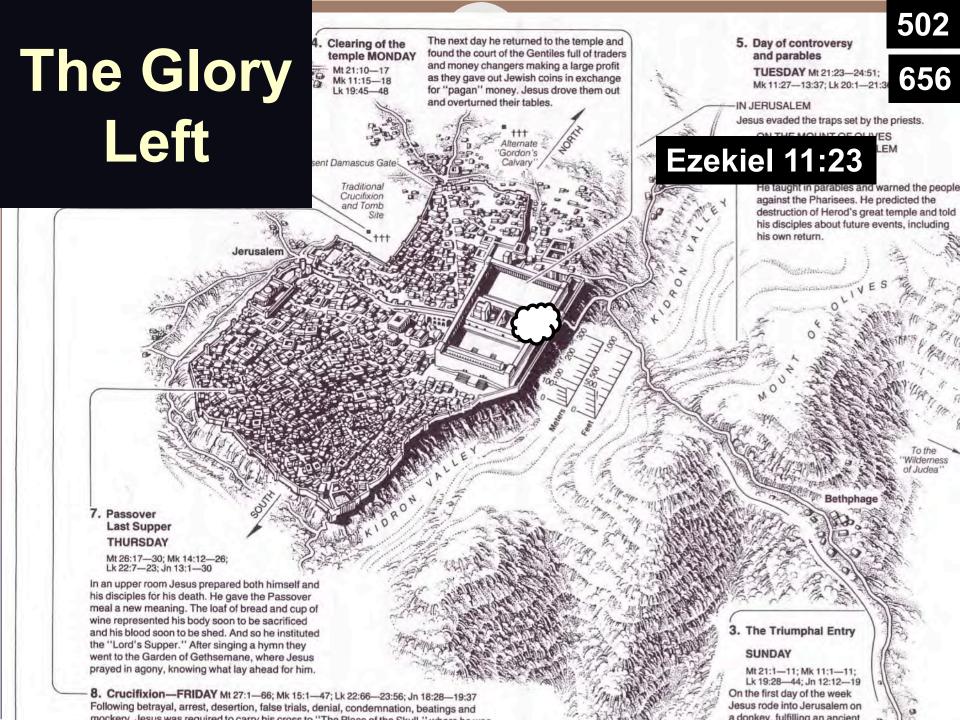
Creatures with Four Faces (Ezek. 10:14 NLT)

"Each of the four cherubim had four faces: the first was the face of an ox, the second was a human face, the third was the face of a lion, and the fourth was the face of an eagle."

Solomon's Temple



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7. Passover

ned to the temple and Gentiles full of traders making a large profit ish coins in exchange lesus drove them out ables.

Ezek. 8:4; 9:3; 10:4; 10:18-19; 11:23

Luke 19:37; 24:50; Acts 1:10

Acts 1:11; Zech. 14:4; Ezek. 43:1-5

The Spirit Leaves & Returns

Since the next day was the

Sabbath, the Lord spent the day in

traditional fashion with his friends.

a donkey, fulfilling an ancient prophecy (Zec 9:9). The crowd

"Hosanna" and the words of

welcomed him with

656

Jerusalem's fate was sealed so optimism was futile (Ezekiel 12–19).

Summary Statement of Ezekiel 1–32

"Ezekiel was called to pronounce to God's people and to the six nations the consequences of their sins, and to urge God's people to repent, turn from false hopes and look to God to bring restoration, so that all may know God's sovereignty and holiness in the end."

Theological Themes in Ezekiel

God's covenant relationship with His people

- 1. God's initiative and grace "Don't take it for granted!"
- 2. Being in a covenant relationship does not guarantee blessings – "Watch out for the curses!"

"Then this message came to me from the LORD: ² 'Son of man, prophesy against the false prophets of Israel who are inventing their own prophecies. Say to them...'

"Listen to the word of the LORD. ³ This is what the Sovereign LORD says: What sorrow awaits the false prophets who are following their own imaginations and have seen nothing at all!"



How can you De faithful to God in a world of idols?

IDOLS of the HEART

Ezekiel 14:3-6



"Then this message came to me from the LORD: ² 'Son of man, how does a grapevine compare to a tree? Is a vine's wood as useful as the wood of a tree? ³ Can its wood be used for making things, like pegs to hang up pots and pans? ⁴ No, it can only be used for fuel, and even as fuel, it burns too quickly. ⁵ Vines are useless both before and after being put into the fire!" (Ezekiel 15:1-5 NLT).

Jerusalem—an Unfaithful Wife (Ezekiel 16)



"But you thought your fame and beauty were your own. So you gave yourself as a prostitute to every man who came along. Your beauty was theirs for the asking" (16:15 NLT).

The Eagles and Vine Parable (Ezekiel 17)



The Eagles and Vine Parable (Ezekiel 17)

Babylon

Jerusalem

Egypt K



"The person who sins is the one who will die. The child will not be punished for the parent's sins, and the parent will not be punished for the child's sins. Righteous people will be rewarded for their own righteous behavior, and wicked people will be punished for their own wickedness" (Ezekiel 18:20 NLT).

A Funeral Song for Israel's Kings (Ezekiel 19)

Jehoiachin (597) Babylon

Jerusalem

Jehoahaz (609) Egypt

Nebuchadnezzar laid siege because Jerusalem deserved judgment (Ezekiel 20-24).

Judgment of Nation of Israel

"You say, 'We want to be like the nations all around us, who serve idols of wood and stone.' But what you have in mind will never happen... ³⁴And in anger I will reach out with my strong hand and powerful arm, and I will bring you back from the lands where you are scattered" (Ezekiel 20:32, 34).

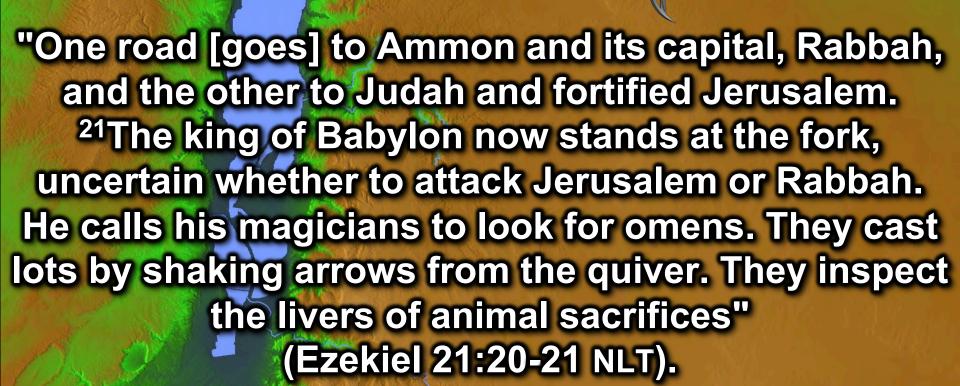
Judgment of Nation of Israel

"I will bring you into the wilderness of the nations, and there I will judge you face to face. ³⁶I will judge you there just as I did your ancestors in the wilderness after bringing them out of Egypt, says the Sovereign Lord. ³⁷I will examine you carefully and hold you to the terms of the covenant" (Ezekiel 20:35-37).

God's Sword—Ezekiel 21

Jerusalem •

Ammon



The consequence of sin is judgment

1. The city had many sins of murder, oppression, idolatry, slander, adultery, and greed (22:1-16).

- 2. Nebuchadnezzar would be God's refining furnace (22:17-22).
- 3. The leaders were among the worst of the people (22:23-31).

OHOLAH & OHOLIBAH

GOD'S JUDGMENT ON APOSTASY

Assyria

Jerusalem

Babylon

Samaria

"Then this message came to me from the LORD: ¹⁶ Son of man, with one blow I will take away your dearest treasure. Yet you must not show any sorrow at her death... So I proclaimed this to the people the next morning, and in the evening my wife died. The next morning I did everything I had been told to do" (Ezekiel 24:15-27 NLT). "Son of man, write down today's date, because on this very day the king of Babylon is beginning his attack against Jerusalem" (Ezekiel 24:2 NLT).

Babylonian Deportations of Judah 492

Summary of the Exiles

Sequence and Size	Date	King of Judah	Key Captives
1: Minor	605 BC	Jehoiakim	Daniel, 3 friends and other nobility and royalty (Dan 1:3)
2: Moderate	598 BC	Jehoiakim	3023 people (Jer 52:28)
3: Major	597 BC	Jehoiachin	10,000 (Jehoiachin, Ezekiel, Mordecai) (2 Kings 24:12b, Ezek. 1:2, Esther 2:6)
4: Minor	587 BC	Zedekiah	832 people (Jer 52:29)
5: Major (Temple Ruin)	586 BC	Zedekiah	ca. 10,400 people (2 Kings 25:11)
6: Minor	582 BC		745 people (Jer. 52:30)

Before the Exile (pre 605 BC)

During the Exile (605-538 BC)

After the Exile (post 538 BC)



Admit that his glory left.

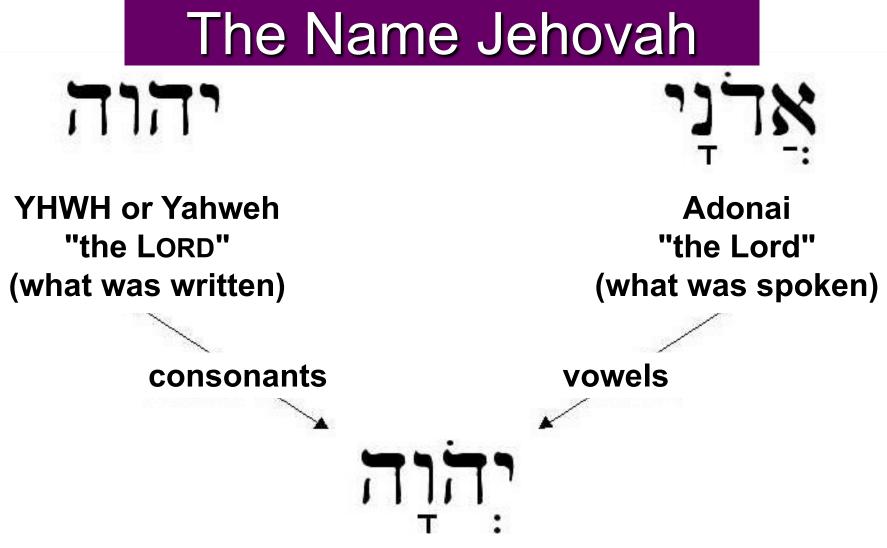
Main Idea of Ezekiel 4–24

God prioritizes holiness so he sent his Son to become sin so we can become holy.

Key Themes

God's Sovereignty God's Holiness (Holy Name)

Torothon Albert Commongs



"Jehovah" or "Yehovah"

This combines the consonants and vowels by later scribes to remind readers of the tension between what was written and what was spoken. The actual pronunciation of YHWH is unknown as Jews feared uttering the name of God at all, lest they use it improperly. Be honest that while the Spirit is present, you may have quenched him.



DO NOT QUENCH THE SPIRIT (1 THESS 5:19)

DO NOT QUENCH THE SPIRIT

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Indwelling of the Holy Spirit



Romans 8:9 "You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ."

John 14:15-17

¹⁵" If you love me, you will obey what I command. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever — ¹⁷the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you."

God makes things difficult to bring us back to him.

Key Themes

God's Sovereignty God's Holiness (Holy Name) The Glory of the LORD

Torothan Alter Commiss

"For we know the one who said, 'I will take revenge. I will pay them back.'

He also said, 'The LORD will judge his own people.'

³¹It is a terrible thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Hebrews 10:30-31 NLT).

1 Corinthians 11:30-32 (NLT)

³⁰ That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep. ³¹But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. ³²When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.

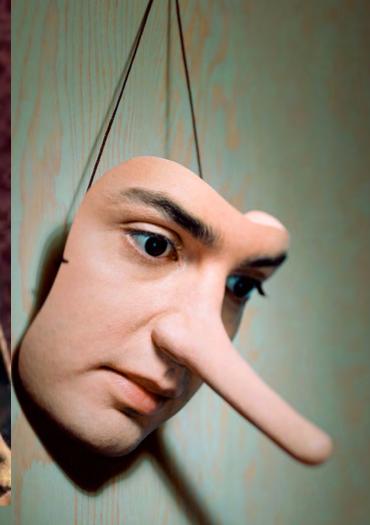
Rewards can be lost! "Watch out that you do not lose what we have worked so hard to achieve. Be diligent so that you receive your full reward" (2 John 8 NLT).



God will take the physical lives of some Christians who do more harm than good.

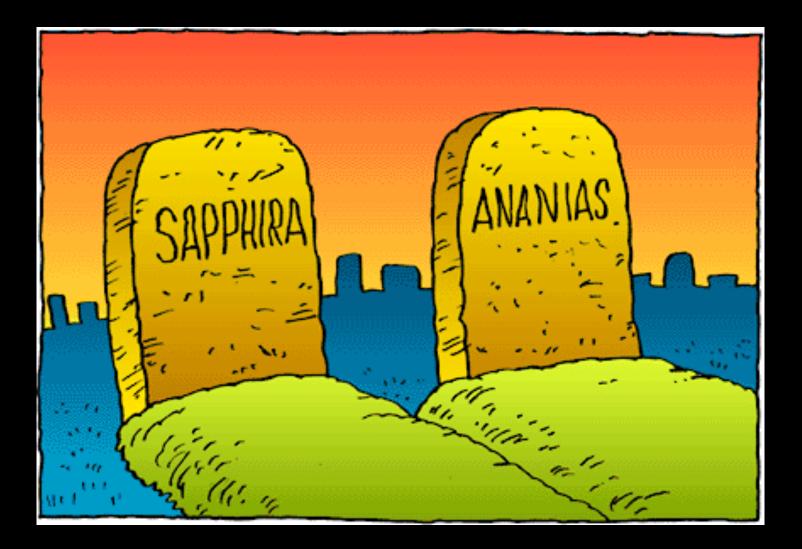
Ananias & Sapphira





Acts 5

Grace, yes, but there is still divine discipline...



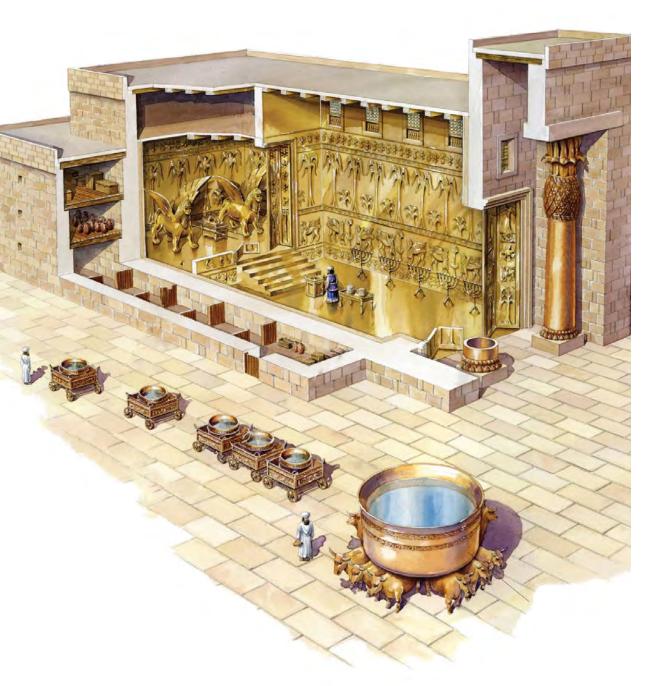
1 Corinthians 11:30-32 (NLT)

³⁰ That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep. ³¹But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. ³²When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.

Some sin leads to premature death (1 John 5:16-17 NIV)

"If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray and God will give him life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that he should pray about that. ¹⁷All wrongdoing is sin, and there is sin that does not lead to death."

How should we respond when God disciplines his own people?



Israel needed to admit that the Spirit left the temple before God destroyed it (Ezek 4–24).



Main Idea of Ezekiel 4–24

What to do?

Admit the glory left in your own life by declaring that you need Jesus.

How can you be expectant of God's glory once again in your life?

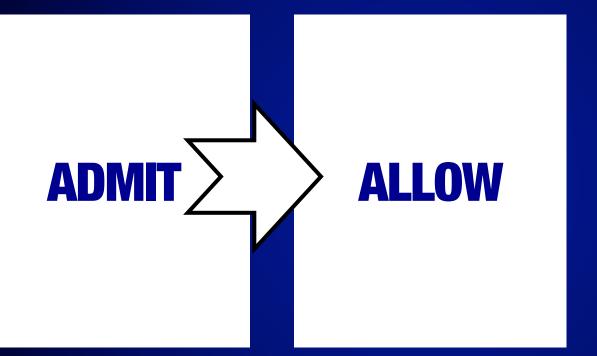


1—Admit that God's glory left (Ezek 1–24).



STEPS TO GOD'S GLORY

2—Allow God to handle all rivals to his glory (Ezek 25–32).



STEPS TO GOD'S GLORY

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