

The Book of Ezekiel
“The Messages of Ezekiel- Part 2”
Week 9: September 20, 2020
Ezekiel 7:1-27
Answers

Recap from Session 8:

1. **God’s Judgment of the High Places (6:1-7)**
 - a. The land belonged to the Lord, and He allowed the Jewish people to use it as long as they did not **Defile** it with their sins.
2. **God’s Grace to the Jewish Remnant (6:8-10)**
 - a. A “Remnant” is again mentioned. There were **Some** among these people who remained faithful to God. The nation as a whole went away from God, but there was a believing remnant.
 - b. It was this feeble remnant that **Returned** to the land, **Rebuilt** the temple, **Restored** the worship of the Lord, and eventually made possible the coming of the **Messiah**.
3. **God’s Weapons of Destruction (6:11-14)**
 - a. **Spiritual Fornication**
 - i. Just as a wife can be unfaithful to her husband, **Israel** was viewed as being unfaithful to **Jehovah**.
 - ii. At least 60 times, Ezekiel wrote, **“And they shall know that I am the LORD.”** Whether in **Blessing** or **Chastening**, the Lord’s purpose is to reveal Himself to us in His **Love** and **Grace**.

Session 9

Background/Introduction

- **The Devastation of the Land (7:1-27)**
 - The Nation of Israel was blessed with a gracious Lord to worship and love. Their **Love** for the Lord and their **Obedience** to His Law would determine how much blessing He could entrust to them in the land.
 - The third generation provoked the Lord, they broke their **“Marriage Vows,”** and prostituted themselves to idols (**Judg. 2:10-13**)
- 1. **Disaster Announced (7:1-9)**
 - a. Here we see **Four Oracles of Doom**
 - i. The Four Oracles of Doom open the chapter with the recurring theme:
 1. **“The End has come”** (Vss. 2-4)
 2. **“Evil has come”** (Vss. 5-9)
 3. **“The Day has come”** (Vss. 10-11)
 4. **“The Time has come”** (Vss. 12-13)
 - b. **Babylon** was God’s weapon through which He would unleash His anger, judge Israel’s abominable behavior, and **Repay** them for their disobedience.
 - c. **Vs. 1** **“The four corners of the land...”** **No** portion would escape God’s judgment. This prophecy is restricted to Israel.

- i. A new element is added to Ezekiel's prophecy in this message- this is now the prophecy of the **Final Destruction** of the land and the **End** of Jerusalem.
 - d. **Vss. 7 and 10:** The Hebrew word means "**To plait, to braid,**" such as braiding a **Garland** of flowers for the head, and it is translated "**Diadem**" in **Isa. 28:5**.
 - i. How do the translators get either "**Morning**" or "**Doom**" out of this word? Probably from the image of "**That which comes around,**" for a braided garland is the result of the weaving of flowers into a circle.
 - ii. "**Morning**" is that which comes around, day after day, and the doom of the Israelites had "**Come around.**" They had "**Woven**" their own shameful **Crown of Sin**, when they could have **Worn** a diadem of **Glory** to the Lord.
 - e. **Vss. 8-9:** In popular thinking, "**The day,**" meant the **Victory** of Israel over her foes, but the prophets stressed its aspect of **Judgment** on Israel.
 - i. **Foes Scripture: Isa. 9:3**
 - ii. **Judgment Scripture: Amos 5:18; Isa. 2:12**
 - 1. These verses are virtually a repetition of **Vs. 3** and **Vs. 4**.
 - a. Those who professed to know Him by other names (**Gen. 22:14**) would know Him by the name "**Yahweh-Makke**" which means "**The Lord who strikes the blow.**"
2. **The Disaster Pictured (7:10-21)**
- a. Always the matter of vivid language to help the people see the truth, Ezekiel painted four word pictures to arouse the interest and perhaps reach their hearts.
 - i. The first is the **Budding Rod (7:10-11)**
 - 1. This is an image from nature. God had been longsuffering as His people disobeyed His Law and had defied His prophets, but now their sins had "**Ripened,**" and the nation would have to reap what they have sowed.
 - ii. The second is taken from the **Business World (7:12-13)**
 - 1. This idea has the Jewish "**Year of Jubilee**" as the background. (**Lev. 25; Jer. 29:10**)
 - 2. Had the Jews obeyed God's law, the **Slaves** would have been freed and the **Ownership** of the land would have been protected, but now the surviving Jews would be **Enslaved** and their land **Taken** from them.
 - 3. The people had not obeyed the laws concerning the Sabbaths for the land, so the Lord took the land from them until those Sabbaths were fulfilled (**2 Chron. 36:14-21**). What we **Selfishly** keep for ourselves, we eventually **Lose**; but what we **Give** to the Lord, we keep **Forever**.
 - iii. The third picture is that of the **Watchman (7:14-15)**
 - 1. This section begins with the Final Scenes of **Desolation (7:14-27)**
 - a. The **Uselessness** of defense (**Vss. 14-18**)
 - b. The wealth of the city becoming a **Prey** to the invader (**Vss. 19-22**)
 - c. The Stupefaction **Seizing** all classes of people (**Vss. 23-27**)

