

The Book of Ezekiel
Lesson 13: The Truth About the False- Part 1
“False Confidence”
Ezekiel 12:1-28
October 25, 2020
Answers

Introduction:

- During Judah’s last years, the people were ruled by weak men who promoted idolatry and would not call the people to **Repentance** and **Prayer** (2 Chron. 7:14).
- 1. **The City is like a Cauldron (11:1-13)**
 - a. The good figs were the **Exiles** and the bad figs were the people **Left** in Jerusalem. (Jer. 24:1-7)
- 2. **Jehovah, the Sanctuary of His People (Vss. 14-21)**
 - a. This is God’s word of **Encouragement** to His servant that He would **Fulfill** His promise and spare a remnant of the people.
- 3. **The Glory Departs (Vss. 22-25)**
 - a. Now the glory of God departed and rested over the **Mount of Olives**, east of Jerusalem.
- When the vision ended, Ezekiel found himself back in his **Own** house in **Babylon**, and he told the Jewish elders and the other exiles, what the Lord had shown him.

Session 13

Introduction:

- During the siege of Jerusalem (606-586 BC), error had the support of government and religious leaders, and most of the Jewish exiles in Babylon agreed with them.
 - o One dissenting voice in **Jerusalem** was **Jeremiah**; in **Babylon** was **Ezekiel**.
 - o Both in his “Action sermons” and his oral messages, Ezekiel **Warned** the people that they were trusting in **Illusions**.
- In these chapters, (13-14), Ezekiel exposes the errors that brought the nation to ruin.
- 1. **False Confidence (12:1-28)**
 - i. When the Lord called Ezekiel, He warned him that he would be ministering to a **Rebellious** people (Ezek. 2:3-8) who were spiritually **Blind** and **Deaf**. (Ezek. 12:2)
 - 1. References regarding this idea and being obedient to God’s will:
 - a. (Jn. 7:17; Ps. 25:8-10; Isa. 6:9-10; Jer. 5:21)
 - ii. In order to get the **Attention** of the exiles and excite their interest, Ezekiel performed two “Action sermons” and after each one gave a message from the Lord.
- a. **The Leaders Cannot Escape (Vss. 1-16)**
 - a. The Lord instructed Ezekiel to **Play** the part of a **Fugitive** escaping from a **Besieged** City.
 - i. Part of his activity occurred in the **Daytime** and part at **Twilight**.
 - b. First, Ezekiel prepared a **Knapsack** with essentials for a journey and took it outside in the daylight and hid it somewhere **Away** from his house.

- i. Then he returned to the house and that evening dug through one of its walls, probably from the **Outside** since the people could see him.
 - ii. Houses were constructed of **Sun-dried** bricks, so digging through the wall was not a problem.
 - c. After that, he retrieved his knapsack, went into the house, and climbed out through the hole, while his **Face** was **Covered**, and his eyes were fixed on the ground.
 - d. Packing the knapsack and **Leaving** it at a **Distance** from his house conveyed the message that the **Leaders** in Jerusalem were planning to flee for their lives.
 - i. Digging through the wall from outside the house pictured the Babylonian's army **Assault** on the **Walls** of Jerusalem.
 - e. That evening, when Ezekiel climbed out of the house through the hole, the knapsack on his back, he **Depicted** the Jewish leaders **Secretly** trying to **Flee** from the city to save their lives.
 - f. The next morning, in the message that followed the "Action Sermon," Ezekiel **Predicted** that those events would occur. He also announced that though Zedekiah would be taken to Babylon, he would **Not** see it.
 - i. **Ezek. 12:13; Jer. 52:11**- How could such a thing happen? It was very simple. The Babylonian **Gouged** out his eyes.
 - 1. But it was not the Babylonian army that captured the king of Judah and his officers; it was God's "**Net**" that caught them.
 - g. **Ezek. 12:14-16**- Again, this would be the work of God- "**I shall scatter them**"- and not because these surviving Jews had been especially **Holy**.
 - i. Quite the opposite was true: The Lord allowed the survivors to go to Babylon as **Witnesses** that their evil deeds deserved punishment that God had sent to the nation.
- b. **The People will Live in Terror (Vss. 17-28)**
 - a. The prophet's second (Action sermon) probably took place the **Next** day when it was time for his **Meal**.
 - b. He ate his bread and drank his water- a **Frugal** meal- while shaking and trembling as if in fear.
 - i. He was illustrating the **Tragic** condition of the people in Jerusalem during the Babylonian siege.
 - ii. They would have very little food and would eat it with **Fear** and **Trembling**.
 - iii. Anxiety, worry, fear, and consternation would grip the people as the fall of the city became more **Imminent**.
 - c. The theme of Ezekiel's message (**12:21-28**) was the **Certainty** and the **Nearness** of God's judgment on Jerusalem and the land of Judah.
 - i. People can predict the weather, but they don't **Discern** "**The sings of the times.**" (**Matt. 16:3**)
 - ii. The Lord made it clear that there would be no more "**Delays**" and that His word would be fulfilled.

d. Ezek. 12:28

- i.** Six years later, the Babylonian army breached the walls of Jerusalem, and Ezekiel's predictions came True!
 - ii.** How Tragic it is when people deliberately Ignore or reject the dependable Word of God and put their faith in the empty but soothing words of false religious leaders!
- **There is NO Substitute for God's Word!**

