

A Message From Ezekiel for the Church of the Last Days

“What Is the Christian's proper response to living in a nation under judgment?”

593 BC

Ezekiel was in exile with his people when the Spirit of God carried him back to Jerusalem to show him the sins of the people there.

Ezekiel 1

1 Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the River Chebar, that the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God.

2 On the fifth day of the month, which was in the fifth year of King Jehoiachin's captivity,

3 the word of the LORD came expressly to Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the River Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was upon him there. (NKJV)



Psalms 137

1 By the rivers of Babylon, There we sat down, yea, we wept When we remembered Zion.

2 We hung our harps Upon the willows in the midst of it.

3 For there those who carried us away captive asked of us a song, And those who plundered us requested mirth, Saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

4 How shall we sing the LORD'S song In a foreign land?

5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, Let my right hand forget its skill!



Ezekiel 8:

1 And it came to pass in the sixth year, in the sixth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I sat in my house with the elders of Judah sitting before me, that the hand of the Lord GOD fell upon me there.

2 Then I looked, and there was a likeness, like the appearance of fire-from the appearance of His waist and downward, fire; and from His waist and upward, like the appearance of brightness, like the color of amber.

3 He stretched out the form of a hand, and took me by a lock of my hair; and the Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven, and brought me in visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the north gate of the inner court, where the seat of the image of jealousy was, which provokes to jealousy.

The Sins of Jerusalem exposed:

- **Idoltrous Image in God's Place North of the Altar Gate**
- **70 Men (in the wall) Offering Incense to abominable beasts and idols**
- **Pagan Idolatry – Women Weeping for Tammuz**
- **25 Men Worshipping the Sun Between the Porch and the Altar**

This passage is specifically written for and applies to Israel and the people in Jerusalem and the Captivity. It is not necessarily written to Born Again Christians. However, there are some things that we can learn about God and His dealings with people here that apply to all of us.

Heb 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Ezekiel 9:

1 Then He called out in my hearing with a loud voice, saying, "Let those who have charge over the city draw near, each with a deadly weapon in his hand."

2 And suddenly six men came from the direction of the upper gate, which faces north, each with his battle-ax in his hand. One man among them was clothed with linen and had a writer's inkhorn at his side.

They went in and stood beside the bronze altar.

3 Now the glory of the God of Israel had gone up from the cherub, where it had been, to the threshold of the temple. And He called to the man clothed with linen, who had the writer's inkhorn at his side;

4 and the LORD said to him, "Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it."

5 To the others He said in my hearing, "Go after him through the city and kill; do not let your eye spare, nor have any pity.

6 "Utterly slay old and young men, maidens and little children and women; but do not come near anyone on whom is the mark; and begin at My sanctuary." So they began with the elders who were before the temple.

7 Then He said to them, "Defile the temple, and fill the courts with the slain. Go out!" And they went out and killed in the city.

8 So it was, that while they were killing them, I was left alone; and I fell on my face and cried out, and said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Will You destroy all the remnant of Israel in pouring out Your fury on Jerusalem?"

9 Then He said to me, "The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceedingly great, and the land is full of bloodshed, and the city full of perversity; for they say, 'The LORD has forsaken the land, and the LORD does not see!'

10 "And as for Me also, My eye will neither spare, nor will I have pity, but I will recompense their deeds on their own head."

11 Just then, the man clothed with linen, who had the inkhorn at his side, reported back and said, "I have done as You commanded me."

Who received the mark?

- He did not say, "Everyone who did not perform the abominations." or "All those who have not sinned." He said, "men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof."
- It is deeper than a list of actions that we do or don't do; it is a heart that is perfect towards God.

Idolatry – The sin of Jerusalem

Ezekial 8:13 And He said to me, "Turn again, and you will see greater abominations that they are doing."

Abominations:

- **Divorce – Malachi 2:16** *"For the LORD God of Israel says That He hates divorce"*
- **Homosexuality – Leviticus 18:22** *'You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an abomination.'*
- **Abortion – Proverbs 6:16-19** *These six things the LORD hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: A proud look, A lying tongue, **Hands that shed innocent blood**, A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren. (NKJV)*
- **Calling good evil and evil good – Isaiah 5:20** *Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!*

What is the "Mark"?

Hebrew word for "Mark"

08420. wt tav, tawv

from 8427; a mark; by implication, a signature:

--desire, mark.

08427. hwt tavah, taw-vaw'

a primitive root; to mark out, i.e. (primitive) scratch or (definite) imprint:

--scrabble, set (a mark).

Greek word for "Mark"

5480. caragma charagma, khar'-ag-mah

from the same as 5482; a scratch or etching, i.e. stamp (as a badge of servitude), or sculptured figure (statue):--graven, mark.

Having God's name written in your forehead is an intimate thing. Where is your intimacy?

With God? Or with the Beast?

The Mark of the Beast

Re 13:16 He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads,

17 and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

18 Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is six hundred and sixty-six.

God's Name in their foreheads:

Exodus 28:36 "You shall also make a plate of pure gold and engrave on it, like the engraving of a signet: HOLINESS TO THE LORD.

37 "And you shall put it on a blue cord, that it may be on the turban; it shall be on the front of the turban.

38 "So it shall be on Aaron's forehead, that Aaron may bear the iniquity of the holy things which the children of Israel hallow in all their holy gifts; and it shall always be on his forehead, that they may be accepted before the LORD.

Re 9:4 They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads.

Re 14:1 ¶ Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads.

Re 22:4 They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.

What Is the proper emotional response to Abominations in our culture?

Mourn: (Do a study on mourning in Scripture)

Mt 5:4 Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.

Lu 6:25 Woe to you who are full, For you shall hunger. Woe to you who laugh now, For you shall mourn and weep.

Jas 4:8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

9 Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom.

10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

11 Do not speak evil of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.

Re 1:7 Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.
(NKJV)

- Who is the enemy?
- Is there a conspiracy?
- What does the enemy want to accomplish?
- **What does Christ want to accomplish in you?**

Ephesians 4:

11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,
12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,
13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

Does Christ know you well enough to put His Signature on your forehead?

"I never knew you."

Mt 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

22 "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'

23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

Matthew 10:28 "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

Mt 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

(NKJV)

**2Timothy 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.
(NKJV)**