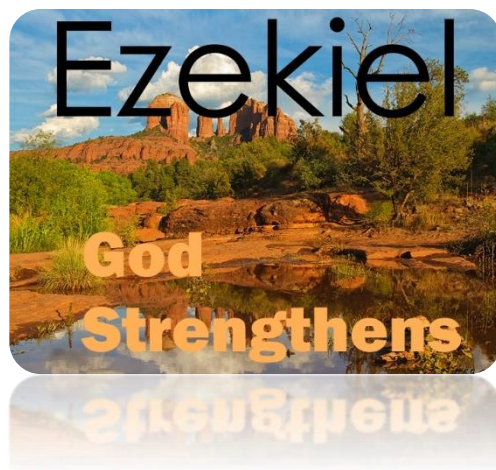


# EZEKIEL 24 vs 1

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Of the last chapter, Matthew Henry wrote: it is about the history of the apostasy of God's people -- about His **two women** who came from Egypt. And the question is: Couldn't God have just told us that two peoples came from Egypt? And all that excessive detail about fondling breasts and bleeping around. I mean, I'm sort of shocked the LORD God would even talk like that! Couldn't the LORD God just say, My people were unfaithful? making sexy sounding deals and alliances on any terms... with all the neighboring countries, as if the Lord GOD was not sufficient to be depended on. But what do we also learn?



Moreover, this is the history of a faithful GOD and Father... looking through the rubble of time... for the man or woman, young or old... a son or a daughter who will depend on Him. And if the LORD values faithfulness to Him in time... then, just imagine what our faith in Him... will purchase for all eternity... because we trust HIM! Don't you sort of wonder where these ancient peoples are today?

Now, here are two sermons Ezekiel preached on a particular occasion; they are both from Mount Sinai, the mount of terrors; both from Mount Ebal, the mount of curses; both lessons speak to the approaching fate of Jerusalem.

## The Siege of Jerusalem

**<sup>1</sup>In the ninth year, in the tenth month / January 588bc, on the tenth day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me saying,**

**<sup>2</sup>Son of man, write the name of this day, this day: the king of Babylon set himself against **Jerusalem** this same day.**

**<sup>3</sup>And utter a parable to **the rebellious house**, and say to them, Thus says the LORD God: Put on a caldron, and also pour water in it / in this earthy parable, a heavenly truth is being declared: we are to understand: the city is the caldron and we the people are the flesh:**

**<sup>4</sup>Put in it the pieces, every good piece, the thigh, and the shoulder; fill it with the choice bones.**

**<sup>5</sup>Take the choicest of the flock, and pile wood under the pot, make it boil vigorously, and let its bones seethe in it.**

**<sup>6</sup>So thus says the LORD God: Woe to the **bloody** city to the pot whose scum is in it, whose scum is not gone from it! / how terrible it will be for the bloody city ; the pot is rusty, it is corroded**

**take out of it piece by piece; let no lot fall on it / don't be choosy what piece to remove first.**

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<sup>7</sup> For her **blood** is in her midst; she put it on the bare rock; she did **not** pour it on the ground, to cover it with dust / so she had become shamelessly exposed, the city and its people violated the teaching of the Lord – which sounds like most of the world today, doesn't it?

<sup>8</sup> that it roused My wrath to come take vengeance I have put on the bare rock the blood she shed, that it is not covered / her bloody exposure... the taking of life... particularly the lives of innocent children and the unborn... that cry out for the Lord God of glory, the Creator of all life to answer; God was going to make sure her sin, her uncleanness, she was filthy and would be exposed.

<sup>9</sup> So thus says the LORD God; Woe to the **bloody** city! I will make it a great pile for fire / for a second time, how terrible it will be for the bloody city Jerusalem – for any bloody city: Chicago, DC, London, Paris, Rome and others: the Lord will deal with lovers of violence,

<sup>10</sup> Heap on wood, kindle the fire, boil the meat, and spice it well, and let the bones be burned up.

<sup>11</sup> Then set it empty on its coals, that it become hot, and its bronze glow, and its filthiness be melted in it, its scum consumed. / turn up the heat

<sup>12</sup> She has wearied herself with toil, yet her great scum has not gone from her: let her scum be in the fire!

<sup>13</sup> On account of your filthy lewdness: since I purged you, but you were **not** purged, / often God divinely intervened with His people saying, I cleansed you; God turned up the heat; but no more; as the Lord said: I will no longer shepherd you, what must die, let it die; what must be destroyed; let it be destroyed – Zechariah 11,

so you will not be purged from your filthiness anymore until I have spent My wrath on you / this phrase always hints to **the last days**; there are 3 days that remain on the calendar of the Lord; 3 days that are as specific and equal to Passover and Pentecost; and one of those is especially for those blood thirsty fools : the terrible Day of God's Wrath.

<sup>14</sup> I the LORD have spoken it: it will come to pass, I will do it. I will not concede, I will not pity, I will not reconsider; according to **your** ways and according to **your** deeds you will be judged, says the LORD God.

Ezekiel's Wife Dies

<sup>15</sup> **And the word of the LORD came to me saying,**

<sup>16</sup> Son of man, behold, I take from you the desire of your eyes / the love of Ezekiel's life: his wife, with a stroke: but you will not mourn, you will not weep, not a tear will run down.

# EZEKIEL 24 vs 1

<sup>17</sup> Groan silently, but do not mourn for the dead. Bind the turban on your head, put shoes on your feet, but do not cover your lips, and do not eat the bread of men.

<sup>18</sup> So I spoke to the people in the morning: **and in the evening my wife died;** and in the morning I did as I was instructed.

<sup>19</sup> And the people said to me, Will you not tell us what these things you are doing mean for us? / Ezekiel was to forego the customs attend his wife's death, and just appear as normal.

<sup>20</sup> Then I said to them, The word of the LORD came to me saying,

<sup>21</sup> **Speak to the house of Israel,** / this lesson is to **the whole house of Israel**; so: including the **House of Judah** that was to be taken to Babylon; and is the Lord intentionally getting double mileage from these words? 2500 years ago, the Lord was speaking directly to the faithless Jewish people; but 2500 years later I bet the fair warning is also to the whole house of those who claim they are **ruled by God**,

Thus says the LORD God: Behold, I will profane My sanctuary, the excellency of your power, the desire of your eyes, and the delight of your soul; and your sons and your daughters whom you have left behind will fall by the sword.

<sup>22</sup> And you will do as I have done: you will not cover your lips, and you will not eat the bread of men.

<sup>23</sup> And your turbans will be on your heads, and your shoes on your feet. You will not mourn, you will not weep; **but you will rot away for your crimes**, and you will groan to one another.

<sup>24</sup> Thus Ezekiel will be a sign to you: according to all he has done, you will do: and when this comes, you will know:

**I am the LORD God.**

<sup>25</sup> As for you, son of man, will it not be on the day when I take from them their stronghold, the joy of their pride, the desire of their eyes, and their heart's delight, their sons and their daughters,

<sup>26</sup> that on that day one who escapes will come to you, with news for your ears?

<sup>27</sup> On that day, your prophetic mouth will be opened to the one who escaped, and you will speak, and be silent no longer. Thus you will be a sign to them; and they will know:

**I am the LORD.**