

# EZEKIEL 5 vs 1

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<sup>1</sup> And you, son of man / the Lord speaks to Ezekiel,

take a sharp sword, take and use it as a barber's razor on your head and beard: then take scales to weigh and divide the hair.

<sup>2</sup> One third you will burn with fire in the center of the city, when the days of the siege are completed: and one third you will take and strike with a sword around the city: and one third you will scatter to the wind; and I will unsheathe a sword behind them.

<sup>3</sup> Take also a few in number, and bind them in your hem.

<sup>4</sup> Then take again some of them, and throw them into the fire, and burn them in the fire; for from it a fire will spread to **all the House of Israel**.

<sup>5</sup> **Thus says the Lord GOD:**

**This is Jerusalem:** / in other words: GUILTY.

I have set it in the center of the nations and countries which surround her / Jerusalem was highly honored by God; she was positioned not in some remote obscure corner of the world... but to be conspicuous and illustrative; set in the midst of the nations as a candle upon a candlestick, to spread the light of divine revelation, which she was blessed with, to all the dark corners of the neighboring nations; and from them it might diffuse itself further, even to the ends of the earth – Matthew Henry.

<sup>6</sup> But she changed My judgments more wickedly than the nations / Jerusalem rebelled against the commands given by God, mostly ignoring them,

and against My statutes more *wickedly* than the countries which surround her:

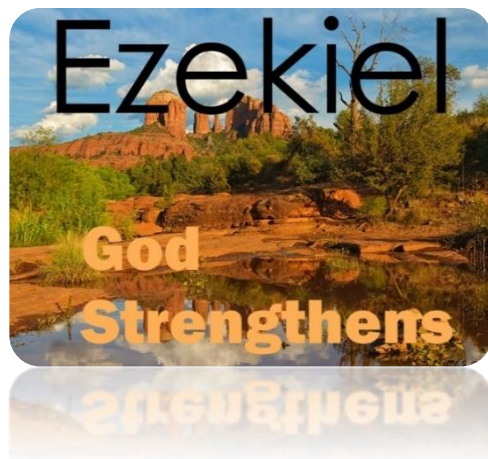
for she rejected My judgments and has **not** walked in My statutes.

<sup>7</sup> Therefore **thus says the Lord GOD:**

because you increased... / importing pagan idolatry and false worship, importing idols and altars; gods and temples, corrupting the revealed religion... more than the Gentiles corrupted natural religion...

more than the nations which surround you,

and did **not** walk in My statutes / but preferred their manmade traditions,



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and did **not** do My judgments,

and did **not** do *even* according to the judgments of the nations which surround you;

<sup>8</sup> Therefore **thus says the Lord GOD:**

Behold / pay attention, **I, even I am against you,**

and I will execute judgments among you in the sight of the nations / and in their hardened rebellion to the Lord GOD, they continue in the 21<sup>st</sup> century to be the attention of the nations, still not doing what the Lord GOD clearly told them to do; they are much like the churchianity people the world sees now days.

<sup>9</sup> And because of all your abominations / starting with their flagrant disregard of the word of the LORD,

**I will do in you that which I have not done, and what I will never do again** / the LORD has given fair warning as to what will be done to that city Jerusalem; and I fear the fair warning has not been heeded; leaving this verse as a future prophecy still awaiting its fulfillment. The prophet Jeremiah wrote: *For the iniquity of the daughter of My people is greater than the sin of Sodom.* And to date... what happened to Sodom still exceeds anything that has happened to Jerusalem.



<sup>10</sup> Therefore the fathers will eat their sons among you, and sons will eat their fathers / and this disgusting state of cannibalism is also referred to in Lamentations 4;

for I will execute judgments on you, and scatter all your remnant to the wind.

<sup>11</sup> **As I live, says the Lord GOD;**

Surely, because you have defiled My sanctuary with all your detestable things, and with all your abominations, therefore I will withdraw / He's stepping back from their stinking, putrid rot; He's getting out of the way of the approaching storm;

My eye will **not** spare, and I will have **no** pity / no mercy.

<sup>12</sup> One third of you will die of plague and be consumed with famine in your midst:

one third will fall by the sword all around you;

and one third I will scatter to all the wind, and an unsheathed sword will pursue them.

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**<sup>13</sup> Thus My anger will be spent; I will appease My wrath on them,**

**and I will be appeased: and they will know:**

**I, the LORD, have spoken** in My zeal,

**when I have spent My wrath on them.**

**<sup>14</sup> Also I will make you a desolation and a reproach among the nations which surround you,**

**in the sight of all who pass by** / the prophet says: *the Lord is slow to anger, but will by no means leave the guilty unpunished*; adding: *He will fling dung on them and set them up like a spectacle – Nahum 3:6*. Things in private He deals with privately; things in public are another matter. Do you know anyone who looks like they have crap on their face? That clown is made a sight to behold.

**<sup>15</sup> So you will be a reproach, a reviling, a warning; and a horror to the nations which surround you** / and here we learn God in His judgments against Jerusalem has given fair instruction and warning to all the onlookers in the neighborhood,

**when I execute judgments against you in My anger and wrath, and raging rebuke** / thankfully Paul wrote to the faithful congregation in Thessalonica... that they need not fear as the day approaches: God has not appointed us unto wrath, but to salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**I, the LORD, have spoken** / and we could add... **spoken** in My zeal, when I spent My wrath on them.

**<sup>16</sup> When I send on them the deadly arrows / lethal missiles... of famine, which are for the destruction of those whom I will send to destroy you:**

**and I will increase the famine on you, and will break your staff of bread** / lots of arrows will hit their intended targets; and God himself will remove the supports necessary for life:

**<sup>17</sup> I will send on you, famine and wild beasts, and they will bereave you:**

**and plague and bloodshed will pass through you, and I will bring the sword on you** / not a pretty sight; the sword of the LORD that was drawn for Jerusalem's defense is now drawn for its destruction.

**I, the LORD, have spoken** in My zeal, when I have spent My wrath on them.

John Calvin wrote: Are these the empty, frustrated words of an angry, powerless God? **No!**

Matthew Henry wrote: All this is ratified by divine authority and veracity. He has spoken who can do it; for nothing is impossible for Him. He has spoken who will do it: for He is not a man that He should lie.