

'Idols of the Heart"
Ezekiel 14

v. 1 Q. What happened next?

A. Cp. 8:1

Note: They clearly _____ him as a prophet.

vv. 2/3a Q. What initial insider information did Ezekiel receive about these elders?

A. Cp. 7:19-20

v. 3b Q. What question does the LORD pose to Ezekiel?

A.

v. 4 Q. What does the Lord say about any Israelite coming with such a heart of hypocrisy? What does this mean?

A. God will not come through a _____ voice speaking to them but in _____ of judgment (personally)?

Read 1 Kings 18:21

Read Psalm 86:11

Read Isaiah 29:13-14

Read Hosea 4:17-19

Read Matthew 6:24

v. 5 Q. Why is God responding in such a way?

A.

v. 6 Q. What does the LORD call them to do?

A.

1. _____

2. _____ Turn from your idols.

3. _____ all your detestable practices

Read Revelation 2:4-5. What is similar?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

v. 7 Q. What two things are added in this verse? (one noun; one verb)

A.

1.

2.

v. 8a Q. What will God do to that person?

A.

1. I will set my face _____ that person.

2. I will make him an _____.

Note: The Hebrew word is "leot" = a sign or _____. Just as an obedient prophet is a "sign" to the people, so are disobedient.

3. I will make him a _____ [you won't remember him]

4. I will _____ from my people.

Note: This could mean:

1.

2. _____ from the community.

3. _____ from the community and the covenant promises of God.

v. 8b Q. What consistent reason is given?

A.

v. 9 Q. Who is this speaking of?

A.

Q. Who is "enticing" the false prophet?

A.

Note: To "entice" can mean "to seduce" or 'to deceive' or "_____ " as in an animal from a hole.

Read 1st Kings 22:19-23

Q. What does the LORD say he will do with that false prophet?

A.

1. I will stretch out my hand _____ him (judgment)
2. I will _____ him from among the people of Israel (kill)

v. 10 Q. Describe the double guilt and punishment.

A.

v. 11 Q. What will be the result?

A.

1. The people will no longer _____.
2. They will no longer _____ themselves with sin. (idolatry)
3. They will _____ the third-class conditional Mosaic covenant. Cp. Ex. 6:7 [covenant language both old and new; Jer. 24:7]

vv. 12/13 Q. God now shifts to national judgment. What does He say to Ezekiel?

A.

1. If a country _____ against me by being unfaithful.

Q. What does this mean?

A.

2. And I stretch my hand out against it [judgment]
 - a. By cutting off its food supply and bringing a _____.
 - b. By killing its _____
 - c. By killing its _____ [work, food]

v. 14 Q. What is the drastic impact?

A. Even if the _____ most notably righteous persons in the Old Testament were in that country, they would only save themselves.

Note: There are some scholars who hold that Daniel is not the Daniel of the Hebrew scriptures, but another Daniel (Danel) of the _____ time known for his righteousness. _____ literature mentions such a man living around 1500-1200 B.C. The other supporting argument for this would be the naming _____: Noah, Daniel, Job.

The argument for the Daniel of the Bible is just that – he was already _____ to be a man of integrity and righteousness in the court of Babylon. It seems unlikely the exiles would have been aware of some Ugaritic tablet with an _____ name written upon it.

Q. How does this fit with Genesis 18 and Abraham's intercession for Sodom and Gomorrah?

A.

v. 15 Q. What is the other judgment option?

A. d. By sending wild _____ who
 i. will kill their _____
 ii. and leave the land _____.

Read 2 Kings 17:26

Q. What does he say about these three righteous men again?

A.

1. Even if they were in the country, they would not be able to _____ their sons and daughters
2. They would be _____.
3. But the land would still be _____.

v. 17 Q. What is the third option of judgment?

- A.
- e. By bringing the _____ to kill the men. [militarily]
 - f. By bringing the sword to kill the _____ animals.

v. 18 Q. Repeating the effect of the three men...

A.

1. They will not be able to _____ your sons and daughters.
2. They alone will be _____.

v. 19 Q. What is the fourth option of judgment?

- A.
- g. By sending a _____
 - h. By pouring out my wrath through bloodshed
 - i. Killing its _____
 - ii. Killing its _____

v. 20 Q. Repeating the effect on the three men....

A.

1. They will not be able to _____ your sons and daughters.
2. They alone will be _____ by their righteousness.

v. 21 Q. The LORD gets specific by mentioning Jerusalem. What does He say?

A. How much worse will it be when I send these _____ judgments: sword, famine, beasts, and plague to kill its men and animals.

v. 22aQ. Where does God's mercy fit into this?

A.
1. There will be some _____

v. 22b 2. They will be sent in _____ to where you are, Ezekiel.

3. It will be a source of _____ when Ezekiel sees the behavior and actions of those spared.

Q. What does this mean?

A.

v. 23 Q. What other type of consolation does this offer Ezekiel?

A.

Q. Are there times when God does not let us inquire of Him?

A. Cp. Psalm 66:18-20

Q. How can we be a sign for good or an omen for evil?

A.

Q. How is Jesus a better intercessor than the three men mentioned?

A. Cp. Heb. 7:25; 1st John 2:1-2

Q. How does this chapter speak about the issue of non-transferable righteousness?

A.

Q. How might our prayers be futile considering God's ultimate plan for divine judgment?

A.

Q. Would there ever be a time when God would say, "Don't pray for them'?"

A. Cp. Jer. 7:16; 11:14; 14:11