

Just How Nasty You Are

Exploring Ezekiel, Amir Tsarfati

Chapter 6

EZEKIEL 20-24

1. The author states, “It's true there are times when God protects those who remain faithful to Him.” And then, he tells of “others who sustained great loss because of others' wickedness.” Who else does he cite, besides Ezekiel?
2. “When we sin, it is typically not only us who pay the price.” Through what three things does the author say, “we learn to use the ramifications of our sin as an encouragement to holiness.” (top of 105)

A Clanging Gong (20)

3. What does author say God did not feel obligated to respond to the elders of Israel's inquiry of Him? (Next to the last paragraph on 107)

A Glimpse of the Millennium (20)

4. “Ezekiel 20 shines hope in the midst of condemnation.” How is Lamentations 3:21-24 is described by the author as he compares it to Ezekiel 20?
5. How are the people described before the Lord in Ezekiel 20:40-44?

The Swinging of the Sword (21)

6. What illustration does God use as His pronouncement of judgment against Israel continues in Ezekiel 21:4-5?

7. The author describes an attitude that exiles Israel had as, “stinks to be them” and states that God was not pleased. What other comparison does he make about this kind of attitude from the Book of Revelation on page 105?
8. Verses 15-16 are, “such a graphic description of the Babylonian soldiers flooding the streets of Jerusalem, swinging their swords right and left.” What does the author say the Lord reminding Ezekiel’s listeners of? (last sentence on 111)
9. The author makes two observations about verses 25-27. What of the use of repetition used here?
10. The second observation notes another gleam of hope. “Who is the He” referred to in verse 27?

Bloody, Drossy, Worthless Leaders (22)

11. “Earlier, we talked about how a city is only as good as its leaders. Never was this truer than in Jerusalem.” (113) Verse 6 is the list of their sin. “The whole catalog of sins can be attributed to one reason that the Lord gave at the end of the succession of shame.” What is that one reason give in Verse 12?
12. The author uses a YouTube video of a little boy at a zoo to give an illustration of our spiritual life. What is it and how does he use it to describe our situation?
13. How does he further relate “outright rebellion” from the princes of Isreal in Ezekiel 22:6 to this illustration? (115)
14. What is the Lord’s verdict in verse 22?

15. "As the leaders led, so the people followed. The Lord searched for one leader who would stand in the gap to divert the coming wrath. Was there not one man who had the righteousness, character, and position to turn the people around?"

Sisters, Sisters (23)

16. Let's consider the author's summation of this chapter. "Chapter 23 is the only chapter of the Bible onto which I would affix a TV-MA rating. Or, if it was playing in a theater, I'd assign it as NC-17."

"This is the story of two sisters. The older sister, Oholah, represented Samaria, capital of the northern kingdom. The younger sister, Oholibah, was the southern kingdom's capital, Jerusalem."

"Their stories were to be a testament to all the citizens of Jerusalem of their own whoring ways." (117)

How does the Lord wrap up this chapter in Ezekiel 23:48-49?

The Beginning of the End (24)

17. What is the date stamp given in Ezekiel 24:1-2?
18. The final siege of the once great city by Nebuchadnezzar had commenced. How does 2 Kings 25:1 confirm this date?
19. "The leaders of Israel were scoundrels, and the people were idolatrous rebels. God was not on Jerusalem's side anymore." (119) What picture does God give that He is going to do in Ezekiel 24:10-11?

20. What is the most tragic personal loss of any prophet the author identifies in verses 15-18?

21. "Ezekiel was barely in his thirties." What point could be so important that God is illustrating with His prophet this way?
Read the last paragraph on page 120. And then Ezekiel 24:21.

22. How does the author relate John 10:17-18 to this passage in Ezekiel?