

Ezekiel Chapter 7

Ezekiel 7:1 "Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,"

This is an extension (of chapter 5 and 6).

The word "moreover" indicates the connection.

We do see however, a new Word of the LORD came to Ezekiel.

This indicates that God stopped, and started up again speaking to Ezekiel. This is the same prophecy, with an interval in between.

Ezekiel 7:2 "Also, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD unto the land of Israel; An end, the end is come upon the four corners of the land."

This is speaking of the "end" of God's patience.

The punishment will begin now.

The land from border to border will be destroyed in the judgment of God.

This lament declared that the entire land of Israel was ripe for judgment.

God's patience had ended.

The final destruction of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar was in view (586 B.C.).

Ezekiel 7:3 "Now [is] the end [come] upon thee, and I will send mine anger upon thee, and will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense upon thee all thine abominations."

God's judgment is just.

He is patient, but there comes a time, when He will wait no longer.

Each person will be judged of God.

We cry out for mercy, and not justice.

The ways of the people were evil to the utmost.

The judgment will be to the utmost, as well.

Remember, "Abominations" are revolting sins in the sight of God.

Ezekiel 7:4 "And mine eye shall not spare thee, neither will I have pity: but I will recompense thy ways upon thee, and thine abominations shall be in the midst of thee: and ye shall know that I [am] the LORD."

The terribleness of the judgment will not be for just some.

It will come upon all.

Just because they are God's family, will not cause God to spare them.

Their sin is too great.

There will be no doubt of who is God, when this is over.

Ezekiel 7:5 "Thus saith the Lord GOD; An evil, an only evil, behold, is come."

The evil against them will be so great, the rest of the world will be in awe of it.

Ezekiel 7:6 "An end is come, the end is come: it watcheth for thee; behold, it is come."

They had been warned over and over, but now, that terrible day has come.

Ezekiel 7:7 "The morning is come unto thee, O thou that dwellest in the land: the time is come, the day of trouble [is] near, and not the sounding again of the mountains."

"The morning is come unto thee" means this is a new day that God's people had never experienced before.

They have never experienced the wrath of God before.

This is not an earthquake, but the terrible sound of war, which brings God's judgment upon these sinful people.

Ezekiel 7:8 "Now will I shortly pour out my fury upon thee, and accomplish mine anger upon thee: and I will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense thee for all thine abominations."

The word that was translated "recompense" here, has many meanings.

I believe in this particular instance, it means "to repay to the fullest".

The wages of sin is death.

They will collect their wages for their abominations.

Hosea 8:7 "For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind: it hath no stalk: the bud shall yield no meal: if so be it yield, the strangers shall swallow it up."

God's anger is not unjustified.

They deserve the punishment they receive.

Many of us deserve death, because of our sins.

Our justification is in Jesus, who was our Substitute for our sin.

Ezekiel 7:9 "And mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: I will recompense thee according to thy ways and thine abominations [that] are in the midst of thee; and ye shall know that I [am] the LORD that smiteth."

"LORD" here, is "Jehovah".

This is a repeat of an earlier verse (verse 4, above, is very similar).

This is a just judgment on a sinful people.

God will not spare His own, if they are living in sin.

Ezekiel 7:10 "Behold the day, behold, it is come: the morning is gone forth; the rod hath blossomed, pride hath budded."

This is the beginning of that great and terrible day God had warned of.

The "rod" here, is speaking of God's vengeance.

Their pride has caused them not to repent.

Ezekiel 7:11 "Violence is risen up into a rod of wickedness: none of them [shall remain], nor of their multitude, nor of any of theirs: neither [shall there be] wailing for them."

Violence had grown up into a rod of wickedness, which likely refers to Nebuchadnezzar, the instrument of God's vengeance.

The usual burial ceremony will not be held for them.

They will be killed, and left where they fall for the vultures and the wild beasts.

Their pride against God has brought this total humiliation upon them.

They will die violent deaths, when the rod of God is extended over them.

Ezekiel 7:12 "The time is come, the day draweth near: let not the buyer rejoice, nor the seller mourn: for wrath [is] upon all the multitude thereof."

“Buyer rejoice ... seller mourn”:

Such matters of business were meaningless because the Chaldeans took all the land and killed those they didn’t take captive and the rest escaped.

Their wealth was useless to them at this point.

Ezekiel 7:13 "For the seller shall not return to that which is sold, although they were yet alive: for the vision [is] touching the whole multitude thereof, [which] shall not return; neither shall any strengthen himself in the iniquity of his life."

This has to do with the selling of something until jubilee.

At jubilee, all property and land go back to its original owner.

The purchaser and the seller will be in captivity when jubilee arrives, so there will be no restoration.

They may be alive, but they will be in captivity.

Ezekiel 7:14 "They have blown the trumpet, even to make all ready; but none goeth to the battle: for my wrath [is] upon all the multitude thereof."

The Hebrews would blow the silver trumpet for the gathering of the people to worship.

The only other time the trumpet was blown, was a call to war.

The trumpet blew for war, but no one came.

There was really no need to fight.

I believe at this point they knew the Babylonians were at their gates and that it would be useless to fight.

They would have been fighting against God.

This battle is a judgment of God upon them and they knew it.

Ezekiel 7:15 "The sword [is] without, and the pestilence and the famine within: he that [is] in the field shall die with the sword; and he that [is] in the city, famine and pestilence shall devour him."

The judgment was spoken of God, and it will come.

Those who were outside the gates of the city to fight would die with the sword.

Those inside the city wall would die from pestilence and famine.

Ezekiel 7:16 "But they that escape of them shall escape, and shall be on the mountains like doves of the valleys, all of them mourning, every one for his iniquity."

A few will escape, but they have lost all of their earthly possessions.

They have also, lost their relationship with God.

They will be hiding out, and fleeing from place to place to keep from being caught.

The mourning is a type of repentance.

They have suddenly realized their sins, after it is too late.

Ezekiel 7:17 "All hands shall be feeble, and all knees shall be weak [as] water."

They seem to be feeble, because they are unable to help themselves.

There is nothing they can do at this point.

Their knees were weak and trembled with fear.

This section (from 17-22), described the mourning of the helpless and frightened people.

In distress, they recognized the uselessness of the things in which they trusted.

Their wealth provided nothing.

Their silver and gold and their ornaments were as useless as the idols they made with them.

Ezekiel 7:18 "They shall also gird [themselves] with sackcloth, and horror shall cover them; and shame [shall be] upon all faces, and baldness upon all their heads."

Baldness upon a woman's head indicated adultery.

They have committed spiritual adultery by worshipping false gods.

This could be the reason for the bald head.

"Sackcloth" is an outward symbol of repenting with great mourning.

This all indicates repentance.

Are they repenting for the fear of death, or are they truly repentant of their sins?

The Hebrews had always been proud people.

The shame has come, because God has turned against them.

Ezekiel 7:19 "They shall cast their silver in the streets, and their gold shall be removed: their silver and their gold shall not be able to deliver them in the day of the wrath of the LORD: they shall not satisfy their souls, neither fill their bowels: because it is the stumbling block of their iniquity."

Gold and silver were God's money.

They were thought of as blessings from God.

They had misused the gold and silver God had given them to bless them.

They had blasphemed God with their idols made of silver and gold.

That which had been given them to bless them, had become a curse, because of their misuse of it.

Gold and silver are nothing, when you are starving to death.

They are nothing when you are struggling to stay alive.

They cast their silver and gold in the streets, because it is of no help in turning the wrath of God away.

God cannot be bribed.

All the silver and gold in the world belongs to Him.

It is a stumbling block to them, because of their evil use of it.

Ezekiel 7:20 "As for the beauty of his ornament, he set it in majesty: but they made the images of their abominations [and] of their detestable things therein: therefore have I set it far from them."

Gold had been the metal used in the Holy of Holies in the temple.

The silver was used in the Holy Place.

The ornaments made from them were beautiful.

They had turned all of this beauty into revolting sin, by making false gods with the silver and gold.

The best example of something like this is in the Exodus from Egypt.

God had told the children of Israel to bring silver and gold with them, to build the beautiful things in the temple with.

While Moses was on the mountain meeting with God, they made a golden calf.

God, in His wrath, killed many of the Israelites.

This is the same message here.

Gold and silver are good.

It is the misuse of them that is evil.

Ezekiel 7:21 "And I will give it into the hands of the strangers for a prey, and to the wicked of the earth for a spoil; and they shall pollute it."

This is now speaking of the beautiful gold and silver things in the temple.

When the Babylonians invaded, they took all of this back to Babylon and then polluted it.

Remember what Belshazzar did?

He defiled the gold and silver cups taken from the temple, and that night, his life was taken after seeing the hand writing on the wall.

Ezekiel 7:22 "My face will I turn also from them, and they shall pollute my secret [place]: for the robbers shall enter into it, and defile it."

The Holy of Holies in the temple will be desecrated by pagans; that place where, only once a year, the high priest could enter to make atonement in God's presence.

Ordinarily, anyone touching the Holy Things (made of gold), would have died the minute they touched it.

God was so angry with Israel, He turned His face away, and let the heathen take the things of the temple.

These things that had been dedicated to God are now defiled.

Ezekiel 7:23 "Make a chain: for the land is full of bloody crimes, and the city is full of violence."

This "chain" was probably used to couple or yoke the captives together to lead them into captivity.

This was an emblematic act or sign of captivity.

God allowed them to take His people into captivity, because of the bloody crimes they had committed.

Ezekiel 7:24 "Wherefore I will bring the worst of the heathen, and they shall possess their houses; I will also make the pomp of the strong to cease; and their holy places shall be defiled."

It is God who causes Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonians to destroy Judah and Jerusalem, and that is what is meant by the worst of the heathen.

It would not matter what position of importance those in Israel had; they would be killed, or carried away in chains.

Even the priests of the temple will be carried away.

The temple and everything in it are defiled by these heathens.

Ezekiel 7:25 "Destruction cometh; and they shall seek peace, and [there shall be] none."

There is no peace during the wrath of God.

They may seek it, but they will not find it, until God has thoroughly punished them.

Ezekiel 7:26 "Mischief shall come upon mischief, and rumor shall be upon rumor; then shall they seek a vision of the prophet; but the law shall perish from the priest, and counsel from the ancients."

The people would not listen to the true prophet.

They listened to the false prophets, who spoke of better times.

Some of these prophets and ancients had accurately prophesied in the past.

God had taken their ability to prophesy away from them, because they were involved in the worship of false gods.

Not only is the war bad, but the rumors of it being worse than it was grew each day.

Fear overwhelmed them.

It almost sounds like the end times doesn't it?

There will be wars and rumors of wars...

Ezekiel 7:27 "The king shall mourn, and the prince shall be clothed with desolation, and the hands of the people of the land shall be troubled: I will do unto them after their way, and according to their deserts will I judge them; and they shall know that I [am] the LORD."

God will not spare those in high authority.

The king and his sons will suffer the same as the common people.

They are judged by the things they did upon the earth.

All of this happens to them, so there will be no doubt at all that God is the only True God.

At long last the nations of Israel and Judah would receive what they deserved because of their rebellious, heinous history of sin, particularly the sin of worshipping other gods.

God is proving to them that these false gods, they had given their loyalty to, are nothing.

Their false gods cannot help them.

Ezekiel Chapter 7 Questions

1. What word indicates this is furthering chapters 5 and 6?
2. Who is this prophecy to?
3. What is the "end" in verse 2, speaking of?
4. How far-reaching is this judgment of God?
5. How will they be judged?
6. We cry out for mercy, and not _____.
7. What are "abominations"?
8. What will there be no doubt of, after the judgment?
9. What does "the morning is come unto thee" mean?
10. This is not an earthquake, but the terrible sound of _____.
11. What does the author believe "recompense" in verse 8, is saying?
12. The wages of sin is _____.

13. What is the "rod" of verse 10, speaking of?
14. What will happen to the bodies of the dead?
15. What has brought such great humiliation upon them?
16. Verse 13 speaks of selling what?
17. What happens at jubilee?
18. Why did the Hebrews blow the trumpet?
19. Why was there no need to fight?
20. How would those outside the city die?
21. Those that escape would be like _____.
22. All hands shall be _____.
23. All knees shall be weak as _____.
24. What did baldness on a woman's head indicate?
25. What is "sackcloth" an outward symbol of?
26. Why are they repenting?
27. _____ and _____ were God's money.
28. Why would they throw their gold and silver in the street?
29. Why is it a stumbling block to them?
30. What gold is verse 20 speaking of?
31. What did Babylon do to it?
32. What, ordinarily, would have happened to anyone touching things in the Holy of Holies?
33. Why did that not happen to Babylon?
34. What is the "chain" of verse 23?
35. How bad was Nebuchadnezzar?
36. They shall seek _____, and there shall be none.
37. Who were the people listening to, instead of the true prophet?

38. What are all judged by?
39. What is God proving to them in this destruction?