



# KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD

Ezekiel 20: "For the sake of my name"



#### The Elders come to inquire of the LORD



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Eze 20:1 In the seventh year, in the fifth month on the tenth day, some of the <u>elders of Israel came to</u> <u>inquire</u> of the LORD, and they sat down in front of me. Eze 20:2 Then the word of the LORD came to me: Eze 20:3 "Son of man, speak to the elders of Israel and say to them, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Have you come to inquire of me? As surely as I live, I will not let you inquire of me, declares the Sovereign LORD.'

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The third time (Eze 8:1, Eze 14:1)

**Pro 28:9** If anyone turns a deaf ear to the law, even his prayers are detestable.



The LORD confronts the elders

Eze 20:4 "Will you judge them? Will you judge them, son of man? Then **confront them** with the **detestable practices of their fathers** 

Eze 20:5 and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: On the day I chose Israel, **I swore with uplifted hand** to the descendants of the house of Jacob and revealed myself to them in Egypt. With uplifted hand I said to them, "**I am the LORD your God.**"

Eze 20:6 On that day I swore to them that <u>I would bring them</u> out of Egypt into a land I had searched out for them, a land flowing with milk and honey, the most beautiful of all lands.

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Great promises and great blessings

The LORD confronts the elders

Eze 20:7 And I said to them, "Each of you, **<u>get rid of</u>** <u>**the vile images**</u> you have set your eyes on, and do not defile yourselves with the idols of Egypt. I am the LORD your God."

Eze 20:8 "'<u>But they rebelled</u> against me and would not listen to me; they did not get rid of the vile images they had set their eyes on, nor did they forsake the idols of Egypt. So I said I would **pour out my wrath** on them and spend my anger against them in Egypt.

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Rebellion brought wrath

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Eze 20:9 But <u>for the sake of my name</u> I did what would <u>keep it from being profaned</u> in the <u>eyes of</u> <u>the nations</u> they lived among and in whose sight I had revealed myself to the Israelites by bringing them out of Egypt.

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Why did the LORD bring them out of Egypt?

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Why did the LORD bring them out of Egypt?

"For the sake of my name"

The LORD confronts the elders

Eze 20:13 "Yet the people of Israel rebelled against me in the desert. They did not follow my decrees but rejected my laws—although the man who obeys them will live by them—and they utterly desecrated my Sabbaths. So I said I would pour out my wrath on them and destroy them in the desert. Eze 20:14 But <u>for the sake of my name</u> I did what would keep it from being profaned in the eyes of the nations in whose sight I had brought them out.

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Eze 20:18 I said to their children in the desert, "Do not follow the statutes of your fathers or keep their laws or defile yourselves with their idols.



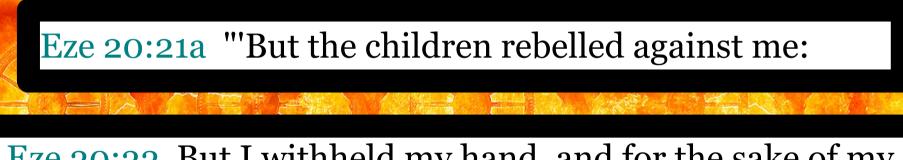
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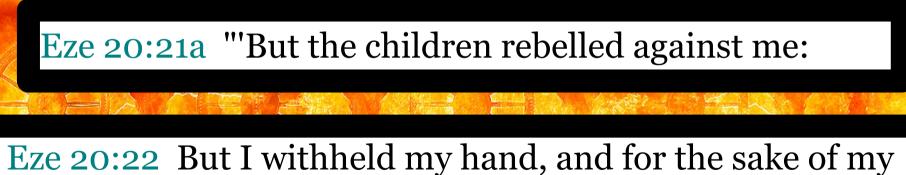
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"For the sake of my name"

The LORD confronts the elders

Eze 20:30 "Therefore say to the house of Israel: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Will you <u>defile yourselves</u> the way your fathers did and <u>lust after their vile images?</u> Eze 20:31 When you offer your gifts—<u>the sacrifice of your</u> <u>sons in the fire</u>—you continue to defile yourselves with all your idols to this day. Am I to let you inquire of me, O house of Israel? As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I will not let you inquire of me.

The LORD confronts the elders

Eze 20:35 I will bring you into the desert of the nations and there, <u>face to face</u>, <u>I will execute judgment</u> upon you.
Eze 20:36 As I judged your fathers in the desert of the land of Egypt, so I will judge you, declares the Sovereign LORD.
Eze 20:37 I will take note of you as you <u>pass under my</u>
rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant.
Eze 20:38 <u>I will purge you of those who revolt and</u>
rebel against me. Although I will bring them out of the land of the land where they are living, yet they will not enter the land of Israel. <u>Then you will know that I am the LORD.</u>

"As you pass under my rod"

Lev 27:32 The entire tithe of the herd and flock—every tenth animal that **passes under the shepherd's rod**—will be **holy to the LORD.** 

The LORD confronts the elders

Eze 20:41 I will accept you as fragrant incense when I bring you out from the nations and gather you from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will show myself holy among you in the sight of the nations.
Eze 20:42 Then you will know that I am the LORD, when I bring you into the land of Israel, the land I had sworn with uplifted hand to give to your fathers.

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In the sight of the nations

The LORD confronts the elders

Eze 20:43 There you will remember your conduct and all the actions by which you have defiled yourselves, and you will loathe yourselves for all the evil you have done.
Eze 20:44 You will know that I am the LORD, when I deal with you for my name's sake and not according to your evil ways and your corrupt practices, O house of Israel, declares the Sovereign LORD.'"

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"For my name's sake"



#### Ezekiel 21: Prophecies against Jerusalem



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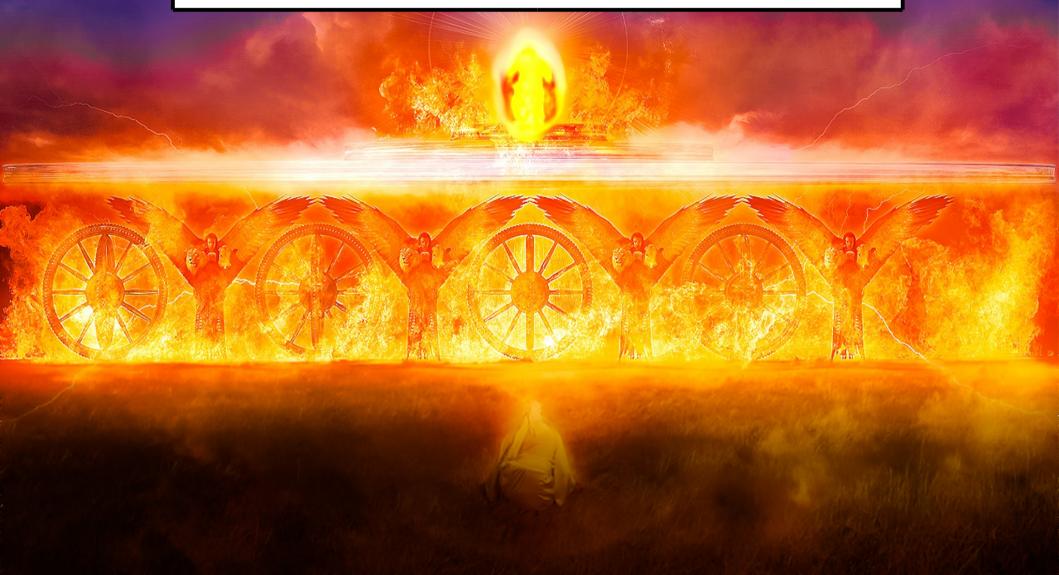
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The end of the line of kings and high priests... for a time.



#### The LORD's complaints against Jerusalem



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Eze 22:2 "Son of man, will you judge her? Will you judge this city of bloodshed? Then confront her with all her detestable practices



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- Contempt toward parents
- Oppressed alien, fatherless, widows
- Despised holy things
- Desecrated Sabbaths

- Bloodshed
- Immorality and incest
- Bribery
- Usury
- Forgetting the LORD

Ezekiel 22: Prophecies against Jerusalem

Eze 22:19 Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says: 'Because you have all become dross, I will gather you into Jerusalem.

Eze 22:20 As men gather silver, copper, iron, lead and tin into a furnace to melt it with a fiery blast, <u>so will I gather</u> you in my <u>anger</u> and my <u>wrath</u> and put you inside the city and <u>melt you</u>.

Eze 22:21 I will gather you and I will blow on you with my fiery wrath, and you will be melted inside her.

Eze 22:22 As silver is melted in a furnace, so you will be melted inside her, and **you will know that I the LORD have poured out my wrath upon you.**"

No alternative to destruction

Eze 22:30 "<u>I looked for a man</u> among them who would build up the wall and <u>stand before me in the gap</u> on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I <u>found none.</u>

Eze 22:31 So I will pour out my wrath on them and consume them with my fiery anger, bringing down on their own heads all they have done, declares the Sovereign LORD."

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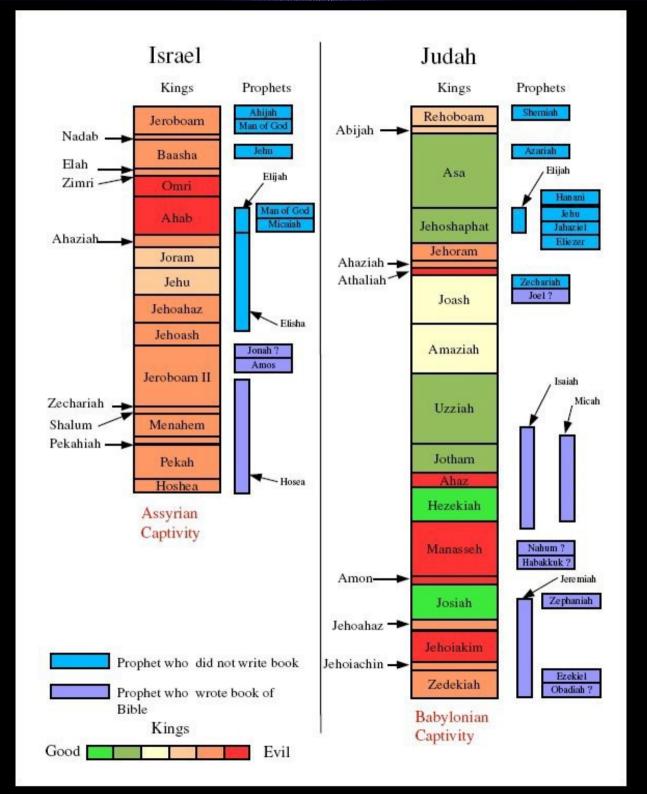
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Eze 23:48 "So I will put an end to lewdness in the land, that all women may take warning and not imitate you.



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Eze 24:1 In the ninth year, in the tenth month on the tenth day, the word of the LORD came to me:Eze 24:2 "Son of man, record this date, this very date, because the king of Babylon has laid siege to Jerusalem this very day.



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Eze 24:14 "'I the LORD have spoken. The time has come for me to act. I will not hold back; I will not have pity, nor will I relent. You will be judged according to your conduct and your actions, declares the Sovereign LORD.'"

Ezekiel 24: Ezekiel's wife dies



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Eze 24:16 "Son of man, with one blow <u>I am about to take away</u> from you the delight of your eyes. Yet <u>do not lament</u> or weep or shed any tears.

Eze 24:17 Groan quietly; <u>do not mourn for the dead</u>. Keep your turban fastened and your sandals on your feet; do not cover the lower part of your face or eat the customary food of mourners." Eze 24:18 So I spoke to the people in the morning, and in the evening my wife died. The next morning <u>I did as I had been</u> <u>commanded.</u>

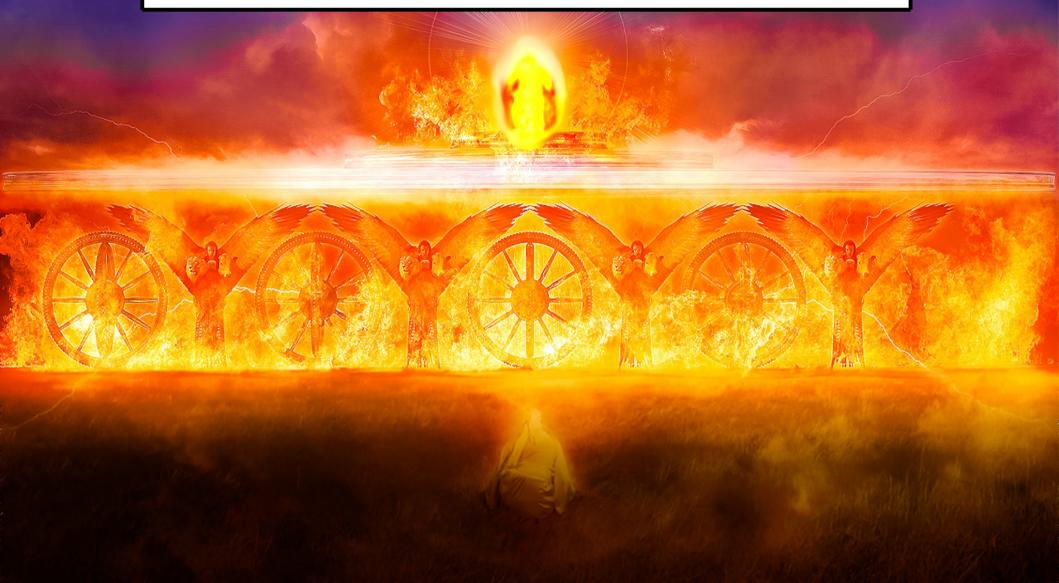
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Heavy demands on Ezekiel and his wife!

#### Ezekiel 24: The sanctuary will be desecrated



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Eze 24:19 Then the people asked me, "Won't you tell us what these things have to do with us?"
Eze 24:20 So I said to them, "The word of the LORD came to me:
Eze 24:21 Say to the house of Israel, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: <u>I am about to desecrate my sanctuary</u>—the stronghold in which you take pride, the delight of your eyes, the object of your affection. The sons and daughters you left behind will fall by the sword.

Ezekiel 24: The sanctuary will be desecrated

Eze 24:22 And you will do as I have done. You will not cover the lower part of your face or eat the customary food of mourners.
Eze 24:23 You will keep your turbans on your heads and your sandals on your feet. You will not mourn or weep but will waste away because of your sins and groan among yourselves.
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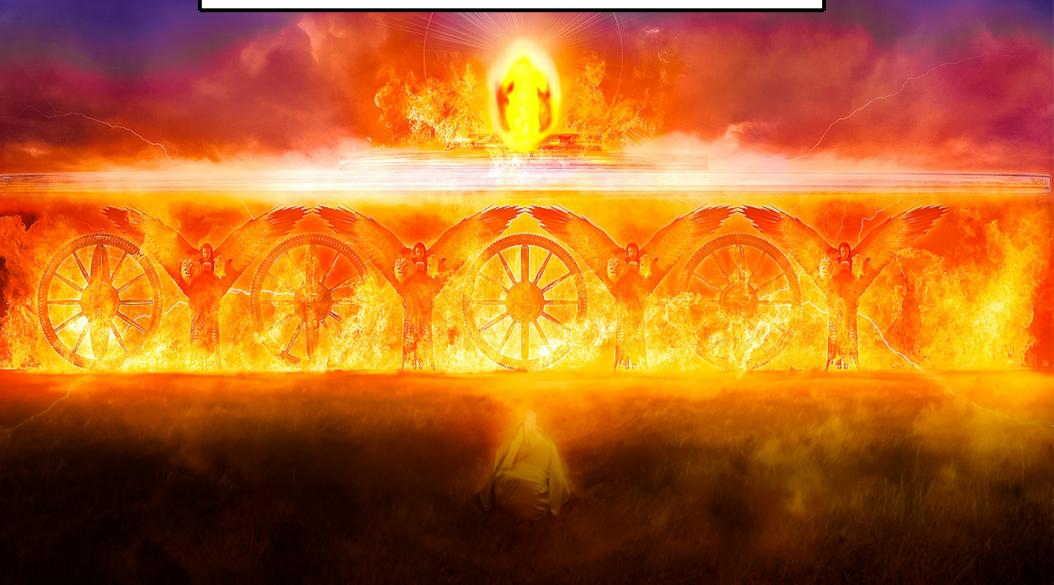
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Accept the judgment of the Sovereign LORD!



Sign: A fugitive will bring the news



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Eze 24:25 "And you, son of man, on the day I take away their stronghold, their joy and glory, the delight of their eyes, their heart's desire, and their sons and daughters as well— Eze 24:26 on that day <u>a fugitive will come to tell you the</u> <u>news.</u>

Eze 24:27 At that time your mouth will be opened; you will speak with him and will no longer be silent. So you will be a sign to them, and they will know that I am the LORD."

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#### Fulfillment described in Ezekiel 33:21-22

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