**Ezekiel**

**Chapters 5,6**

**Chapter 5**

**5**“And you, son of man, take a sharp sword, take it as a barber’s razor, and pass *it* over your head and your beard; then take scales to weigh and divide the *hair*.

* Remember in Isaiah, God told Isaiah he would get a hired razor to cut the hair of his people. (Isaiah 7:20) At first against the kingdom of Israel.

**2**You shall burn with fire one-third in the midst of the city, when the days of the siege are finished; then you shall take one-third and strike around *it* with the sword, and one-third you shall scatter in the wind: I will draw out a sword after them.

* See Leviticus 26:25, this warning came at the beginning of God’s relationship with Israel.

 **3**You shall also take a small number of them and bind them in the edge of your *garment.* **4**Then take some of them again and throw them into the midst of the fire, and burn them in the fire. From there a fire will go out into all the house of Israel.

**Prophetic Acts:**

This is the second straight chapter in Ezekiel where God calls him to perform a prophetic act. A prophetic act is a representation and illustration using items or symbols to display what is happening in the spiritual realm will manifest itself in the natural realm.

We find several prophetic acts in the Bible:

Genesis 30:37-43 – Jacob placed spotted reeds in front of the herds to prophetically produce spotted offspring.

Acts 21:1-12 – Agabus wraps Paul’s belt around his hand to display Paul’s forth coming arrest.

Ezekiel 4 – The siege of Jerusalem re-enacted by Ezekiel

2 Kings 13:15-19 – The king of Israel under Elisha’s instruction shot and arrow three times, prophesying he would only strike back his enemy three times.

* Prophets often illustrated coming calamities when they gave prophetic warnings. Ezekiel was instructed to limit and weigh his bread and water to illustrate that during the siege of Jerusalem the famines would be so great the people would be forced to measure their food and water. Ezekiel then shaved his hair, burning one third of it, cutting up another third of it with a knife, then throwing the last third to the wind. This was to publicly demonstrate that one-third of the inhabitants would die with pestilence and famine in the land, one-third would be carried into foreign lands, and one-third would be slain by the sword; he then bound a few hairs to his garment, indicating that a small number of Jews would remain in the land a pass through the fire. -Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible , pg 1240

**5**“Thus says the Lord God: ‘This *is* Jerusalem; I have set her in the midst of the nations and the countries all around her.

* The rabbis teach that the temple is the center of Jerusalem’ Jerusalem is the center of Israel; and Israel is the center of the world.-Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible , pg 1240

**6**She has rebelled against My judgments by doing wickedness more than the nations, and against My statutes more than the countries that *are* all around her; for they have refused My judgments, and they have not walked in My statutes.’ **7**Therefore thus says the Lord God: ‘Because you have multiplied *disobedience* more than the nations that *are* all around you, have not walked in My statutes nor kept My judgments, nor even done according to the judgments of the nations that *are* all around you’—

* See 2 Kings 21:9

 **8**therefore thus says the Lord God: ‘Indeed I, even I, *am* against you and will execute judgments in your midst in the sight of the nations. **9**And I will do among you what I have never done, and the like of which I will never do again, because of all your abominations.

* See Lamentations 4:6 and Daniel 9:12

**10**Therefore fathers shall eat *their* sons in your midst, and sons shall eat their fathers; and I will execute judgments among you, and all of you who remain I will scatter to all the winds.

**11**‘Therefore, *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 also diminish *you;* My eye will not spare, nor will I have any pity.

* See Deuteronomy 28:53
* If taken spiritually, this means the families would turn on one another in the crisis. If taken literally, it means the famine would be so bad that people would literally eat one another, which occurred during the terrible famine in Samaria in the days of Elisha. -Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible , pg 1240

**12**One-third of you shall die of the pestilence, and be consumed with famine in your midst; and one-third shall fall by the sword all around you; and I will scatter another third to all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them.

**13**‘Thus shall My anger be spent, and I will cause My fury to rest upon them, and I will be avenged; and they shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken *it* in My zeal, when I have spent My fury upon them.

* When God “accomplishes” His anger, it means He fulfills His warnings of destruction. The Almighty follows the completion of the promised devastation with promises of restoration for His people. -Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible , pg 1241

**14**Moreover I will make you a waste and a reproach among the nations that *are* all around you, in the sight of all who pass by.

**15**‘So it shall be a reproach, a taunt, a lesson, and an astonishment to the nations that *are* all around you, when I execute judgments among you in anger and in fury and in furious rebukes. I, the Lord, have spoken. **16**When I send against them the terrible arrows of famine which shall be for destruction, which I will send to destroy you, I will increase the famine upon you and cut off your supply of bread. **17**So I will send against you famine and wild beasts, and they will bereave you. Pestilence and blood shall pass through you, and I will bring the sword against you. I, the Lord, have spoken.’ ”

Why did God send such a harsh judgment against His people? In Jeremiah, we read about some of the reasons for these strong judgments form God upon Judah. Remember Jeremiah and Ezekiel’s ministry eras overlap each other they address the same issues in Israel and Judah’s hearts. Here we see no one was looking to the Lord.

“1Run to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem;
See now and know;
And seek in her open places
**If you can find a man,
If there is *anyone* who executes judgment,**
Who seeks the truth,
And I will pardon her.
**2**Though they say, ‘*As* the Lord lives,’
Surely they swear falsely.”

**3**O Lord, *are* not Your eyes on the truth?
You have stricken them,
But they have not grieved;
You have consumed them,
But they have refused to receive correction.
**They have made their faces harder than rock;
They have refused to return.”** Jeremiah 5:1-3

“I listened and heard,
*But* they do not speak aright.
**No man repented of his wickedness,
Saying, ‘What have I done?’**Everyone turned to his own course,
As the horse rushes into the battle.” Jeremiah 8:6

The judgments on Judah Jerusalem were due to the lack of fear upon His people not one person could be found in the city of God who was actively and sincerely repenting and looking to God for help, forgiveness, or instruction.

 See also 1 Kings 9:1-5. The Lord’s warning to Solomon at the beginning of his reign, even the Davidical promise of the throne was not enough to keep the judgment from coming.

**Chapter 6**

* The previous sections (chapters 2-5) dealt with Jerusalem and Judah’s sins. In chapter 6, God turns His attention to Israel, specifically to the mountains of Israel, as the mountains were the seat of idolatry a worship of false gods, which had filled with the land through pagan tribal influences. -Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible , pg 1241

**6**Now the word of the Lord came to me, saying: **2**“Son of man, set your face toward the mountains of Israel, and prophesy against them, **3**and say, ‘O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord God! Thus says the Lord God to the mountains, to the hills, to the ravines, and to the valleys: “Indeed I, *even* I, will bring a sword against you, and I will destroy your high places. **4**Then your altars shall be desolate, your incense altars shall be broken, and I will cast down your slain *men* before your idols.

* God will assault the high places of idolatry with the sword of His judgment. -Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible , pg 1241

**5**And I will lay the corpses of the children of Israel before their idols, and I will scatter your bones all around your altars. **6**In all your dwelling places the cities shall be laid waste, and the high places shall be desolate, so that your altars may be laid waste and made desolate, your idols may be broken and made to cease, your incense altars may be cut down, and your works may be abolished.

* This would occur when the invading armies slew the peoples in the towns and cities, then left the carcasses unburied on the ground. The phrase “high places” is mentioned ninety-seven times in the Old Testament, and comes from the Hebrew word bamah, which means “a high elevation.” The altars of idols and their images were often constructed in groves of trees on mountains because pagan belief taught that the higher on the mountain a “god” was, the more superior it was to other deities in that region. -Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible , pg 1241

 **7**The slain shall fall in your midst, and you shall know that I *am* the Lord.

**8**“Yet I will leave a remnant, so that you may have *some* who escape the sword among the nations, when you are scattered through the countries. **9**Then those of you who escape will remember Me among the nations where they are carried captive, because I was crushed by their adulterous heart which has departed from Me, and by their eyes which play the harlot after their idols; they will loathe themselves for the evils which they committed in all their abominations.

* Psalm 137 is a song remembering God during this very time of the Jews history.

 **10**And they shall know that I *am* the Lord; I have not said in vain that I would bring this calamity upon them.”

**11**‘Thus says the Lord God: “Pound your fists and stamp your feet, and say, ‘Alas, for all the evil abominations of the house of Israel! For they shall fall by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence. **12**He who is far off shall die by the pestilence, he who is near shall fall by the sword, and he who remains and is besieged shall die by the famine. Thus will I spend My fury upon them. **13**Then you shall know that I *am* the Lord, when their slain are among their idols all around their altars, on every high hill, on all the mountaintops, under every green tree, and *under every thick oak*, wherever they offered sweet incense to all their idols.

* See Hosea 4:13
* The oak was considered a special tree among the ancients for its strength, majesty, and enduring qualities. Deborah, Rebekah’s nurse, was buried an oak tree (see Gen 35:8), Joshua set up the stone of witness under an oak tree near the sanctuary (see Josh 24:26); and the angel of the Lord met Gideon near an oak tree (see Judg. 6:11). Pagan incense altars were also built near or under oak trees. -Perry Stone Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible , pg 1241

 **14**So I will stretch out My hand against them and make the land desolate, yes, more desolate than the wilderness toward Diblah, in all their dwelling places. Then they shall know that I *am* the Lord.’ ” ’ ”