

A Study of the Prophets

O.T. Survey Lesson 179--Ezekiel 23:1-24:27

Introduction: By means of two parables, Ezekiel continues to emphasize God's plan to judge Jerusalem for her sins. The section closes as God reveals that his wife would be taken from him. Ezekiel is instructed to forego the customary outward symbols of mourning to teach God's people that they too must mourn in a similar way over the destruction of Jerusalem.

Lesson aim: To emphasize the causes of the destruction of Jerusalem.

The parable of two sisters--Ezekiel 23:1-49

1. What are the names of the two sisters in Ezekiel's parable? (v. 1-4) What do their names mean? What do they each represent? How does God describe the condition of these two sisters in their youth?
2. What city is being described in v. 5-10? With whom is "Oholah" pictured as committing harlotries? What was the outcome of this conduct?
3. What city is being described in v. 11-21? How did the harlotries of the second sister compare with the first? With whom is this sister pictured as committing harlotries?
4. What judgments did God pronounce upon "Oholibah" because of her unfaithfulness? (v. 22-35?)
5. With what sins did God charge His people? (v. 36-44) What would happen to the two sisters because of these things? (v. 45-49) What would this cause them to know?

The parable of the boiling pot--Ezekiel 24:1-14

1. At what time did God reveal this message to Ezekiel? (v. 1-2) What was occurring at this time?
2. To what is Jerusalem likened? (v. 3-13) What did God reveal He was about to do?
3. How did God indicate He would feel about Jerusalem's destruction (v. 14)?

God instructs Ezekiel concerning his wife's death--Ezekiel 24:15-27

1. What did God reveal was about to happen to Ezekiel's wife? (v. 16) How did God instruct Ezekiel to respond? (v. 17-18)
2. How did Ezekiel answer those who asked why he had conducted himself as he did? (v. 21-23)
3. Of what then was Ezekiel a sign? (v. 24) When these events occurred what would the people know?
4. When the escapees from Jerusalem came to Ezekiel, would Ezekiel continue to live under the obligation to refuse to speak to them only when God gave him a word to speak? (v. 25-27)