

## <They Divine a Lie Unto Thee>

*Ezekiel 21:1 – 22:31*

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~ The prophet Ezekiel either spoke the things our Spiritual Safari is teaching by the Spirit of God in the Word of the Lord – or he is a liar. He has monotonously told us “.... *the Word of the Lord came to me....*” Well, for the genuine prophet in Israel, that meant God spoke by the Mosaic System of Levitical Law as it had been given to Moses on Mount Sinai. Accordingly, our modern-day expedition through the entire Word of God seeks to locate the Lord Jesus Christ on every page of Scripture, eschatologically. That’s our mission. He is our focus; and the Old Testament speaks of the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ equally as much as the New Testament does – in every imaginable way. Many people like to hurry through sections of Scripture like this one in Ezekiel’s prophecy, affording it but a cursory consideration; or, more commonly, they don’t read it at all. This absolutely critical area of the Bible is a literal blank, black hole in most Christian’s thinking and understanding. Most Bibles have never opened to this section of Scripture. I seriously doubt *ANY* of you dear readers have ever heard a sermon on or have considered a proper, correct and complete written Bible study on this book of the Bible.

The truth in Ezekiel is applicable to our lives today, and is so imperative that I would be reckless and irresponsible to rush our safari through this prophecy. I fully recognize that most people find this teaching untenable, unnecessary, or just boring. But I, Andrew C. Hunt, have been sent to guide God’s children in sound doctrine through a lost and dying world; a world hopelessly steeped in abject sin, idolatry, satanic doctrine and false teaching — and I intend to do this to the utmost of my capabilities. At the expense of unnecessary reiteration, I know that very few people read these reports but – that’s not my problem – that’s their problem. I also know that many people find these reports and the way I prosecute this ministry positively trite. Frankly, I am not interested in what other people think about me or this so-called safari because, see, the Lord is near to those who are of a broken and contrite heart, and saves those who be of a humble spirit. So, if you are not of a broken heart with a contrite spirit then you are

not reading these reports; so, it would be pointless to cater to those people. Only those whom the Lord is close to, and has chosen, can receive such deep and meaningful instruction by the Spirit of God speaking through me. Does that sound arrogant? Proudful? Boasting? You bet your life it is.

In chapters twenty through twenty-four, we are dealing with the final pronouncement of judgment that God instructed Ezekiel to give concerning the city of Jerusalem. If you have not read our last report, I suggest you go back and do so now. We have been in a prophecy that may seem tedious and tiresome – or unnecessarily redundant – but I have as long as I need to finish this safari. I intend to make my points succinctly. When we complete Revelation, there isn't going to be anything that has been revealed to me that I neglected to tell you. Repetition should be expected. I am particularly treating Ezekiel in such a meticulous manner because of the utter neglect this part of the Word of God receives in the contemporary church; and because, as we said, this is pertinent to the hour this world finds itself in as I type this report and as you read it.

The liberal likes to espouse Ezekiel was way out in left field; and that it cannot be interpreted in any dogmatic fashion. The apostate always diminishes the Old Testament by claiming it is less important than the New Testament. However, the genuine child of God who is Spirit-filled and Spirit-led in teaching the Bible insists that every chapter of the Old Testament is equally as important as *any* chapter in the New Testament. That said, I do not want to adopt a super-pious attitude – and I do not propose to have exclusive revelation regarding these visions of the glory of God that Ezekiel saw, nor the parables he acted out – but I do understand that this prophet is practical and capable of taking the Bible down to the barest of the nitty gritty – where the rubber meets the road – and it just isn't that difficult to understand *IF – IF – IF* we really *WANT* to understand it. Unfortunately, most people don't want to understand what Ezekiel is saying. The nation Israel didn't want to understand it – and they don't want to understand it or hear it today, either....

## XXI

***1 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,***

~ When we study the Bible as we do in this Spiritual Safari, there comes a time when a decision must be made concerning whether or not we really believe the Bible is the Word of God. When we only use disconnected verses and fractured passages to repeatedly obfuscate, we don't really have a point. See, the Bible has been so accurate concerning my life down here that I would be an abject fool not to trust the Scriptures with my eternity. Ezekiel is not giving his opinion. He is not giving us his world-view. He is not giving us his feelings. He is not giving us a religious philosophy. This harsh message of judgment is not what Ezekiel wanted to see happen to his people or his nation. In fact, Ezekiel's personal perspective didn't enter into his missive in any way. Perhaps that argument could be made against Jeremiah – who was literally overwhelmed by the message God gave him to give to the nation Israel – but not Ezekiel. Impossible.

Remember, when God gave Ezekiel his commission in chapter two and three, God told him that these rebellious people weren't going to listen to his message. So, Ezekiel knew what he was signing up for from Jump Street. God told this prophet that He was going to make his head harder than an adamant of flint! That's pretty hard-headed, friends. If you strike against flint, you get a spark. When you get the spark, you get a flame. That flame may burst into an inferno. A little bit of hard-headedness got down into Ezekiel's heart, too, apparently. Ezekiel had no problem laying it on the line. Candidly, that's why I, personally, love this particular prophet. If Ezekiel's feelings had entered into the message, I think he would have been crushed immediately by the opposition....

***2 Son of man, set thy face toward Jerusalem, and drop thy word toward the holy places, and prophesy against the land of Israel,***

***3 And say to the land of Israel, Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I am against thee, and will draw forth my sword out of his sheath, and will cut off from thee the righteous and the wicked.***

***4 Seeing then that I will cut off from thee the righteous and the wicked, therefore shall my sword go forth out of his sheath against all flesh from the south to the north:***

~ The “righteous” Ezekiel speaks of here are self-professing believers who were claiming to be righteous – but weren’t righteous. In modern-day terms, this would be unsaved church members and Christian Tragedies. These people went through the form of ritual and worship, but they practiced evil in their heart. Our churches today have the Band-Aid of a “love, love, love” religion covering-up the spiritual cancer of a malignant apostasy – and they honestly believe they are awesome in God’s eyes. They don’t realize their condition is fatal. We cannot cure sin, and we do not get saved by becoming religious and going to church, friends. When we reach that state, God says He will cut it all off and move upon us in judgment – just as He did to the nation Israel – His chosen people. Selah ~

***5 That all flesh may know that I the LORD have drawn forth my sword out of his sheath: it shall not return any more.***

***6 Sigh therefore, thou son of man, with the breaking of thy heart; and with bitterness sigh before their eyes.***

***7 And it shall be, when they say unto thee, Wherefore sighest thou? that thou shalt answer, For the tidings; because it cometh: and every heart shall melt, and all hands shall be feeble, and every spirit shall faint, and all knees shall be weak as water: behold, it cometh, and shall be brought to pass, saith the Lord GOD.***

***8 Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,***

***9 Son of man, prophesy, and say, Thus saith the LORD; Say, A sword, a sword is sharpened, and also furbished:***

***10 It is sharpened to make a sore slaughter; it is furbished that it may glitter: should we then make mirth? it contemneth the rod of my son, as every tree.***

~ So, Ezekiel is told to act this thing out – again; and the people are now becoming so disturbed that they begin complaining about the prophet’s behavior. Remember, in chapter twenty, Ezekiel ended by saying to the

Lord, "... Ah, Lord God, they say of me, Doth he not speak parables?" The people were pretending they didn't understand the message. Well, they got it alright – they didn't WANT to get it. No one likes to be told they are wrong. Likewise, many people think the parables Jesus gave to the apostles were obtuse. Well, those who love Christ want to understand the deep-seated meaning in His words; whereas, those who are simply playing church will invariably say things like, "... that's not what He meant." The apostate will NEVER agree with the believer about what Jesus said.

The Pharisee's in Jesus' day understood exactly what Jesus was saying to them. These people understood exactly what Ezekiel was saying to them, too. If they truly did not understand, then they wouldn't have hated Jesus or Ezekiel! They knew He was speaking judgment of them – and they didn't like the embarrassment they were receiving in front of those multitudes of people. Jesus wept over Jerusalem and said, *"I would have gathered thee but you would not."* So, ultimately, Jesus said, *"your house is left unto you desolate."* Now, if you want to know how severe that really was, then read the account of Titus the Roman in 70 A.D. as he leveled Jerusalem – again – just as Nebuchadnezzar was going to do in Judah at the time in which we are studying....

***11 And he hath given it to be furbished, that it may be handled: this sword is sharpened, and it is furbished, to give it into the hand of the slayer.***

***12 Cry and howl, son of man: for it shall be upon my people, it shall be upon all the princes of Israel: terrors by reason of the sword shall be upon my people: smite therefore upon thy thigh.***

***13 Because it is a trial, and what if the sword contemn even the rod? it shall be no more, saith the Lord GOD.***

***14 Thou therefore, son of man, prophesy, and smite thine hands together, and let the sword be doubled the third time, the sword of the slain: it is the sword of the great men that are slain, which entereth into their privy chambers.***

~ If you preach or teach the “*sword of judgment*” in your church today, I can assure you that you will be as unpopular as a skunk in a perfume shop. Frankly, this section of Scripture is the reason the Word of God is really not taken seriously; and these tenets of truth are either not applied in the lives of most so-called Christians, or are misapplied as the result of abject ignorance. Both give the enemy an opportunity to blaspheme God. We can ignore God’s judgment while incessantly repeating, “... *I can do all things in Christ*” and, “... *whatsoever I shall ask the Lord He will do it*” – all day long; but, sooner or later, you’re going to discover that those things become a cliché and mean literally nothing to a disobedient child of God. When that realization is made – it’s too late, my friends. I know most people think it is never too late with God; but they won’t read Romans chapter one, either, where Paul says *THREE TIMES*, “*God gave them up!*” Oh, my dear readers, let’s stop this puerile and vain repetition of telling everyone how great and awesome we are – and let’s get real with the Lord Jesus Christ in our lives....

***15 I have set the point of the sword against all their gates, that their heart may faint, and their ruins be multiplied: ah! it is made bright, it is wrapped up for the slaughter.***

***16 Go thee one way or other, either on the right hand, or on the left, whithersoever thy face is set.***

***17 I will also smite mine hands together, and I will cause my fury to rest: I the LORD have said it.***

***18 The word of the LORD came unto me again, saying,***

***19 Also, thou son of man, appoint thee two ways, that the sword of the king of Babylon may come: both twain shall come forth out of one land: and choose thou a place, choose it at the head of the way to the city.***

***20 Appoint a way, that the sword may come to Rabbath of the Ammonites, and to Judah in Jerusalem the defenced.***

***21 For the king of Babylon stood at the parting of the way, at the head of the two ways, to use divination: he made his arrows fall, he consulted with images, he looked in the liver.***

~ Nebuchadnezzar would soon be deciding which way he was going to enter Jerusalem. One way the pagan used to determine their path was similar to rolling dice; they would throw the arrows in the air, and whatever way the arrows fell would point the way for them to proceed. Another way was to look into the dismembered body of the enemy, and see which way veins and arteries ran. When they were satisfied that those two ways agreed, a decision was made. Well, God is giving the responsibility to Ezekiel to predestine which way it would be. Nebuchadnezzar wasn't going to be turning to the Lord; because he was a pagan, heathen who used these other methods. So, God said to Ezekiel, *"appoint the way for him and that's the way it will be."* Now, I don't know about you dear readers, but that is altogether satisfying, terrifying, disturbing, demeaning, and gratifying all at the same time to me. It's a mixed-bag of supernatural something. The necromancy Nebuchadnezzar was going to use was going to yield the results that Ezekiel had predetermined under the authority of God. Again, Selah ~

***22 At his right hand was the divination for Jerusalem, to appoint captains, to open the mouth in the slaughter, to lift up the voice with shouting, to appoint battering rams against the gates, to cast a mount, and to build a fort.***

***23 And it shall be unto them as a false divination in their sight, to them that have sworn oaths: but he will call to remembrance the iniquity, that they may be taken.***

***24 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because ye have made your iniquity to be remembered, in that your transgressions are discovered, so that in all your doings your sins do appear; because, I say, that ye are come to remembrance, ye shall be taken with the hand.***

***25 And thou, profane wicked prince of Israel, whose day is come, when iniquity shall have an end,***

**26 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Remove the diadem, and take off the crown: this shall not be the same: exalt him that is low, and abase him that is high.**

**27 I will overturn, overturn, overturn, it: and it shall be no more, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it him.**

**28 And thou, son of man, prophesy and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD concerning the Ammonites, and concerning their reproach; even say thou, The sword, the sword is drawn: for the slaughter it is furbished, to consume because of the glittering:**

**29 Whiles they see vanity unto thee, whiles they divine a lie unto thee, to bring thee upon the necks of them that are slain, of the wicked, whose day is come, when their iniquity shall have an end.**

**30 Shall I cause it to return into his sheath? I will judge thee in the place where thou wast created, in the land of thy nativity.**

**31 And I will pour out mine indignation upon thee, I will blow against thee in the fire of my wrath, and deliver thee into the hand of brutish men, and skilful to destroy.**

**32 Thou shalt be for fuel to the fire; thy blood shall be in the midst of the land; thou shalt be no more remembered: for I the LORD have spoken it.**

## **XXII**

**1 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,**

~ So, our Spiritual Safari ends this leg of our expedition through the entire Word of God with Ezekiel saying for nearly the *fiftieth* time, "... *the Word of the Lord came unto me.*" This prophet just isn't going to let us forget what we're reading. In this chapter, he lays out the abominations Israel had committed that had led to these frightful consequences. The false prophets were saying, "... *oh, brother Ezekiel, this is Israel you're talking about so*

*profanely. We are God's chosen people. You can't mean these things. You're wrong."* God replied, *"you are a bloody whore."* I know that's not nice. I didn't say it – God said it. Friends, you are going to want to pray for wisdom, judgment and discernment and then decide if you honestly believe the Bible is the Word of God before you continue on in this so-called safari. That which we are coming to next will utterly traumatize even the best saints who are very close to the Lord. The false prophets today are going to tell you everything is fine between you and the Lord. I, Andrew C. Hunt, through Ezekiel, and the other prophets, am going to tell you the truth. We have two wildly different messages. So, I end with this warning: bow down before the Lord Jesus Christ and confess all of your sins or *DO NOT* read another word I ever write. Consider yourself warned; and may God bless you richly should you obey in studying to show yourself approved....

***2 Now, thou son of man, wilt thou judge, wilt thou judge the bloody city? yea, thou shalt shew her all her abominations.***

***3 Then say thou, Thus saith the Lord GOD, The city sheddeth blood in the midst of it, that her time may come, and maketh idols against herself to defile herself.***

***4 Thou art become guilty in thy blood that thou hast shed; and hast defiled thyself in thine idols which thou hast made; and thou hast caused thy days to draw near, and art come even unto thy years: therefore have I made thee a reproach unto the heathen, and a mocking to all countries.***

***5 Those that be near, and those that be far from thee, shall mock thee, which art infamous and much vexed.***

***6 Behold, the princes of Israel, every one were in thee to their power to shed blood.***

***7 In thee have they set light by father and mother: in the midst of thee have they dealt by oppression with the stranger: in thee have they vexed the fatherless and the widow.***

***8 Thou hast despised mine holy things, and hast profaned my sabbaths.***

**9 In thee are men that carry tales to shed blood: and in thee they eat upon the mountains: in the midst of thee they commit lewdness.**

**10 In thee have they discovered their fathers' nakedness: in thee have they humbled her that was set apart for pollution.**

**11 And one hath committed abomination with his neighbour's wife; and another hath lewdly defiled his daughter in law; and another in thee hath humbled his sister, his father's daughter.**

**12 In thee have they taken gifts to shed blood; thou hast taken usury and increase, and thou hast greedily gained of thy neighbours by extortion, and hast forgotten me, saith the Lord GOD.**

**13 Behold, therefore I have smitten mine hand at thy dishonest gain which thou hast made, and at thy blood which hath been in the midst of thee.**

**14 Can thine heart endure, or can thine hands be strong, in the days that I shall deal with thee? I the LORD have spoken it, and will do it.**

**15 And I will scatter thee among the heathen, and disperse thee in the countries, and will consume thy filthiness out of thee.**

**16 And thou shalt take thine inheritance in thyself in the sight of the heathen, and thou shalt know that I am the LORD.**

**17 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,**

**18 Son of man, the house of Israel is to me become dross: all they are brass, and tin, and iron, and lead, in the midst of the furnace; they are even the dross of silver.**

**19 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because ye are all become dross, behold, therefore I will gather you into the midst of Jerusalem.**

***20 As they gather silver, and brass, and iron, and lead, and tin, into the midst of the furnace, to blow the fire upon it, to melt it; so will I gather you in mine anger and in my fury, and I will leave you there, and melt you.***

***21 Yea, I will gather you, and blow upon you in the fire of my wrath, and ye shall be melted in the midst thereof.***

***22 As silver is melted in the midst of the furnace, so shall ye be melted in the midst thereof; and ye shall know that I the LORD have poured out my fury upon you.***

***23 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,***

***24 Son of man, say unto her, Thou art the land that is not cleansed, nor rained upon in the day of indignation.***

***25 There is a conspiracy of her prophets in the midst thereof, like a roaring lion ravening the prey; they have devoured souls; they have taken the treasure and precious things; they have made her many widows in the midst thereof.***

***26 Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shewed difference between the unclean and the clean, and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them.***

***27 Her princes in the midst thereof are like wolves ravening the prey, to shed blood, and to destroy souls, to get dishonest gain.***

***28 And her prophets have daubed them with untempered mortar, seeing vanity, and divining lies unto them, saying, Thus saith the Lord GOD, when the LORD hath not spoken.***

***29 The people of the land have used oppression, and exercised robbery, and have vexed the poor and needy: yea, they have oppressed the stranger wrongfully.***

***30 And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.***

***31 Therefore have I poured out mine indignation upon them; I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath: their own way have I recompensed upon their heads, saith the Lord GOD ~***

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