

THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL. Ch.33:21-33.

1. THE TIME OF THE PROPHECY. vs.21.

- a. It was the 12th year of the captivity.
the 10th month.
the 5th day.

2. THE REASON FOR THE PROPHECY. vs.21.

- a. A messenger escaped from Jerusalem had come to Ezekiel.
- b. Ezekiel had been told he would come. 24:26
- c. His message--the city was smitten. 14
2 K.24:1-4; 2 Chr.36:17; Jer.39:2-8; 52:4-

3. THE MESSAGE TO THOSE IN THE LAND. 23-26.
AFTER THE CAPTIVITY.

- a. They were in "wastes of the land of Israel"
- b. They were unholy boasters. vs.24.
Abraham--one. We--many.
- c. God's answer to degenerate Israel vs.25-26

Regarding their sin. It is stated.

- 1. Disobedience-lawless.. "Eat blood"
- 2. Idolatry-degradation.. "Eyes to idols"
- 3. Murder-hatred..... "Shed blood"
- 4. Violence-Oppression... "Stand on sword"
- 5. Filth-Uncleanness..... "Work abomination"
- 6. Lust--Adultery..... "Defile neighbour's wife".

Regarding their punishment. 27-29.

The punishment is threefold.

- 1. in the wastes..... By the sword.
- 2. in open field..... To the beasts.
- 3. in caves..... Die of pestilence.

Result of their punishment. vs.28-29.

- 1. The land shall be utterly desolate. 28
- 2. They shall know God is the Lord. 29

3. ISRAEL'S ATTITUDE TO THE PROPHET. 30-33.

- a. They talked against him. Criticized his style and message. cf. "Doth he not speak parables" Ch.20:49.

Over.

b. They were hearers but not doers. vs. 31.

In their mouth---they love

In their hearts----covetousness.

c. Their idle attitude of curiosity.

They regarded the prophet's message as part of their entertainment. It was to them:

1. As a lovely song.....Aesthetics.

2. As a pleasant voice.....Culture.

3. As a well played instrument..Musical.

They hear----but do not.

4. GOD HAD TO SPEAK IN DEEDS**NOT WORDS. 33.

It was the only argument that Israel understood.

a. Judgment was certain.

b. This coming of judgment would then convince them that there had been a prophet in their midst.