# Ezekiel 12:1-28 Captivity of Jerusalem and Judah Imminent

# Ezekiel, A Sign Of Judah Going Into Captivity

- 1 Now the word of Yahweh (the Lord) came to me, saying:
- 2 "Son of man, you dwell in the midst of a rebellious house, which has eyes to see but does not see, and ears to hear but does not hear; for they are a rebellious house.
- <sup>3</sup> "Therefore, son of man, prepare your belongings for captivity, and go into captivity by day in their sight. You shall go from your place into captivity to another place in their sight. It may be that they will consider, though they are a rebellious house.
- 4 By day you shall bring out your belongings in their sight, as though going into captivity; and at evening you shall go in their sight, like those who go into captivity.
- 5 Dig through the wall in their sight, and carry your belongings out through it.
- 6 In their sight you shall bear them on your shoulders and carry them out at twilight; you shall cover your face, so that you cannot see the ground, for I have made you a sign to the house of Israel."
- <sup>7</sup> So I did as I was commanded. I brought out my belongings by day, as though going into captivity, and at evening I dug through the wall with my hand. I brought them out at twilight, and I bore them on my shoulder in their sight.
- 8 And in the morning the word of Yahweh (the Lord) came to me, saying,
- 9 "Son of man, has not the house of Israel, the rebellious house, said to you, 'What are you doing?'
- 10 Say to them, 'Thus says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God): "This burden concerns the prince in Jerusalem and all the house of Israel who are among them."'
- 11 Say, 'I am a sign to you. As I have done, so shall it be done to them; they shall be carried away into captivity.'
- 12 And the prince who is among them shall bear his belongings on his shoulder at twilight and go out. They shall dig through the wall to carry them out through it. He shall cover his face, so that he cannot see the ground with his eyes.
- 13 I will also spread My net over him, and he shall be caught in My snare. I will bring him to Babylon, to the land of the Chaldeans; yet he shall not see it, though he shall die there.
- 14 I will scatter to every wind all who are around him to help him, and all his troops; and I will draw out the sword after them.
- 15 "Then they shall know that I am Yahweh (the Lord), when I scatter them among the nations and disperse them throughout the countries.
- 16 But I will spare a few of their men from the sword, from famine, and from pestilence, that they may declare all their abominations among the Gentiles wherever they go. Then they shall know that I am Yahweh (the Lord)."

## Judgment Imminent

- 17 Moreover the word of Yahweh (the Lord) came to me, saying,
- 18 "Son of man, eat your bread with quaking, and drink your water with trembling and anxiety.
- 19 And say to the people of the land, 'Thus says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God) to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the land of Israel: "They shall eat their bread with anxiety, and drink their water with dread, so that her land may be emptied of all who are in it, because of the violence of all those

who dwell in it.

- 20 Then the cities that are inhabited shall be laid waste, and the land shall become desolate; and you shall know that I am Yahweh (the Lord).""
- 21 And the word of Yahweh (the Lord) came to me, saying,
- 22 "Son of man, what is this proverb that you people have about the land of Israel, which says, 'The days are prolonged, and every vision fails'?
- 23 Tell them therefore, 'Thus says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God): "I will lay this proverb to rest, and they shall no more use it as a proverb in Israel." But say to them, "The days are at hand, and the fulfillment of every vision.
- 24 For no more shall there be any false vision or flattering divination within the house of Israel.
- 25 For I am Yahweh (the Lord). I speak, and the word which I speak will come to pass; it will no more be postponed; for in your days, O rebellious house, I will say the word and perform it," says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God)."
- 26 Again the word of Yahweh (the Lord) came to me, saying,
- 27 "Son of man, look, the house of Israel is saying, 'The vision that he sees is for many days from now, and he prophesies of times far off.'
- 28 Therefore say to them, 'Thus says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God): "None of My words will be postponed any more, but the word which I speak will be done," says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God)."'

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#### Facts Revealed:

Ezekiel, A Sign Of Judah Going Into Captivity [Ezekiel 12:1-28]

- ♦ Now the word of Yahweh (the Lord) came to me, saying:
  - "Son of man, you dwell in the midst of a rebellious house, which has eyes to see but does not see, and ears to hear but does not hear; for they are a rebellious house.
  - "Therefore, son of man, prepare your belongings for captivity, and go into captivity by day in their sight. You shall go from your place into captivity to another place in their sight. It may be that they will consider, though they are a rebellious house. [Ezekiel 12:1-3]
  - ♦ Yahweh acknowledged that rebellious people can neither see or hear with discernment or accept correction even though a faithful prophet delivers the message from God.
  - ♦ Yet He gives them the truth in many forms in the hope someone will consider it and be saved through repentance. [Ezekiel 18:30-32]
  - ♦ In this case it is through personal pantomime.
  - ★ Ezekiel demonstrated going into captivity as a sign that the prince and all Israel with him will go into captivity the same way. 

    [Ezekiel 12:4-15]
    - ❖ The purpose is that when they see it come to pass, they will know that Yahweh truly is God Most High ruler over heaven and earth and that He is a God of His Word Who does just as He said He would.

#### Promise to preserve a remnant

- ☼ But I will spare a few of their men from the sword, from famine, and from pestilence, that they may declare all their abominations among the Gentiles wherever they go. Then they shall know that I am Yahweh (the Lord)." [Ezekiel 12:16]
  - ♦ The purpose of saving a remnant is so the Gentile world will know by their testimony that Yahweh is God.

## Sign of anxiety

- **☼** Sign of eating and drinking in anxiety. [Ezekiel 12:17-20]
  - ♦ The sign illustrates that the land will be desolate.
  - ♦ The purpose is that you will know that Yahweh is God and has done as He said.

### Judgment Imminent

- ❖ And the word of Yahweh (the Lord) came to me, saying,
  - "Son of man, what is this proverb that you people have about the land of Israel, which says, 'The days are prolonged, and every vision fails'? [Ezekiel 12:21-25]
  - ♦ The time delay between the promise of God and its fulfillment causes the people to doubt the truth of its warning. Yahweh gives people time to repent after being warned. [2 Peter 2:9]
  - ♦ When the appointed time for Judgment arrives, Yahweh will act and it will be too late for the people to repent, it will be Judgment Day.
  - ♦ Yahweh will speak the Word and it will be fulfilled.
- **☼** The people come to believe that the fulfillment is for a far distant time. [Ezekiel 12:26-27]
  - ♦ It will be the same at the time of the End. [2 Peter 3:3-4]
- ★ Therefore say to them, 'Thus says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God): "None of My words will be postponed any more, but the word which I speak will be done," says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God)."
  [Ezekiel 12:28]
  - ♦ The Judgment Day for the remnant of Israel, Judea and Jerusalem is at hand.
  - ♦ There is still time for repentance to the last moment when Judgment begins to fall.
  - ♦ This is a demonstration of the mercy of Yahweh calling for repentance to the end.
  - ♦ Do not spurn the warning or wait to the very end when it will be too late.