

Ezekiel 13:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Say unto them which daub it with untempered mortar, that it shall fall: there shall be an overflowing shower; and ye, O great hailstones, shall fall; and a stormy wind shall rend it.

Analysis

God addresses false prophecy related to Overflowing shower. This verse contributes to the comprehensive exposure of false teaching that enabled Israel's apostasy. The specific practices condemned show how false prophecy mixed superstition with claims of divine authority, leading people astray from covenant faithfulness.

The Hebrew terminology indicates concrete practices that promised protection or favor through human manipulation rather than covenant obedience. These represent attempts to control or manipulate divine blessing through ritual or magical means rather than submission to God's revealed will. Such practices directly violated monotheistic faith.

From a Reformed perspective, this warns against any attempt to manipulate God through religious practices divorced from heart obedience. Judgment washes away false securities. True relationship with God requires faith in His promises and submission to His commands, not manipulative rituals or techniques.

Historical Context

Historical context shows various superstitious practices in pre-exilic Israel combining folk religion with claims of Yahwistic authority. Archaeological evidence includes amulets, magical texts, and fertility cult objects showing syncretism.

These practices promised protection or blessing through human technique rather than covenant faithfulness, directly violating first and second commandments. Judgment washes away false securities within this cultural context of widespread religious syncretism.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does this condemnation challenge modern attempts to manipulate God through religious techniques?
2. What does Overflowing shower teach about the difference between faith and superstition?
3. In what ways might contemporary Christianity compromise biblical faith with cultural superstitions?

Interlinear Text

אָמַר	אֶל	טָה י	תִּפֹּל	תִּפֹּל לָנָה
Say	H413	unto them which daub	it with untempered	mortar that it shall fall
H559		H2902	H8602	H5307
הִיא	גֶּשֶׁם	שׁוֹטֵף	וְאַתָּה נָה	אֲבִי י
H1961	shower	there shall be an overflowing	and ye	H68
	H1653	H7857	H859	
אֶלְגָּבִישׁ	תִּפֹּל לָנָה	וְרוּחַ	סֶעָר וְ	תִּבְקָעַ:
O great hailstones	mortar that it shall fall	wind	and a stormy	shall rend
H417	H5307	H7307	H5591	H1234

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 38:22 (Parallel theme): And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.

Isaiah 28:2 (Parallel theme): Behold, the Lord hath a mighty and strong one, which as a tempest of hail and a destroying storm, as a flood of mighty waters overflowing, shall cast down to the earth with the hand.