

Ezekiel 13:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So will I break down the wall that ye have daubed with untempered morter, and bring it down to the ground, so that the foundation thereof shall be discovered, and it shall fall, and ye shall be consumed in the midst thereof: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

Analysis

God addresses false prophecy related to Foundation discovered. 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. Truth exposed in judgment. 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. Truth exposed in judgment within this cultural context of widespread religious syncretism.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

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

Interlinear Text

תַּפְלֵי	טְחִמָּת	תַּפְלֵי	בְּתַחְכָּמָה
So will I break down	the wall	that ye have daubed	with untempered
H2040	H853	H2902	H8602
וְהִבְעַת יְהוָה	אֶל	בְּאֶרֶץ	וַיְנִגְלֶה הַ
morter and bring	it down to the ground	thereof shall be discovered	
H5060	H413	H776	H1540
וְיִסְׁדַּקְתִּי	וְיִפְלַחַת	וְכָלִיתָם	בְּתוֹךְ הַ
so that the foundation	and it shall fall	and ye shall be consumed	in the midst
H3247	H5307	H3615	H8432
וְיַדְעָתָם	אֶنּוּ כִּי	יְהִיָּה	
thereof and ye shall know	H3588	H589	that I am the LORD
H3045		H3068	

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 6:15 (References Lord): Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall: at the time that I visit them they shall be cast down, saith the LORD.

Micah 1:6 (Parallel theme): Therefore I will make Samaria as an heap of the field, and as plantings of a vineyard: and I will pour down the stones thereof into the valley, and I will discover the foundations thereof.

Jeremiah 14:15 (References Lord): Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the prophets that prophesy in my name, and I sent them not, yet they say, Sword and famine shall not be in this land; By sword and famine shall those prophets be consumed.

Ezekiel 13:9 (References Lord): And mine hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that divine lies: they shall not be in the assembly of my people, neither shall they be written in the writing of the house of Israel, neither shall they enter into the land of Israel; and ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

Habakkuk 3:13 (Parallel theme): Thou wentest forth for the salvation of thy people, even for salvation with thine anointed; thou woundedst the head out of the house of the wicked, by discovering the foundation unto the neck. Selah.

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