

Ezekiel 13:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Your kerchiefs also will I tear, and deliver my people out of your hand, and they shall be no more in your hand to be hunted; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

Analysis

God condemns false prophets regarding Delivered from your hand. This verse shows how false teaching profanes God's name by attributing to Him messages He didn't give. The practice of claiming divine authority for human opinions brings God's name into disrepute and misleads His people. The Hebrew indicates serious covenant violation—using Yahweh's name falsely violates the third commandment.

God rescues from false teachers. False prophets caused spiritual harm by distorting people's understanding of God's character, will, and covenant demands. They made judgment seem unlikely, repentance unnecessary, and sin inconsequential—all lies that endangered souls. Their deceptive ministry required divine intervention to protect the faithful.

From a Reformed perspective, this illustrates God's jealousy for His glory and His protection of His people from deception. When false teaching proliferates, God directly intervenes through faithful prophets exposing error and eventually through judgment silencing false teachers. The church must maintain doctrinal integrity, opposing error and protecting believers from wolves in sheep's clothing.

Historical Context

The specific practices condemned reflect ancient Near Eastern religious syncretism mixing Yahwism with pagan divination, magic, and superstition. God

rescues from false teachers within a context where religious professionals exploited people's fears and hopes for profit. Archaeological evidence shows widespread magical practices in Iron Age Israel despite Torah prohibitions. False prophets capitalized on this syncretistic environment, offering services that mixed legitimate spiritual authority with pagan techniques. Their ministry represented covenant apostasy at leadership level, more dangerous than lay idolatry because it carried authoritative weight.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does claiming God's authority for human opinions profane His name today?
2. What responsibility does church leadership bear to protect believers from false teaching?
3. In what ways does Delivered from your hand warn against mixing biblical faith with cultural superstitions?

Interlinear Text

עַמִּי אַת וְהַצְלָתִי מִסְפְּחֹתֶיךָ מִאַת וְקַרְעָתִי
also will I tear H853 Your kerchiefs and deliver H853 my people
H7167 H4555 H5337 H5971

בְּיָדֶךָ | עַד יְהִי וְלֹא
and they shall be no more in your hand H3027 H3808 H1961 H5750

בְּיָדֶךָ | לְמַצְאֵךְ הַיְדָעָת | וְיִדְעָתָה
and they shall be no more in your hand H3027 H4686 H3045 H3588 H589

יְהִי
that I am the LORD
H3068

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