

Ezekiel 13:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Have ye not seen a vain vision, and have ye not spoken a lying divination, whereas ye say, The LORD saith it; albeit I have not spoken?

Analysis

God addresses false prophecy related to Vision seen nothing. 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. False visions lacked divine origin. 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. False visions lacked divine origin within this cultural context of widespread religious syncretism.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does this condemnation challenge modern attempts to manipulate God through religious techniques?
2. What does Vision seen nothing teach about the difference between faith and superstition?
3. In what ways might contemporary Christianity compromise biblical faith with cultural superstitions?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵל	מַחְזֶה	שְׁוֵא	חֲזִיתֶם	וּמִקֹּסִם	כִּזְבֹּב
H3808	vision	a vain	Have ye not seen	divination	a lying
	H4236	H7723	H2372	H4738	H3577

וְדִבַּרְתִּי:	וְאֲמַרְיִם	נֹאם	יְהוָה	וְאֲנִי	לֵא
and have ye not spoken	it albeit I have not spoken	saith	The LORD		
H1696	H559	H5002	H3068	H589	H3808

וְדִבַּרְתִּי:
and have ye not spoken
H1696