

Ezekiel 16:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And in all thine abominations and thy whoredoms thou hast not remembered the days of thy youth, when thou wast naked and bare, and wast polluted in thy blood.

Analysis

Thou hast not remembered the days of thy youth—The Hebrew zakar (זכור, to remember) means more than mental recall; it implies covenant faithfulness and obedient response. Jerusalem forgot her origins: **when thou wast naked and bare, and wast polluted in thy blood** (verse 6)—exposed at birth, helpless, without status or beauty. God's covenant love (hesed) rescued her.

In all thine abominations and thy whoredoms—to'evoth (תֹּוֹבֶת, abominations) and taznuth (תֹּזְנָתָה, whoredoms) form a devastating pair: detestable acts combined with covenant betrayal. Amnesia of grace produces arrogance and ingratitude. Jesus rebuked the forgiven debtor who forgot his own debt (Matthew 18:23-35). Covenant keeping requires remembering redemption—Israel's failure and ours.

Historical Context

This verse climaxes the indictment begun in verse 1, where Ezekiel was commanded to 'cause Jerusalem to know her abominations.' The prophet's audience—exiles in Babylon (593-571 BC)—needed to understand that Jerusalem's fall wasn't divine failure but covenant judgment for sustained rebellion spanning generations.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. Do you regularly remember your spiritual 'nakedness and pollution' before God saved you, or has grace become presumption?
2. How does forgetting God's past faithfulness lead to present unfaithfulness in your walk with Him?

Interlinear Text

ל א וְתַעֲבָתֶךָ כָּל וְאֵת

H853 H3605 And in all thine abominations

וְתַזְנִמֶת יְךָ

H3808

H8441

H8457

בְּהִזְבַּחַתְּךָ יְמִינְךָ אַתָּה רְמִיתִי

thou hast not remembered

H853 the days

נְעוּמָךְ יְמִינְךָ

בְּהִזְבַּחַתְּךָ

H1961

H3117

H5271

בְּדִמְךָ בְּדִמְךָ עִיר מְתַבּוֹס סְתִּים קְיִיחָה

when thou wast naked

and bare

וְעָרֵת הַמְּתַבּוֹס סְתִּים

in thy blood

H1961

H5903

H6181

H947

H1818

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 2:2 (Parallel theme): Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the LORD; I remember thee, the kindness of thy youth, the love of thine espousals, when thou wentest after me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown.

Ezekiel 16:43 (Parallel theme): Because thou hast not remembered the days of thy youth, but hast fretted me in all these things; behold, therefore I also will

recompense thy way upon thine head, saith the Lord GOD: and thou shalt not commit this lewdness above all thine abominations.

Hosea 11:1 (Parallel theme): When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.

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