

# Ezekiel 17:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

As I live, saith the Lord GOD, surely in the place where the king dwelleth that made him king, whose oath he despised, and whose covenant he brake, even with him in the midst of Babylon he shall die.

## Analysis

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'As I live, saith the Lord GOD'—God's own existence guarantees fulfillment. Zedekiah will die 'in the midst of Babylon'—where 'the king dwelleth that made him king.' Stark irony: escaping Babylonian control, he'll die in Babylon's heart. 'Whose oath he hath despised' emphasizes the moral dimension—not failed strategy but contempt for sacred obligations.

## Historical Context

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Fulfilled exactly. After Jerusalem fell (586 BC), Zedekiah fled but was captured near Jericho. Nebuchadnezzar executed his sons before him, blinded him, and brought him to Babylon where he died in prison (2 Kings 25:1-7, Jeremiah 52:7-11). Precise fulfillment authenticated both prophets.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

### Study Questions

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1. How does God's certainty about moral consequences affect our view of 'getting away with' violations?
2. What oaths have we treated as expendable that God views as binding?

### Interlinear Text

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חִי	אֶנִּי	נֹאֵם	אֲדֹנָי	יְהוָה	אִם	לֹא	בְּמָקוֹם
As I live	H589	saith	the Lord	H3068	H518	H3808	surely in the place
H2416		H5002	H136				H4725
הֵם לְךָ	הַמֶּלֶךְ	יְהוָה	אֲשֶׁר	אֵת	וְ	בָזָה	אֵת
where the king	dwelleth that made him king		H853	H834		he despised	H853
H4428	H4427					H959	
וְ	אֵת	וְ	אֲשֶׁר	רָ	אֵת	וְ	אֵת
whose oath	H834	he brake	H853	and whose covenant	H854		
H423		H6565		H1285			
בְּתוֹךְ	לְ	יָמוֹת:					
even with him in the midst	of Babylon	he shall die					
H8432	H894	H4191					

### Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 12:13** (References Babylon): My net also will I spread upon him, and he shall be taken in my snare: and I will bring him to Babylon to the land of the Chaldeans; yet shall he not see it, though he shall die there.

**Jeremiah 52:11** (Kingdom): Then he put out the eyes of Zedekiah; and the king of Babylon bound him in chains, and carried him to Babylon, and put him in prison till the day of his death.

