

# 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

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

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

### Study Questions

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

בְּמִקְרָם	לְאָם	יְהֹוָה	אָדָם	נָאָם	אָנָי	חַי	כִּי	בָּנָי
<b>surely in the place</b>	<b>H3808</b>	<b>H518</b>	<b>H3068</b>	<b>the Lord</b>	<b>saith</b>	<b>H136</b>	<b>As I live</b>	<b>H589</b>
H4725				H136	H5002		H2416	
לְאָתָה	אָשָׁר	רָאָתָה	פָּמָלָה	לְרַבָּע	לְרַבָּע	לְרַבָּע	בְּזִיה	אָתָה
<b>he despised</b>	<b>H853</b>	<b>H834</b>	<b>H853</b>	<b>dwelleth that made him king</b>	<b>where the king</b>	<b>H4427</b>	<b>H4428</b>	
H959								
אָתָה	בְּרִית	וְ	אָתָה	הַפְּרָאָרְךָ	אָתָה	הַפְּרָאָרְךָ	אָתָה	אָתָה
<b>and whose covenant</b>	<b>H1285</b>	<b>H853</b>	<b>he brake</b>	<b>H834</b>	<b>whose oath</b>	<b>H423</b>		
H854								
בְּתוּךְ	בְּבָבָלָן	יְמִינֹתָה	בְּבָבָלָן	בְּבָבָלָן	בְּבָבָלָן	בְּבָבָלָן	בְּבָבָלָן	בְּבָבָלָן
<b>he shall die</b>	<b>H4191</b>	<b>H894</b>	<b>of Babylon</b>	<b>in the midst</b>	<b>even with him</b>	<b>H8432</b>		

### Additional Cross-References

**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.

