

# Ezekiel 20:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But I wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, in whose sight I brought them out.

## Analysis

'But I wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, in whose sight I brought them out.' Again (as in verse 9), God acts for His name's sake despite Israel's rebellion. Moses' intercession (Exodus 32:11-14, Numbers 14:13-19) appealed to this principle—what would the nations think if God destroyed Israel after delivering them? God's reputation motivates His covenant faithfulness even when His people are unfaithful.

## Historical Context

Throughout Israel's history, God's actions vindicated His name among nations. The exodus demonstrated His power; preserving Israel despite rebellion demonstrated His covenant faithfulness; the exile demonstrated His justice; and restoration demonstrated His mercy. All served to reveal His character to the world.

## Related Passages

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's concern for His reputation affect His relationship with His people?
2. What does it mean that our faithfulness or unfaithfulness affects God's name among unbelievers?

## Interlinear Text

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הַחַל לְבָלָת וְשָׁמָן לְמַעַן וְאַעֲשֵׂה הַ  
But I wrought for my name's sake that it should not be polluted  
H6213 H4616 H1115 H2490  
לְעִינֵיכֶם: הַזֹּאת יְמִין אֲשֶׁר הַגּוֹן מִלְּפָנֵיכֶם:  
before the heathen I brought them out before  
H5869 H1471 H834 H3318 H5869

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 20:9** (Parallel theme): But I wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, among whom they were, in whose sight I made myself known unto them, in bringing them forth out of the land of Egypt.

**Ezekiel 20:22** (Parallel theme): Nevertheless I withdrew mine hand, and wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted in the sight of the heathen, in whose sight I brought them forth.