

Ezekiel 20:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Because they had not executed my judgments, but had despised my statutes, and had polluted my sabbaths, and their eyes were after their fathers' idols.

Analysis

'Because they had not executed my judgments, but had despised my statutes, and had polluted my sabbaths, and their eyes were after their fathers' idols.' The cause of exile reiterated: despising law, polluting Sabbaths, following ancestral idols. 'Their eyes were after their fathers' idols' shows they repeated rather than learned from previous generations' errors. Generational unfaithfulness compounds when each generation follows predecessors' bad examples.

Historical Context

The Deuteronomistic History (Joshua-2 Kings) documents how each generation often 'did evil in the sight of the LORD' like their fathers. The northern kingdom's persistent Jeroboam-instituted calf worship (1 Kings 12:25-33) and Judah's recurring high place worship demonstrate stubborn pattern-following despite prophetic warnings.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How do family and cultural traditions sometimes perpetuate unfaithfulness to God?
2. What does it require to break free from generational patterns of spiritual compromise?

Interlinear Text

וְיִקְרֹם יְהוָה בְּעַלְמָה
H3282 my judgments H3808 Because they had not executed H6213
H4941 H2708

גָּלוּל וְאָסְרִי כָּל לֹא שְׁבָתוֹת וְאֶת מִאָסָה
but had despised H853 my sabbaths and had polluted H2490 were after H310
H3988 H7676 H1544

עִינֵיכֶם וְאֶבֶשׂ מִבְּנֵי אֲבֹתֵיכֶם
their fathers H1961 and their eyes H5869

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 20:16 (Judgment): Because they despised my judgments, and walked not in my statutes, but polluted my sabbaths: for their heart went after their idols.

Ezekiel 6:9 (Parallel theme): And they that escape of you shall remember me among the nations whither they shall be carried captives, because I am broken with their whorish heart, which hath departed from me, and with their eyes, which go a whoring after their idols: and they shall lothe themselves for the evils which they have committed in all their abominations.

Amos 2:4 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Judah, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have

despised the law of the LORD, and have not kept his commandments, and their lies caused them to err, after the which their fathers have walked:

Ezekiel 20:13 (Judgment): But the house of Israel rebelled against me in the wilderness: they walked not in my statutes, and they despised my judgments, which if a man do, he shall even live in them; and my sabbaths they greatly polluted: then I said, I would pour out my fury upon them in the wilderness, to consume them.

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