

# Ezekiel 20:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then I said unto them, What is the high place whereunto ye go? And the name thereof is called Bamah unto this day.

## Analysis

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'Then I said unto them, What is the high place whereunto ye go? And the name whereof is called Bamah unto this day.' God's question about the high places ('bamah') is rhetorical—exposing their folly. The wordplay on 'bamah' (high place) emphasizes the absurdity. These forbidden worship sites persisted 'unto this day' (Ezekiel's time, ~591 BC), showing centuries of persistent high place worship despite prophetic condemnation.

## Historical Context

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High place worship plagued Israel throughout the monarchy. Even faithful kings like Asa, Jehoshaphat, Joash, and Amaziah failed to remove high places (1 Kings 15:14, 22:43; 2 Kings 12:3, 14:4). Only Hezekiah and Josiah removed them temporarily (2 Kings 18:4, 23:8), but they returned. This persistent syncretism contributed to exile.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. What 'high places' (respectable but spiritually compromising practices) persist in church history and our lives?
2. Why is compromise in worship so attractive and persistent despite its offensiveness to God?

## Interlinear Text

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וְאָמַרְתִּי	אֵלַיָּהֶם	מִן	הַבִּמְצָה	אֲשֶׁר	אֵת
Then I said	H413	H4100	unto them What is the high place	H834	H859
H559			H1116		
הַבָּא יִם	שָׁם	וְקָרָא	שְׁמָהּ	בִּמְצָה	עַד
whereunto ye go	H8033	thereof is called	And the name	Bamah	H5704
H935		H7121	H8034	H1117	
הַיּוֹם	הַזֶּה:				
unto this day	H2088				
H3117					