

# Ezekiel 20:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Son of man, speak unto the elders of Israel, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Are ye come to enquire of me? As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will not be enquired of by you.

## Analysis

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'Son of man, speak unto the elders of Israel, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Are ye come to enquire of me? As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will not be enquired of by you.' God's shocking refusal to answer. The oath formula 'As I live' emphasizes certainty. 'I will not be enquired of by you' rejects their consultation. The reason becomes clear in subsequent verses: persistent idolatry makes their inquiry hypocritical. God won't play along with religious pretense while they harbor rebellion.

## Historical Context

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This echoes other instances where God refused to answer due to sin: Saul consulting Samuel's spirit (1 Samuel 28), God's silence to Saul (1 Samuel 28:6), and refusal to hear Israel's prayers (Isaiah 1:15, Jeremiah 11:11). Unconfessed sin blocks communion with God.

## 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

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. What attitudes or sins block our prayers and seeking God?
2. How do we move from religious formality to genuine repentance that opens communication with God?

## Interlinear Text

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בֶּן	אָדָם	דֹּבֵר	אֶת	זִקְנֵי	יִשְׂרָאֵל	אָמַר	אֵלֶּה
Son	of man	speak	H853	unto the elders	of Israel	and say	H413
H1121	H120	H1696		H2205	H3478	H559	
כֹּה	אָמַר	אֲדָנִי	יְהוָה	אֲדָרְשׁ	אֶת־י	אֶת־	אֵלֶּה
H3541	and say	the Lord	H3068	I will not be enquired	H853	H859	
	H559	H136		H1875			
בָּא יִם	חִי	אֲנִי	אִם	אֲדָרְשׁ	לֹא	נֹא	אֵלֶּה
Are ye come	of me As I live	H589	H518	I will not be enquired	H0	saith	
H935	H2416			H1875		H5002	
אֲדָנִי	יְהוָה:						
the Lord	H3068						
H136							

## Additional Cross-References

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**Proverbs 28:9** (Parallel theme): He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.

**Micah 3:7** (References God): Then shall the seers be ashamed, and the diviners confounded: yea, they shall all cover their lips; for there is no answer of God.

