

Ezekiel 20:38

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

Analysis

'And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.' God promises to purge rebels, preventing unrepentant idolaters from entering restored Israel. As the wilderness generation perished before entering the promised land, unrepentant exiles won't experience restoration. This establishes that restoration is for the faithful remnant, not automatic for all ethnic Israel.

Historical Context

Not all exiles returned—some remained in Babylon, some assimilated into pagan culture. The return required faith and commitment. In eschatological fulfillment, not all ethnic Israel is saved, only the remnant according to election (Romans 9:6-8, 11:1-5). Salvation is through faith, not ethnicity.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does God's purging of rebels demonstrate that covenant blessing requires faith, not mere ethnicity?
2. What does the faithful remnant theme teach about God's preservation of His people?

Interlinear Text

וּבְרוֹתַי	מִכֶּם	הַמֵּרֶדִים	וְהַפּוֹשְׁעִים
And I will purge out	H4480	from among you the rebels	and them that transgress
H1305		H4775	H6586
בְּי	מֵאֶרֶץ	מִגּוּרֵיהֶם	אֹצֵר יָא
H0	out of the country	where they sojourn	against me I will bring them forth
	H776	H4033	H3318
וְאֵל אוֹתָם	אֶדְמָתָא	לְיִשְׂרָאֵל	לֹא יָבֹאוּ
H853	H413	into the land	of Israel
	H127	H3478	H3808
			and they shall not enter
			H935
וְיָדַעְתֶּם	כִּי	אֲנִי יְהוָה	
and ye shall know	H3588	H589	that I am the LORD
H3045			H3068

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 95:11 (Parallel theme): Unto whom I swear in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest.

Ezekiel 13:9 (References Lord): And mine hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that divine lies: they shall not be in the assembly of my people,

neither shall they be written in the writing of the house of Israel, neither shall they enter into the land of Israel; and ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

Jeremiah 44:14 (Parallel theme): So that none of the remnant of Judah, which are gone into the land of Egypt to sojourn there, shall escape or remain, that they should return into the land of Judah, to the which they have a desire to return to dwell there: for none shall return but such as shall escape.

Ezekiel 6:7 (References Lord): And the slain shall fall in the midst of you, and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

Malachi 3:3 (References Lord): And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

Psalms 9:16 (References Lord): The LORD is known by the judgment which he executeth: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. Higgsaion. Selah.

Ezekiel 23:49 (References Lord): And they shall recompense your lewdness upon you, and ye shall bear the sins of your idols: and ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

Ezekiel 15:7 (References Lord): And I will set my face against them; they shall go out from one fire, and another fire shall devour them; and ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I set my face against them.

Ezekiel 11:21 (References Lord): But as for them whose heart walketh after the heart of their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their way upon their own heads, saith the Lord GOD.