

Ezekiel 20:44

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have wrought with you for my name's sake, not according to your wicked ways, nor according to your corrupt doings, O ye house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.

Analysis

'And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have wrought with you for my name's sake, not according to your wicked ways, nor according to your corrupt doings, O house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.' The climax: recognition that salvation is 'for my name's sake, not according to your wicked ways.' God acts despite their unworthiness, based on His character, not theirs. This is pure grace—undeserved favor. Their wickedness would merit destruction; God's grace brings restoration. The pattern of Scripture: salvation is entirely of the Lord.

Historical Context

This principle appears throughout Scripture: God chose Israel not for their greatness but His love (Deuteronomy 7:7-8), delivered them from Egypt for His name's sake (Psalm 106:8), and restored them despite unworthiness (Ezekiel 36:22-32). New Covenant salvation in Christ follows the same pattern—saved by grace through faith, not works (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does understanding that God saves for His name's sake, not our worthiness, humble us?
2. What does this teach about the nature of grace and the motivation for God's redemptive work?

Interlinear Text

וְיִדְעָתֶם	יְהִי	הַ	אֵת	כִּי	בְּעֵשֶׂת	וְ	אַתָּךְ
And ye shall know			that I am the LORD		when I have wrought		
H3045	H3588	H589	H3068		H6213		H854
לֹמַעַת	שְׁמִי	כְּדָרְכֵיכֶם	לֹא				
H4616		H3808		ways			
with you for my name's				H1870			
H8034							
בְּרָעָם	וְכָלְילָוְתִיכֶם	פְּנַשְׁתָּוֹת					
sake not according to your wicked	doings	nor according to your corrupt					
H7451	H5949	H7843					
וְיִתְהַעֲלֶה	אַדְנָתִי	בְּיַתְהָרָה					
O ye house	of Israel	saith	the Lord	GOD			
H1004	H3478	H5002	H136	H3069			

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 24:24 (References God): Thus Ezekiel is unto you a sign: according to all that he hath done shall ye do: and when this cometh, ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

Psalms 115:1 (References Lord): Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake.

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.

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 20:14 (Parallel theme): But I wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, in whose sight I brought them out.

Ephesians 1:6 (Parallel theme): To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

1 Timothy 1:16 (Parallel theme): Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.