

Ezekiel 21:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because ye have made your iniquity to be remembered, in that your transgressions are discovered, so that in all your doings your sins do appear; because, I say, that ye are come to remembrance, ye shall be taken with the hand.

Analysis

Because ye have made your iniquity to be remembered (ישׁע בְּזִכְרֵיכֶם שׁוֹנְכֶם) ya'an hazkarkhem avonkhem)—the verb זָכַר (zakar, to remember) appears three times in verses 23-24, creating emphasis. Israel's sins became so public and flagrant that they forced God's hand. **Your transgressions are discovered** (בְּהַגְלֹת פְּשָׁעֵיכֶם) b'halot pish'eikhem)—the root גָּלַח (galah) means to uncover, reveal, go into exile—a prophetic wordplay on coming deportation.

In all your doings your sins do appear (בְּכָל עֲ�לֹתֶיכֶם חֲטֹאתֶיכֶם נִרְאֹת) b'khol aliloteikhem khato'teikhem nir'ot)—total corruption visible in every action. **Ye shall be taken with the hand** uses imagery of capture and imprisonment. When sin becomes systemic and shameless, judgment becomes inevitable and public. This principle operates both nationally and individually (Numbers 32:23).

Historical Context

By 586 BC, Judah's rebellion against Babylon was complete. The broken treaty, Egyptian alliance, temple idolatry, social injustice, and rejection of prophets had accumulated into corporate guilt demanding public judgment. The 'remembering' of iniquity meant God would no longer forbear.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. What does it mean when our sin becomes so public that it 'forces' God to act in judgment?
2. How can believers guard against the gradual accumulation of tolerated sin that eventually demands divine discipline?

Interlinear Text

לְכָךְ | פֶּה אָמַר אֱלֹהִים | עַזְּבָנָה |
H3651 H3541 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD H3282
H559 H136 H3069

הִנֵּה כִּרְכָּךְ מְעֻזָּבָנָה |
because I say that ye are come to remembrance H2142 Because ye have made your iniquity H5771

בְּהַגְּלָל וְתִּפְשְׁעִיכָּךְ מְעֻזָּבָנָה |
are discovered in that your transgressions do appear your sins H3605
H1540 H6588 H7200 H2403

בְּכָל מְעֻזָּבָנָה לְקַבָּאוֹת |
so that in all your doings because I say that ye are come to remembrance H2142
H5949 H3282

בְּכָל מְעֻזָּבָנָה |
with the hand ye shall be taken
H3709 H8610

Additional Cross-References

Hosea 4:2 (Parallel theme): By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood.

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