

# Ezekiel 22:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou art become guilty in thy blood that thou hast shed; and hast defiled thyself in thine idols which thou hast made; and thou hast caused thy days to draw near, and art come even unto thy years: therefore have I made thee a reproach unto the heathen, and a mocking to all countries.

## Analysis

**"Thou art become guilty in thy blood that thou hast shed; and hast defiled thyself in thine idols which thou hast made; and thou hast caused thy days to draw near, and art come even unto thy years: therefore have I made thee a reproach unto the heathen, and a mocking to all countries."** The accumulated guilt from bloodshed and idolatry brings twofold consequences: temporal (hastened judgment—"caused thy days to draw near") and reputational ("reproach unto the heathen"). International shame results from public judgment—surrounding nations mock Jerusalem's fall. This reverses Israel's intended role as light to nations; instead, they become warning example.

## Historical Context

When Jerusalem fell (586 BC), surrounding nations indeed mocked (Lamentations 2:15-16; Psalm 79:4; Ezekiel 36:20). The city meant to display God's glory became object lesson of divine judgment. This public shame served pedagogical purposes—both Israel and watching nations learned that covenant violation brings deserved consequences. The reproach persisted for generations, shaping Jewish identity and theology through exile and post-exilic periods.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. How does public shame serve as part of divine judgment?
2. What does becoming a 'mocking to all countries' teach about corporate witness and failure?
3. In what ways should awareness of watching eyes shape Christian living and church practice?

## Interlinear Text

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בְּגַלְלֵל יְהֹוָה אֲשֶׁר בְּדַم־הַדָּם  
in thy blood      H1818      H834      that thou hast shed      H8210      Thou art become guilty      H816      thyself in thine idols      H1544

אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂית טָמֵן אֶת יְתִיר יָבִיא  
which thou hast made      H6213      and hast defiled      H2930      to draw near      H7126

עַמְּךָ וְאֶת־עַד יָמֵיךְ עַל־כֵּן שְׁנָוֹת־יָמִין  
and thou hast caused thy days      H3117      and art come      H935      even unto thy years      H5921      H3651

לְכָל־יְקָלָס הַגְּתָתָה לְגַעַן מִן־חֶרְפָּה גַּתְתָּת־יְהֹוָה  
therefore have I made      H5414      thee a reproach      H2781      unto the heathen      H1471      and a mocking      H7048      H3605

בְּאַרְצֹות  
to all countries  
H776

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Kings 21:16** (Creation): Moreover Manasseh shed innocent blood very much, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another; beside his sin wherewith he made Judah to sin, in doing that which was evil in the sight of the LORD.

**Ezekiel 16:57** (Parallel theme): Before thy wickedness was discovered, as at the time of thy reproach of the daughters of Syria, and all that are round about her, the daughters of the Philistines, which despise thee round about.

**Ezekiel 22:2** (Blood): Now, thou son of man, wilt thou judge, wilt thou judge the bloody city? yea, thou shalt shew her all her abominations.