

Ezekiel 23:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I will do these things unto thee, because thou hast gone a whoring after the heathen, and because thou art polluted with their idols.

Analysis

I will do these things unto thee, because thou hast gone a whoring after the heathen directly links punishment to crime. The causal 'because' establishes moral order: specific sins produce specific consequences. Because thou art polluted with their idols specifies contamination requiring judgment. Pollution language comes from priestly purity codes—what is defiled cannot approach God's holiness without cleansing. Since Israel/Judah wouldn't cleanse herself, God imposes purgation through judgment. This reflects God's holiness: He cannot fellowship with defilement. Either sin is cleansed or the sinner is removed. Christ provides cleansing through His blood; judgment removes those refusing cleansing. There is no third option in God's economy.

Historical Context

Judah's adoption of Assyrian, Babylonian, Egyptian, and Canaanite religious practices thoroughly polluted temple worship. Josiah's reforms (2 Kings 23) revealed syncretism's extent, but reforms proved temporary. Within two decades of Josiah's death (609 BC), Judah returned to comprehensive idolatry under Jehoiakim and Zedekiah.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does our sin pollute us and separate us from God?
2. What does God's holiness require regarding our defilement?
3. How does Christ provide the cleansing judgment would otherwise require?

Interlinear Text

אֶשׂה	אֵלַי	לְךָ	בְּזִנוֹתֶךָ	
I will do			these things unto thee because thou hast gone a whoring	
H6213	H428	H0	H2181	
אַחֲרַי	גִּוֹיִם	עַל	נִטְמָה אֶת	בְּגִלּוּלֵיהֶם:
after	the heathen		and because thou art polluted	with their idols
H310	H1471	H5921	H834	H2930
				H1544

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 6:9 (Parallel theme): And they that escape of you shall remember me among the nations whither they shall be carried captives, because I am broken with their whorish heart, which hath departed from me, and with their eyes, which go a whoring after their idols: and they shall lothe themselves for the evils which they have committed in all their abominations.