

# Ezekiel 23:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the names of them were Aholah the elder, and Aholibah her sister: and they were mine, and they bare sons and daughters. Thus were their names; Samaria is Aholah, and Jerusalem Aholibah.

## Analysis

---

Aholah ('her tent') represents Samaria/Israel, while Aholibah ('my tent is in her') represents Jerusalem/Judah. The names ironically reference the tabernacle—Israel established unauthorized worship at Dan and Bethel (1 Kings 12:26-33), while Judah possessed the true temple but defiled it with idolatry. Both bore sons and daughters, referring to their inhabitants who inherited spiritual adultery.

## Historical Context

---

Jeroboam I established golden calf worship at Dan and Bethel to prevent northern Israelites from returning to Jerusalem for festivals, deliberately violating the first and second commandments for political expediency.

## Related Passages

---

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

---

1. How can religious forms exist alongside spiritual adultery in your life?
2. What warnings does this passage give about creating 'convenient' worship that suits personal preferences rather than God's commands?

## Interlinear Text

---

ל	וַתִּתְהַעֲלֶה	יְנָה	אֶחָזֶת	ה	אֶחָלִיבָה	בְּגָדוֹלָה	אֶחָלִיבָה	וְשָׁמֹמֶת	
And the names	is Aholah	the elder		Aholibah	her sister				H1961 H0
H8034	H170	H1419		H172	H269				
וְתַלְלָל	דְּגָנָה		בָּנִים		וּבָנִים	וְתַלְלָל	דְּגָנָה	וְשָׁמֹמֶת	
and they were mine and they bare			sons		and daughters	And the names	Samaria		
H3205			H1121		H1323	H8034	H8111		
אֶחָלִיבָה	וַיַּרְשֵׁל	מִן	אֶחָלֶל	ה					
is Aholah	and Jerusalem		Aholibah						
H170	H3389		H172						

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Ezekiel 16:8** (Parallel theme): Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I sware unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine.