

# Ezekiel 6:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thus saith the Lord GOD; Smite with thine hand, and stamp with thy foot, and say, Alas for all the evil abominations of the house of Israel! for they shall fall by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence.

## Analysis

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**Thus saith the Lord GOD; Smite with thine hand, and stamp with thy foot, and say, Alas for all the evil abominations of the house of Israel! for they shall fall by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence.** God commands Ezekiel to perform dramatic gestures—smiting hand and stamping foot—expressing grief and horror at Israel's abominations. The Hebrew hach be-khapkha (חַקְעַ בְּקַפְעַ, "smite with thine hand") and reka be-raglekha (רְקָעַ בְּרַגְלָעַ, "stamp with thy foot") create visceral, physical proclamation. The exclamation "Alas" (ach, אֲחָ) expresses lament. The triple judgment (sword, famine, pestilence) repeats Jeremiah's formula (Jeremiah 14:12; 21:7-9; 24:10), emphasizing comprehensive destruction from all sources.

## Historical Context

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Prophets regularly used dramatic physical actions to communicate messages (Isaiah 20:2-3; Jeremiah 27:2; Hosea 1:2). Ezekiel's hand-smiting and foot-stamping would create memorable spectacle, embedding the message emotionally. The exile community watching would feel the prophet's grief and horror, internalizing the seriousness of Israel's sin. The threefold judgment—sword (war), famine (siege), pestilence (disease)—characterized ancient warfare and fulfilled

covenant curses (Leviticus 26:25-26; Deuteronomy 28:21-22, 48-57). Babylon's conquest brought all three simultaneously.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does physical expression of grief and horror model appropriate response to sin's devastating consequences?
2. What does the triple judgment (sword, famine, pestilence) teach about sin's comprehensive destructive effects?
3. In what ways should we demonstrate visceral grief over cultural and personal sins?

## Interlinear Text

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כִּי אָמַר יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים בְּכֹפֶר וְרַקֵּעַ  
H3541 Thus saith the Lord H3068 Smite with thine hand and stamp  
H559 H136 H5221 H3709 H7554

בְּכָל אֲלֹאת וְתַעֲבֹת וְתַעֲבָת וְעַו וְתַעֲבָת  
with thy foot Thus saith Alas abominations for all the evil  
H7272 H559 H253 H413 H3605 H8441 H7451

בְּבֵית יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה בְּכֹבֶד בְּרַעַב וְבְרַעַב  
of the house of Israel by the sword by the famine and by the pestilence  
H1004 H3478 H834 H2719 H7458 H1698

פָּלָי!  
for they shall fall  
H5307

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 5:12** (Word): A third part of thee shall die with the pestilence, and with famine shall they be consumed in the midst of thee: and a third part shall fall by the sword round about thee; and I will scatter a third part into all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them.

**Jeremiah 24:10** (Word): And I will send the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, among them, till they be consumed from off the land that I gave unto them and to their fathers.

**Joel 1:15** (References Lord): Alas for the day! for the day of the LORD is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.

**Ezekiel 14:21** (Word): For thus saith the Lord GOD; How much more when I send my four sore judgments upon Jerusalem, the sword, and the famine, and the noisome beast, and the pestilence, to cut off from it man and beast?

**Ezekiel 25:6** (References God): For thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thou hast clapped thine hands, and stamped with the feet, and rejoiced in heart with all thy despite against the land of Israel;

**Ezekiel 9:4** (References Lord): And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.