

Ezekiel 6:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

God promises concerning the remnant: '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.' The phrase 'I am broken' (nishbarti, נִשְׁבַּרְתִּי) remarkably attributes grief to God—His people's idolatry breaks His heart. The 'whorish heart' (leb zonam, לֵב זֹנָם) depicts spiritual adultery against covenant relationship. Yet this judgment produces repentance: 'they shall lothe themselves' (niqotu, נִקְוּ), indicating genuine remorse. True repentance involves both remembering God and recognizing one's own sinfulness. This shows judgment's redemptive purpose—to bring people to repentance.

Historical Context

The exile would scatter Israelites 'among the nations,' forcing them to face the consequences of choosing foreign gods. Ironically, deportation to pagan lands would reveal those gods' emptiness, producing renewed hunger for the true God. Historical evidence shows that exile did indeed produce spiritual renewal—the

post-exilic community largely abandoned idolatry. The experience of losing land, temple, and national independence under God's judgment produced the self-loathing and repentance God predicted. This demonstrates that even severe discipline serves redemptive purposes when received rightly.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing that your sin grieves and breaks God's heart affect your view of repentance?
2. In what ways has God used painful consequences to produce genuine self-awareness and repentance in your life?

Interlinear Text

וְזָכַרְוּ	פְּלִיטֵיכֶם	אוֹתִי	בְּגוֹיִם	אֲשֶׁר	
of you shall remember	And they that escape	H853	me among the nations	H834	
H2142	H6412		H1471		
נִשְׁבּוּ	אֲשֶׁר	נִשְׁבַּ רְהִי	אֶת		
whither they shall be carried captives	H8033	H834	because I am broken	H854	
H7617			H7665		
לֵב	הֹזֵנֹת	אֲשֶׁר	סָר	מַעַלִּי	וְאֶת
heart	which go a whoring	H834	which hath departed	H5921	H854
H3820	H2181		H5493		
עֵינֵיהֶם	הֹזֵנֹת	אַחֲרַי	גְּלוּלֵיהֶם		
from me and with their eyes	which go a whoring	after	their idols		
H5869	H2181	H310	H1544		
וְנָקְטוּ	בְּפָנֵיהֶם	אֶל	הַרְעוֹת	אֲשֶׁר	
and they shall lothe	themselves	H413	for the evils	H834	
H6962	H6440		H7451		
עָשׂוּ	לְכָל	תּוֹעֲבֹתֵיהֶם:			
which they have committed	H3605	in all their abominations			
H6213		H8441			

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 20:43 (Evil): And there shall ye remember your ways, and all your doings, wherein ye have been defiled; and ye shall lothe yourselves in your own sight for all your evils that ye have committed.

Isaiah 7:13 (Parallel theme): And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also?

Psalms 78:40 (Parallel theme): How oft did they provoke him in the wilderness, and grieve him in the desert!

Job 42:6 (Parallel theme): Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.

Isaiah 43:24 (Parallel theme): Thou hast bought me no sweet cane with money, neither hast thou filled me with the fat of thy sacrifices: but thou hast made me to serve with thy sins, thou hast wearied me with thine iniquities.

Zechariah 10:9 (Parallel theme): And I will sow them among the people: and they shall remember me in far countries; and they shall live with their children, and turn again.

Ezekiel 20:7 (Parallel theme): Then said I unto them, Cast ye away every man the abominations of his eyes, and defile not yourselves with the idols of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

Jeremiah 51:50 (Parallel theme): Ye that have escaped the sword, go away, stand not still: remember the LORD afar off, and let Jerusalem come into your mind.

Ezekiel 20:24 (Parallel theme): Because they had not executed my judgments, but had despised my statutes, and had polluted my sabbaths, and their eyes were after their fathers' idols.

2 Peter 2:14 (Parallel theme): Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: