

Jeremiah 7:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the children of Judah have done evil in my sight, saith the LORD: they have set their abominations in the house which is called by my name, to pollute it.

Analysis

The reason for judgment: 'For the children of Judah have done evil in my sight, saith the LORD: they have set their abominations in the house which is called by my name, to pollute it.' Not only did they practice idolatry generally, but they placed idols in the temple itself—the house bearing God's name. This represents ultimate covenant violation: defiling the sacred space dedicated to Yahweh's worship. The phrase 'in my sight' emphasizes that God witnesses all violations of His holiness. Polluting the temple that bore His name was simultaneously sacrilege and identity theft—claiming to worship Yahweh while serving idols.

Historical Context

Archaeological and biblical evidence confirms that pagan symbols and altars were erected even in the Jerusalem temple during periods of apostasy (2 Kings 21:4-5; Ezekiel 8).

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How do modern believers risk polluting what bears God's name (the church, our bodies as temples)?
2. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of syncretism and religious compromise?
3. How should reverence for God's holiness inform our worship practices?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	עָשׂוּ	בְּנֵי	יְהוּדָה	רָע	בְּעֵינַי	נֹאֵם
H3588	have done	For the children	of Judah	evil	in my sight	saith
	H6213	H1121	H3063	H7451	H5869	H5002
יְהוָה	שָׁמוּ	שִׁקּוּצֵיהֶם	בַּבַּיִת	אֲשֶׁר	נִקְרָא	
the LORD	they have set	their abominations	in the house	H834	which is called	
H3068	H7760	H8251	H1004		H7121	
שְׁמִי	עַל	לְטַמְּאוֹ:				
by my name	H5921	to pollute				
H8034		H2930				

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 32:34 (Parallel theme): But they set their abominations in the house, which is called by my name, to defile it.

Ezekiel 7:20 (Parallel theme): As for the beauty of his ornament, he set it in majesty: but they made the images of their abominations and of their detestable things therein: therefore have I set it far from them.

Daniel 9:27 (Parallel theme): And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

2 Kings 21:7 (References Lord): And he set a graven image of the grove that he had made in the house, of which the LORD said to David, and to Solomon his son, In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all tribes of Israel, will I put my name for ever:

2 Kings 21:4 (References Lord): And he built altars in the house of the LORD, of which the LORD said, In Jerusalem will I put my name.

2 Chronicles 33:7 (Parallel theme): And he set a carved image, the idol which he had made, in the house of God, of which God had said to David and to Solomon his son, In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen before all the tribes of Israel, will I put my name for ever:

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