

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 352 – The Loud Voice Through The Matter Reported (Ezekiel 9:1-11)

1. What was supposed to be in the hands of those that had charge over the city when they drew near in this prophetic vision?

A destroying weapon: *“He cried also in mine ears with a loud voice, saying, Cause them that have charge over the city to draw near, even every man with his destroying weapon in his hand” (Ezekiel 9:1).*

- “He” was the Lord in a time wherein He was planning to deliver His fury upon Israel without mercy (**Ezekiel 8:1; 17-18**).
- The Lord spoke into the ears of Ezekiel (**I Samuel 9:15, Isaiah 22:14, and Ezekiel 44:5**).
- The loud voice of the Lord is similar to what John experienced (**Revelation 1:10-11**).
- God is the source of the sending of weapons and other tools of destruction at His people because of their sins (**Jeremiah 29:17 and Ezekiel 5:17**).

2. What was distinctive about one of the six men that stood beside the brasen altar?

One of the men was clothed with linen and had a writer’s inkhorn by his side: *“And, behold, six men came from the way of the higher gate, which lieth toward the north, and every man a slaughter weapon in his hand; and one man among them was clothed with linen, with a writer’s inkhorn by his side: and they went in, and stood beside the brasen altar” (Ezekiel 9:2).*

- There were six men that came forth that had charge over the city. There was a time wherein there were literally six men by name (**Jeremiah 39:3**). Yet, we should not take too much of a vision as to make a sure statement without sure clarity. This could even be angels for all we know (**II Samuel 24:1-17 and Psalms 104:4**).
- The high gate (**II Chronicles 27:3**).
- This one clothed with linen is going to be given fascinating tasks in the visions to come (**Ezekiel 10:1-7**).
- The man clothed in linen had a scribe’s inkhorn [pot for ink] by his side. Will this mean anything going forward? Is this man going to write for Israel’s history, the Chaldean Empire, what? We know, in this chapter, he is going to mark the foreheads of those who cried for the abominations that had been done (v. 4).
- These six men stood beside the brasen altar (cf. **II Chronicles 7:7**).

3. What happened to the glory of the Lord at this time we are reading about?

“And the glory of the God of Israel was gone up from the cherub, whereupon he was, to the threshold of the house. And he called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer’s inkhorn by his side” (Ezekiel 9:3).

- The glory of the Lord (**Exodus 24:16-17 and II Chronicles 7:1**) moved (**Ezekiel 11:22-23**). What if God is leaving (**Deuteronomy 31:16-17**)?

4. What instructions were given to the man with the inkhorn and the others with him?

“(3) And the glory of the God of Israel was gone up from the cherub, whereupon he was, to the threshold of the house. And he called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer's inkhorn by his side; (4) 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. (5) And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: (6) Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house. (7) And he said unto them, Defile the house, and fill the courts with the slain: go ye forth. And they went forth, and slew in the city” (Ezekiel 9:3-7).

- The man with the inkhorn was supposed to go through the midst of Jerusalem and mark the foreheads of the men that sorrowed over the abominations in Jerusalem. This is imagery likened to John's Revelation (**Revelation 3:12; 7:1-8; 14:1-5**).
- Their sighing and crying, which are signs of sorrow, indicated how they felt about the abominations done in Jerusalem (**Psalms 119:53, Psalms 119:136, Psalms 119:158, Isaiah 57:14-15, and II Corinthians 7:9-10**).
- Ezekiel heard the Lord tell the others were to go after him and smite all the people [from the children to the older] that did not bear that mark. This could easily be understood to be what the Chaldeans did (**II Chronicles 36:17**).
- Again, we read of no pity (**Ezekiel 7:9**).
- Then they were to defile the house of the Lord (**II Chronicles 36:18-21, Jeremiah 7:12-14, and Lamentations 2:5-7**).

5. What did Ezekiel ask when he fell upon his face?

“And it came to pass, while they were slaying them, and I was left, that I fell upon my face, and cried, and said, Ah Lord GOD! wilt thou destroy all the residue of Israel in thy pouring out of thy fury upon Jerusalem” (Ezekiel 9:8)?

- **Ezekiel 11:13.**
- No, He would not destroy them all (**Ezekiel 6:8, Micah 5:7-9, and Romans 11:1-5; cf. Hebrews 7:14**).

6. How did the Lord answer Ezekiel's question?

“(9) Then said he unto me, The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceeding great, and the land is full of blood, and the city full of perverseness: for they say, The LORD hath forsaken the earth, and the LORD seeth not. (10) And as for me also, mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity, but I will recompense their way upon their head” (Ezekiel 9:9-10).

- Great amounts of iniquity (**II Chronicles 36:14-16, Jeremiah 5:22-31, and Ezekiel 22:1-12; 25-31**).
- They thought God was not watching (**Ezekiel 8:12**) which was ignorant (**I Chronicles 28:9, II Chronicles 16:9, Psalms 139:1-12, Proverbs 15:3, Jeremiah 23:24, Jeremiah 32:19, Hebrews 4:13, and Revelation 2:18-29**).
- Again, no pity as the Lord repays them with their way upon their heads (**Ezekiel 11:21; 16:43**).

7. Did the man with the inkhorn by his side complete what he was instructed to do?
Yes, in this prophetic vision he did accomplish what he was commanded to do:
“And, behold, the man clothed with linen, which had the inkhorn by his side, reported the matter, saying, I have done as thou hast commanded me” (**Ezekiel 9:11**).

- Like the angels, or if this is angels, those messengers of God do what they are told (**Psalms 103:20-21**).
- Even when God sent men in such cases as these, they did His bidding and were punished if they failed in any way (**Isaiah 10:5-19**).