

O Oholah! O Ohilibah!
Ezekiel 23:1–49
Veritas Adult Community
March 1, 2020

Introduction

1. The Embarrassment of Ezekiel 23
2. The Relationship of this Prophecy to Chapter 16.
 - a. Affinities with Chapter 16
 - (1)
 - (2)
 - (3)
 - (4)
 - (5)
 - b. Differences from Chapter 16
 - (1)
 - (2)
 - (3)
 - (4)
 - (5)
3. The Structure of Ezekiel 23
 - A. Preamble (v. 1)**
 - B. The Political Case Against Oholah and Oholibah (vv. 2–35)**
 1. The Introduction of the Accused (vv. 2–4)
 2. The Historical Background to the Case (vv. 5–35)
 - a. The Indictment of Oholah (vv. 5–10)
 - (1) The Charges (vv. 5–8)
 - (2) The Sentencing of Oholah (vv. 9–10)
 - b. The Indictment of Oholibah (vv. 11–35)
 - (1) The Charges (vv. 11–21)
 - (a) Oholibah’s Affairs with Assyria (vv. 11–13)

(b) Oholibah's Affairs with Babylon (vv. 14–18)

(c) Oholibah's Affairs with Egypt (vv. 19–21)

(2) The Sentencing of Oholibah (vv. 22–35)

(a) The First Announcement: Babylon as Agent (vv. 22–27)

(b) The Second Announcement: Oholibah's Cup of Wrath (vv. 28–35)

C. The Theological Case against Oholah and Oholibah (vv. 36–49a)

1. The Charges against Oholah and Oholibah (vv. 36–45)

2. The Sentencing of Oholah and Oholibah (vv. 46–49a)

D. The Concluding Formula (v. 49b)

4. Lessons from Ezekiel 23

- a. The community of faith stands in constant danger of forgetting the grace of her covenant Lord and expending her energies in the satisfaction of her own cravings.
- b. In God's eyes real adultery is an abhorrent evil, not only because it perverts the sex act and violates the covenant bond of marriage.
- c. Only by the grace of God is one able to shake the patterns of sinful behavior established in one's youth.
- d. Political alliances may be as seductive and destructive to God's people as religious alliances.