

# Woe to Foolish Prophets

(12) Ezekiel 13  
6/20/2021

**BIG BEND  
BIBLE  
FELLOWSHIP**

## **Ezek 13:1-7 – Dealing with the false prophets**

*The word of the Lord came to me: <sup>2</sup> “Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who are now prophesying. Say to those who prophesy out of their own imagination: ‘Hear the word of the Lord!’ <sup>3</sup> This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Woe to the foolish prophets who follow their own spirit and have seen nothing! <sup>4</sup> Your prophets, Israel, are like jackals among ruins. <sup>5</sup> You have not gone up to the breaches in the wall to repair it for the people of Israel so that it will stand firm in the battle on the day of the Lord. <sup>6</sup> Their visions are false and their divinations a lie. Even though the Lord has not sent them, they say, “The Lord declares,” and expect him to fulfill their words. <sup>7</sup> Have you not seen false visions and uttered lying divinations when you say, “The Lord declares,” though I have not spoken?*

**What did God call Ezekiel to do?**

**How did God describe these false prophets?**

**What was the fundamental message Ezekiel was to take to the false prophets?**

**Why were the false prophets foolish?**

**What might have motivated these false prophets?**

**What was the fundamental problem of the false prophets?**

**What does it mean that the false prophets were “like foxes in the deserts”?**

**What characterized the false prophets?**

**Why is there a reference to the day of the Lord here?**

**v7 – What was God’s condemnation of the false prophets who claimed to speak for Him?**

## **Ezek 13:8-12 – The nonsense of false prophets**

<sup>8</sup> *“Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord says: Because of your false words and lying visions, I am against you, declares the Sovereign Lord. <sup>9</sup> My hand will be against the prophets who see false visions and utter lying divinations. They will not belong to the council of my people or be listed in the records of Israel, nor will they enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the Sovereign Lord.*

<sup>10</sup> *“Because they lead my people astray, saying, “Peace,” when there is no peace, and because, when a flimsy wall is built, they cover it with whitewash, <sup>11</sup> therefore tell those who cover it with whitewash that it is going to fall. Rain will come in torrents, and I will send hailstones hurtling down, and violent winds will burst forth. <sup>12</sup> When the wall collapses, will people not ask you, “Where is the whitewash you covered it with?”*

**What did God think of what the false prophets spoke?**

**How does God regard those who claim to speak for Him but do not?**

**How is it the false prophets “shall not be in the assembly of My people”?**

**v10 – What was the impact of the false prophets?**

**Why does God refer to those whom the false prophets deceived as being “My people”?**

**What was the deception of the false prophets?**

**Why would the false prophets lie about God’s activity?**

**What was the problem with plastering a wall “with untempered mortar”?**

**v11 – What would happen to a wall built with flawed materials?**

**Why didn’t people reject the message of false prophets?**

**Eze 13:13-16 – The coming storm.**

<sup>13</sup> “Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord says: In my wrath I will unleash a violent wind, and in my anger hailstones and torrents of rain will fall with destructive fury. <sup>14</sup> I will tear down the wall you have covered with whitewash and will level it to the ground so that its foundation will be laid bare. When it falls, you will be destroyed in it; and you will know that I am the Lord. <sup>15</sup> So I will pour out my wrath against the wall and against those who covered it with whitewash. I will say to you, “The wall is gone and so are those who whitewashed it, <sup>16</sup> those prophets of Israel who prophesied to Jerusalem and saw visions of peace for her when there was no peace, declares the Sovereign Lord.””

**Why is God’s judgment of Judah characterized as a storm?**

**What will this storm of God do?**

**What would God do about the false prophets?**

**What damage did the false prophets do?**

**What kind of damage do false prophets do today?**

**Ezek 13:17-19 – Against the female false prophets.**

<sup>17</sup> “Now, son of man, set your face against the daughters of your people who prophesy out of their own imagination. Prophesy against them <sup>18</sup> and say, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Woe to the women who sew magic charms on all their wrists and make veils of various lengths for their heads in order to ensnare people. Will you ensnare the lives of my people but preserve your own? <sup>19</sup> You have profaned me among my people for a few handfuls of barley and scraps of bread. By lying to my people, who listen to lies, you have killed those who should not have died and have spared those who should not live.’”

**What specific false prophets did God condemn here?**

**What examples of legitimate women prophets come to mind?**

**What were the female false prophets doing?**

**Why do more people trust in their hearts than in the Word of God?**

**What else were the female false prophets doing?**

**What was the impact of the female false prophets?**

**How were the false prophetess’ hunting souls?**

**What motivated the false prophets?**

**How were the female false prophets profaning God?**

**How were the people who listened to the lies of the false prophets as culpable as the false prophets?**

**Ezek 13:20-23 – The terrible effect of the lies**

<sup>20</sup> “Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I am against your magic charms with which you ensnare people like birds and I will tear them from your arms; I will set free the people that you ensnare like birds. <sup>21</sup> I will tear off your veils and save my people from your hands, and they will no longer fall prey to your power. Then you will know that I am the Lord. <sup>22</sup> Because you disheartened the righteous with your lies, when I had brought them no grief, and because you encouraged the wicked not to turn from their evil ways and so save their lives, <sup>23</sup> therefore you will no longer see false visions or practice divination. I will save my people from your hands. And then you will know that I am the Lord.’”

**What problem did God have against magic charms?**

**What would God do about the magic charmers?**

**Why would God expose the false prophets?**

**How had the false prophets made the righteous sad?**

**How would God deliver people from the false prophets?**

**Do we need to be concerned about false prophets or teachers today?**

**How can we recognize false prophets or teacher?**

**What applications do we see in what we have discussed this evening?**