

The False Prophetess

Ezekiel 13:1-23 - Judgment of Prophets

Israel's hope of a soon return and distant judgment came from "foolish" prophets.

13:3, 4

Foolish prophets told to "Hear the word of the Lord" and not "Follow their own spirit."

"Foolish" is Hebrew "nabal" and means more than "stupid".

It includes spiritual and moral insensitivity contrary to the nature of a wise man.

A fool is blasphemous in Psalms 74:18

A fool is arrogant in 1 Samuel 25:25

A fool is atheistic in Psalm 14:1

Here a fool relies on their own heart, and not on God's revelation (13:3)

See Jeremiah 23:16-17

The foolish prophet mistakes his own heart for the word of God.

They had visions but they were psychological not from the Spirit of God

13:4

Jackals among ruins

Prophets are the jackals. Ruins are the people/society.

Jackals hunt through ruins to find a den for themselves.

The prophets are among the people/society only to secure a den for themselves.

The prophets failed to help or prepare the people/society for the future.

The prophets abused their gifts and office which dulled the people's ears to hear Ezekiel's and other's true message.

13:5

"breaks in the wall" were the violation of the law of Moses.

They should have identified the breaks in the law and then corrected and repaired them.

Psalms 106:23

Ezekiel 22:30

Isaiah 58:12-repairers of the breach

13:8-16

The flimsy wall is a partition wall (interior, non-supporting) used in place of an exterior supporting wall.

The flimsy wall might have been an alliance with Egypt or a prophecy of peace and prosperity that led people to build houses and settle in for a time of false security.

The whitewash (or, plaster) was used to cover up structure.

The whitewash, like sheetrock, covers up the studs, headers, beams, etc. if they are there.

Their wall was flimsy. Their wall was "false hope."

The white wash is the prophecies and teaching that encouraged people to trust it.

Those who did the work are the foolish prophets.

13:17-23

- They prophesied out of their own imaginations and not by the Spirit or Word of God.
- They had created a system of fears and a series of false security to sell to the people.
- They wore pieces of cloth on their wrist and magic charms on these clothes that held power
- They wore long veils that came down and mysteriously covered their bodies
- The false fears and false hope they gave people led innocent, but gullible people to death.
- Also, their incantations may have devoured people from the earth and allowed many wicked people to prosper.
- They destroyed people's lives for the sake of gaining food and natural provisions.
- It is common in all levels of religion for the spiritual world to become nothing more than a means to prosper in the temporary physical world.

13:22

- An interesting verse:

“you disheartened the righteous with your lies, when I had brought them no grief”

....It appears they were telling people God was against them when God was not.

This false theology disheartened people who were actually righteous.

- This same false theology failed to condemn the wicked who were living in sin, but were encouraged to continue in their way of life by these foolish women.