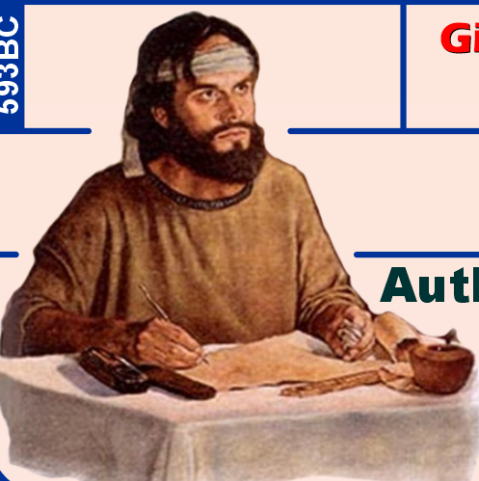


PARABLE OF TWO SISTERS

23a

EZEKIEL

BOOK OF EZEKIEL – OUTLINE

INWARD → Personal		OUTWARD ↺ Peoples		ONWARD → Prophetic													
1 — 3		4 — 24		25 — 32		33 — 48											
Ezekiel's Call to Ministry - Ezekiel Birth (623BC) and Ministry Years (593-571BC) 597BC is the 2nd Deportation; Ezekiel taken at age 25 593BC Ezekiel begins Ministry at age 30		Sinfulness of Israel and Fall of Jerusalem - A Disobedient Nation (4-7) - A Departed Glory (8-11) - A Disciplined Nation (12-24) - The Futility of False Optimism (12-19) - The History of Judah's Corruption (20-24)		Judgment on Nations that Opposed Israel - Ammon (25:1-7) - Moab (25:8-11) - Edom (25:12-14) - Philistia (25:15-17) - Tyre (26:1—28:19) - Sidon (28:20-24) - Egypt (29-32)		Restoration of Israel in the Future - Return of Israel to the land (33-39) - Restoration of Israel in the Kingdom (40-48) - Promised Land; Millennial Temple, and the Glory of God											
593BC		Given BEFORE the siege of Jerusalem		587BC		Given DURING the siege of Jerusalem		586BC		Given AFTER the siege of Jerusalem		571BC					
						The City Destroyed 7 Years Prophesying JUDGMENT						The City Restored 15 Years Prophesying HOPE					
Author: Ezekiel (“God strengthens”) Place: Babylonia Time: About 22 years (593-571BC)																	
Events: 605BC — FIRST Siege upon Israel by Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel taken) Ezekiel 17 years old																	
597BC — SECOND assault upon Jerusalem (Ezekiel taken) Ezekiel 25 years old																	
593BC — Ezekiel at age 30 called by God to testify against Israel Ezekiel 30 years old																	
586BC — THIRD assault upon Jerusalem (City & Temple destroyed) Ezekiel 37 years old																	

INTRODUCTION: EZEKIEL 23

PARABLE OF TWO SISTERS (Ezekiel 23)

Israel's Lustful Youth (Ezekiel 23:1-4)

Samaria's Prostitution (Ezekiel 23:5-10)

Jerusalem's Prostitution (Ezekiel 23:11-21)

Jerusalem's Judgment For Prostitution (Ezekiel 23:22-35)

- **First Oracle Against Jerusalem (Ezekiel 23:22-27)**
- **Second Oracle Against Jerusalem (Ezekiel 23:28-31)**
- **Third Oracle Against Jerusalem (Ezekiel 23:32-34)**
- **Fourth Oracle Against Jerusalem (Ezekiel 23:35)**

**A Summary Judgment for Israel's Unfaithfulness
(Ezekiel 23:36-49)**



PARABLE OF TWO SISTERS

Ezekiel 23



Israel's Lustful Youth

(Ezekiel 23:1-4)

**The word of the LORD came
again to me, saying:**

EZEKIEL 23:1



The word of the LORD came again to me, saying: (Ek.23:1)

- **Ezekiel presented another parable to illustrate Judah's unfaithfulness and the certainty of her punishment.**
- **In chapter 16 the focus was on Judah's idolatry, while chapter 23 stressed Judah's illicit foreign alliances and her idolatry.**
- **In chapter 16 Judah's trust was in other gods. In chapter 23 her trust was in other nations.**



**Son of man, there were two women,
The daughters of one mother.**



EZEKIEL 23:2



Son of man, there were two women, The daughters of one mother. (Ek.23:2)

- **Israel and Judah became separate entities after the division of the kingdom following Solomon's reign.**
- **However, God projected their identities back to the time when they were still within their mother, ancient Israel, in Egypt.**
- **The common origin of these sisters accounts in part for their similar behavior. Their father, unstated, was Yahweh.**
- **Two sisters shared the same moral degradation for they became prostitutes in Egypt, engaging in prostitution from their youth.**



**They committed harlotry in Egypt,
They committed harlotry in their
youth; Their breasts were there
embraced, Their virgin bosom was
there pressed.**

EZEKIEL 23:3



They committed harlotry in Egypt, They committed harlotry in their youth; Their breasts were there embraced, Their virgin bosom was there pressed. (Ek.23:3)

- **Ezekiel's reference to Egypt would call to mind the origins of the nation Israel in Egypt (Ek.20:4-12).**
- **The two sisters were sexually promiscuous women.**
- **These young girls became prostitutes in Egypt and allowed men to fondle their breasts.**



They committed harlotry in Egypt, They committed harlotry in their youth; Their breasts were there embraced, Their virgin bosom was there pressed. (Ek.23:3)

- **They allowed the Egyptians to become intimate with them even though they were to be faithful to the Lord alone (Ek.16:26; 20:7-8; Nu.25:3-9; Js.24:14; 2Ki.21:15; Ho.1:2).**
- **One evidence of the idolatry that the Israelites had adopted from the Egyptians came to the surface in the Golden Calf incident in the wilderness (Exodus 32).**
- **Joshua later warned the Israelites about the dangers of idolatry, which had persisted since they had departed from Egypt (Js.24:14).**



**Their names: Oholah the elder and
Oholibah her sister; They were
Mine, And they bore sons and
daughters. As for their names,
Samaria is Oholah, and Jerusalem
is Oholibah.**

EZEKIEL 23:4



**Their names: Oholah the elder and Oholibah her sister; They were Mine, And they bore sons and daughters. As for their names, Samaria is Oholah, and Jerusalem is Oholibah.
(Ek.23:4)**

- **After describing their character Ezekiel gave their names and identities.**
- **The older was named Oholah, and her sister was Oholibah.**
- **These names are based on the Hebrew word for “tent” (*ōhel*).**

The first name (Oholah) means “her tent” and represents SAMARIA

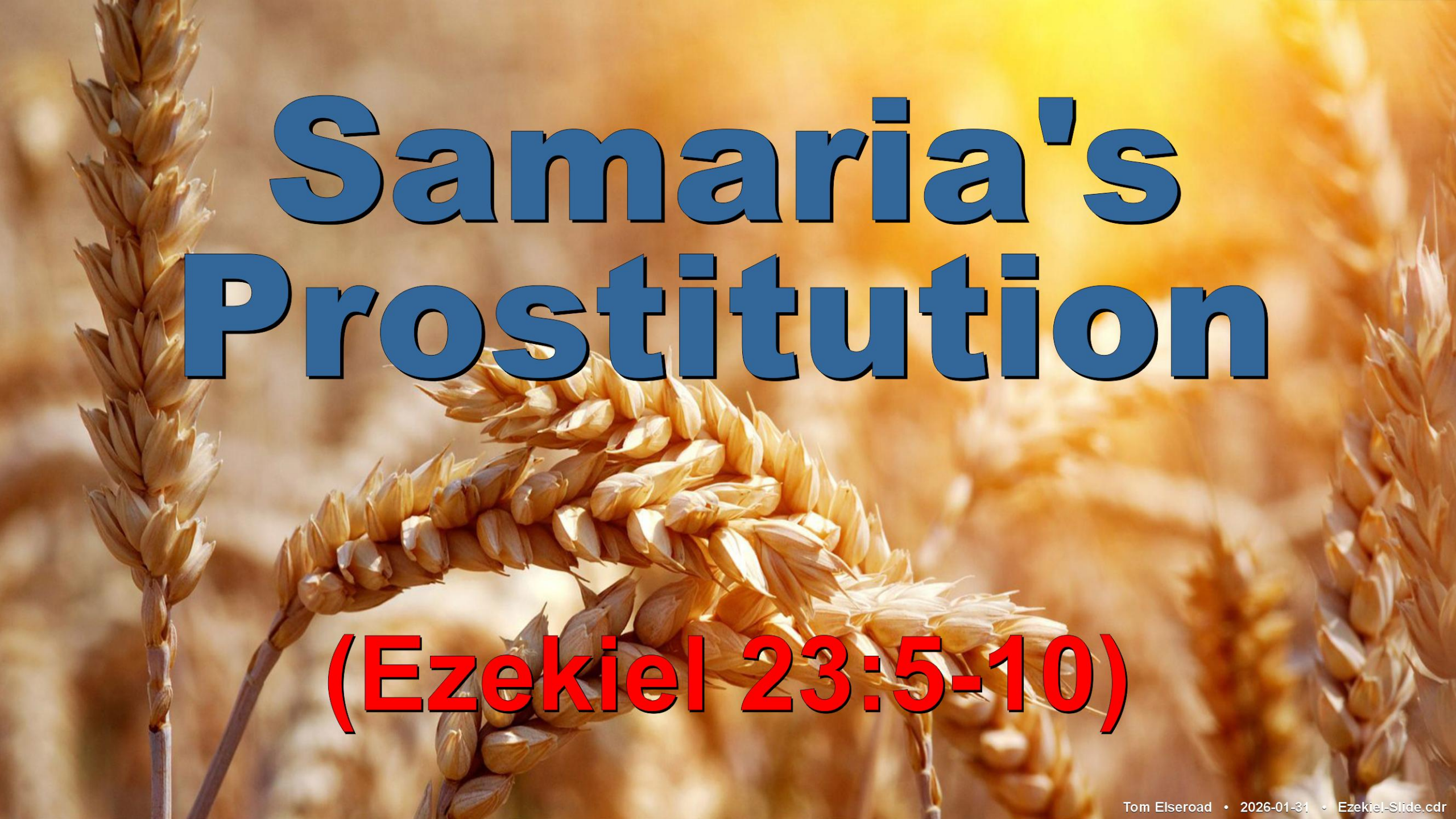
The second name (Oholibah) means “my tent is in her” and represents JERUSALEM



**Their names: Oholah the elder and Oholibah her sister; They were Mine, And they bore sons and daughters. As for their names, Samaria is Oholah, and Jerusalem is Oholibah.
(Ek.23:4)**

- **The word “tent” implied a dwelling place or sanctuary.**
- **These two “sisters,” the capital cities of the kingdoms of Israel and Judah, represented the people of those two kingdoms.**
- **Though God’s covenant with these women was not explicitly stated, it was implied.**
- **They were Mine and gave birth to sons and daughters. The God of grace lavished His love on these undeserving sisters.**





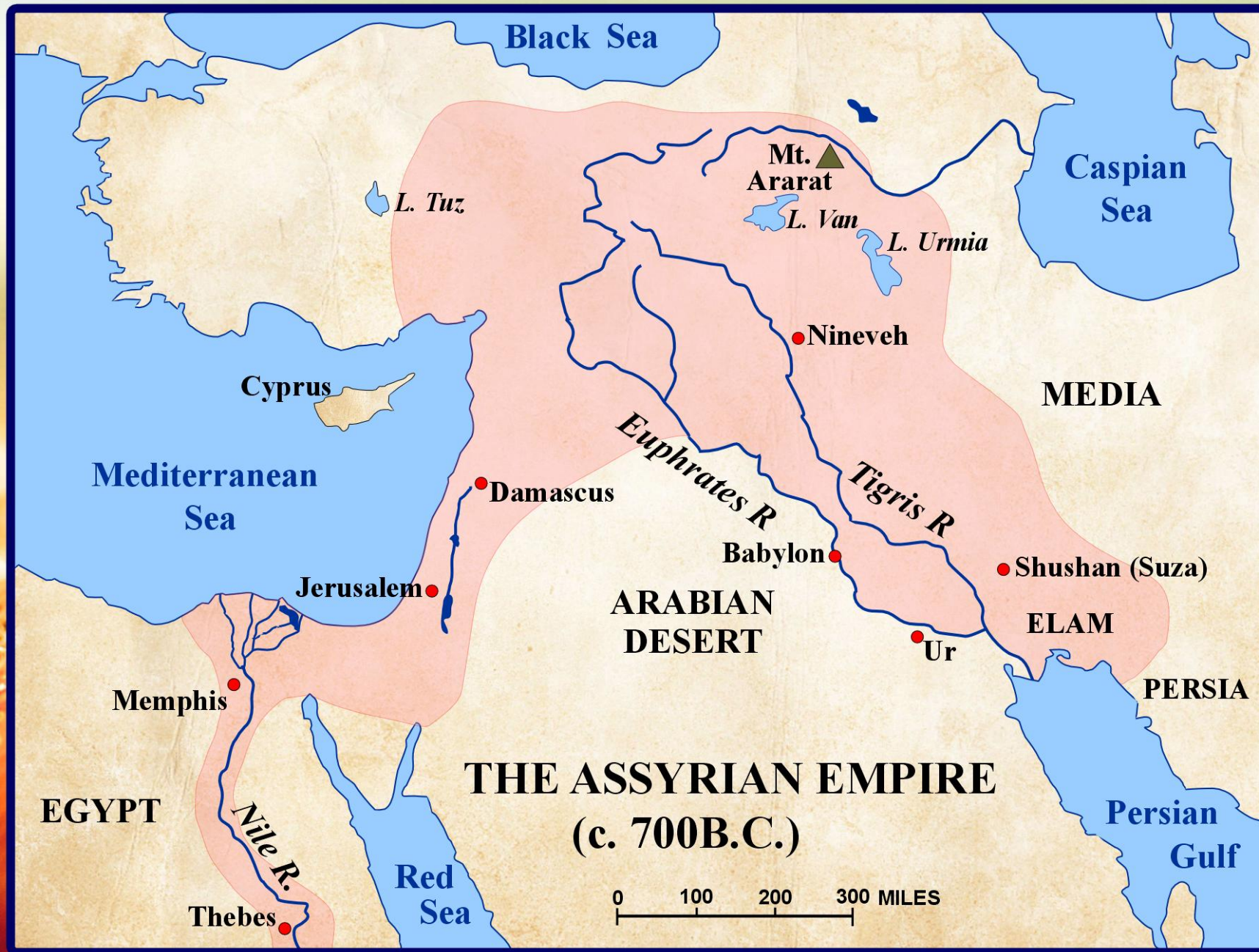
Samaria's Prostitution

(Ezekiel 23:5-10)

**"Oholah played the harlot even
though she was Mine; And she
lusted for her lovers, the
neighboring Assyrians,**

EZEKIEL 23:5





"Oholah played the harlot even though she was Mine; And she lusted for her lovers, the neighboring Assyrians, (Ek.23:5)

- **The sin of Oholah, the older sister (Samaria), was her association with the Assyrians.**
- **Samaria's alliance with Assyria ultimately led to her doom.**
- **Syria was expanding into Israel's land in the Transjordan during Jehu's reign (2Ki.10:32-34).**



"Oholah played the harlot even though she was Mine; And she lusted for her lovers, the neighboring Assyrians, (Ek.23:5)

- To counter that threat Jehu allied Israel with Assyria and submitted himself as a vassal.**
- Menahem and Hoshea, two later kings of Israel, also paid tribute to Assyria (2Ki.15:19-20; 17:34).**
- The Prophet Hosea (ca. 760-720 b.c.) rebuked Israel for her dependence on Assyria instead of on the Lord (Ho.5:13-14; 7:11; 8:9; 12:1).**



KINGS OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH

KINGS OF ISRAEL (Northern) 930-722 BC



1st DYNASTY [Ephraim]	2nd DYNASTY [Issachar]	3rd DYNASTY [Simeon]	4th DYNASTY	5th DYNASTY	6th DYNASTY	7th DYNASTY	8th DYNASTY	9th DYNASTY
1 Jeroboam (22 years) 1Kl.14:20-26 930-910BC	3 Baasha (24 years) 1Kl.15:28, 33 Jehu told Baasha that he would end up like Jeroboam I (1Kl.16:1-7) 909-886BC	5 Zimri (7 days) 1Kl.16:9-20 885BC	7 Omri (11 years) 1Kl.16:23 885-874BC He strengthened Israel's alliance with Phoenicia, by arranging the marriage of his son, Ahab, to Jezebel, the daughter of the King of Sidon. He builds the capital in Samaria.	9 Ahaziah (2 years) 1Kl.22:40-53 853-852BC He was the son of Ahab and Jezebel.	11 Jehu (28 years) 2Kl.9:1-10:36 841-814BC He killed 70 of Ahab's sons (2Kl.10:1)	13 Joash (Jehoash) (16 years) 2Kl.12:1 798-782BC He was co-regent with Jeroboam II	15 Zechariah (6 months) 2Kl.15:8 753-752BC	17 Menahem (10 years) 2Kl.15:17 752-742BC
2 Nadab (2 years) 1Kl.15:25 910-909BC	4 Elah (2 years) 1Kl.16:8 886-885BC	6 Tibni (6 years) 1Kl.16:21-22 885-880BC	8 Ahab (22 years) 1Kl.16:29 874-853BC He rebuilt Jericho as prophesied in Joshua 6:26	10 Joram (Jehoram) (12 years) 2Kl.3:1 852-841BC Son of Ahab because Ahaziah had no son	12 Jehoahaz (17 years) 2Kl.13:1 814-798BC	14 Jehoboam II (41 years) 2Kl.14:23 793-753BC	16 Shallum (1 month) 2Kl.15:13-15 752BC	18 Pekahiah (2 years) 2Kl.15:23 742-740BC
							19 Pekah (20 years) 2Kl.15:27 752-732BC He killed 150,000 in 1 day, and took 200,000 back to Samaria (2Ch.28:6).	20 Hoshea (9 years) 2Kl.17:1-4 732-722BC He plotted against Pekah and killed him, but he did not yet have the support to reign (2Kl.15:30; 17:1).

DIVIDED KINGDOM

ISRAEL (Northern Kingdom) 930-722BC

JUDAH (Southern Kingdom) 930-605BC

Fall of Samaria into Assyrian Captivity (722BC)

Fall of Jerusalem into Babylonian Captivity (586BC)

ALL ARE FROM THE SAME DYNASTY SINCE THEY ARE DESCENDANTS OF DAVID FROM THE TRIBE OF JUDAH

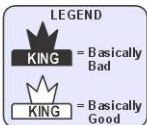
UNITED KINGDOM 1050-930BC

Saul (Benjamin) (40 years) 1050-1010BC
David (Judah) (40 years) 1010-970BC
Solomon (Judah) 970-930BC

KINGS OF JUDAH (Southern) 930-605 BC



1 Rehoboam (17 years) 1Kl.12:1-14:31 2Ch.10:1-12:16 930-913BC	2 Abijam (Abijah) (3 years) 2Kl.15:1-8 2Ch.13:1-22 913-911BC	3 Asa (41 years) 1Kl.15:9-24 2Ch.14:1-16:14 911-870BC	4 Jehoshaphat (25 years) 1Kl.22:41-50 2Ch.17:1-20:37 873-848BC	5 Jehoram (8 years) 2Kl.3:1; 8:16-24 2Ch.21:1-20 848-841BC Very wicked king. He killed all his house. God did not kill him so He could keep His promise with David.	6 Ahaziah (1 year) 2Kl.8:25-29 2Ch.22:1-9 841BC	7 Athaliah (queen) (7 years) 2Kl.11:1-16 2Ch.22:1-23:21 841-835BC Daughter of Omri, King of Israel. The only woman ruler in Judah.	8 Joash (40 years) 2Kl.13:10 835-796BC He was co-regent with Amaziah	9 Amaziah (29 years) 2Kl.14:1 2Ch.24:25 2Ch.25:1 796-767BC	10 Uzziah (Azariah) (52 years) 2Kl.14:21 790-739BC	11 Jotham (16 years) 2Kl.15:32-33 750-735BC	12 Ahaz (16 years) 2Kl.16:1 732-715BC	13 Hezekiah (29 years) 2Kl.18:1 Assyria told him Jerusalem would be destroyed. He asked the Lord for help. An angel killed 185,000 men of Assyria (2Kl.19:35-37; Is.37:36-39). Also the sun went back 10° as a sign that he would be healed of the fatal boil he had. 715-686BC	14 Manasseh (55 years) 2Kl.21:1 697-642BC The most evil of all the kings. He was taken captive to Babylon. He cried to the Lord. The Lord allowed him to return so he would know who is God (2Ch.33:8-13).	15 Amon (2 years) 2Kl.21:17-18 642-640BC	16 Josiah (31 years) 2Kl.22:1-23:30 2Ch.34:1-35:27 640-609BC The Law of Moses is discovered, and a great Passover was held (2Kl.22:3; 23:22). A great revival broke out, but the wrath of the Lord was against the sins of Manasseh.	17 Jehoahaz (3 months) 2Kl.23:31-33 609BC	18 Jehoiakim (Eliakim) (11 years) 2Kl.23:34-37 He became Nebuchadnezzar's servant (2Kl.24:1-5) 609-598BC	19 Jehoiachin (Coniah) (Jeconiah) (3 months) 2Kl.24:6 598-597BC	20 Zedekiah (Mattaniah) (11 years) 2Kl.24:18 597-586BC
---	--	---	--	--	---	---	--	---	---	--	--	---	--	---	---	--	--	--	---



DYNASTY — Succession of rulers who are members of the same family (tribe).

[TRIBE NAME] — Designates the tribe the king is from.

YEAR OF ASCENSION — Some king's dates may include portions of years making them appear to be off a year or two.

"Oholah played the harlot even though she was Mine; And she lusted for her lovers, the neighboring Assyrians, (Ek.23:5)

- **After Israel became Assyria's vassal she could not disentangle herself.**
- **When she finally tried to break away by forming a coalition with both Syria and Egypt (2Ki.17:4; Is.7:1), she felt Assyria's wrath.**
- **The very nation to which Samaria had turned for assistance would destroy her.**
- **In 722 b.c. Samaria fell to Assyria (2Ki.17:5-6, 18-20).**



**Who were clothed in purple,
Captains and rulers, All of
them desirable young men,
Horsemen riding on horses.**

EZEKIEL 23:6



Who were clothed in purple, Captains and rulers, All of them desirable young men, Horsemen riding on horses. (Ek.23:6)

- **Oholah proved unfaithful to the Lord by lusting after her attractive neighbors, the Assyrians.**
- **The appeal, then as now, was to youth, strength, position, wealth and self-gratification.**
- **The Captains and rulers are the local officials when Israel was a vassal state under Assyria.**



**Thus she committed her harlotry
with them, All of them choice men
of Assyria; And with all for whom
she lusted, With all their idols,
she defiled herself.**

EZEKIEL 23:7



**Thus she committed her harlotry with them, All of them choice men of Assyria;
And with all for whom she lusted, With all their idols, she defiled herself. (Ek.23:7)**

- **Oholah committed political adultery by making alliances with the Assyrians, which involved worshipping their idols (2Ki.15:19-20; 17:3-4; Ho.5:13; 7:11; 8:9; 12:1-2; Am.5:26).**
- **The Black Obelisk of Shalmaneser, an important archaeological find dating to about 840 B.C., shows King Jehu of Israel bowing in submission before King Shalmaneser III of Assyria and giving him tribute money.**



**She has never given up her harlotry
brought from Egypt, For in her
youth they had lain with her,
Pressed her virgin bosom, And
poured out their immorality upon
her.**

EZEKIEL 23:8



She has never given up her harlotry brought from Egypt, For in her youth they had lain with her, Pressed her virgin bosom, And poured out their immorality upon her. (Ek.23:8)

- **Samaria had never left off the abominable practices she had learned in Egypt.**
- **Thus, this unfaithful wife did not stop at the unlawful intimacies with one man, but took in others and so multiplied her pollutions.**



**Therefore I have delivered her
Into the hand of her lovers,
Into the hand of the Assyrians,
For whom she lusted.**

EZEKIEL 23:9



**Therefore I have delivered her Into the hand of her lovers,
Into the hand of the Assyrians, For whom she lusted. (Ek.23:9)**

- **This refers to the 10-tribe kingdom taken captive by the Assyrian Empire (2Ki.17).**
- **Aholah (Samaria) encouraged the Assyrians to make 'advances' toward her.**



**They uncovered her nakedness, Took
away her sons and daughters, And
slew her with the sword; She
became a byword among women,
For they had executed judgment
on her.**

EZEKIEL 23:10



They uncovered her nakedness, Took away her sons and daughters, And slew her with the sword; She became a byword among women, For they had executed judgment on her. (Ek.23:10)

- **Following the encouragement they discovered her nakedness which means they “went all the way” and had unlawful intimacies with her.**
- **After satisfying their lust on her they took her children from her and also slew her with the sword.**
- **The Assyrians slew the leading men in the 10-tribe kingdom and took the other citizens into exile.**
- **As a byword she was mentioned with a shrugging of the shoulders. “What else do you expect” would be the attitude toward them.**





Jerusalem's Prostitution

(Ezekiel 23:11-21)

**Now although her sister Oholibah
saw this, she became more
corrupt in her lust than she, and
in her harlotry more corrupt than
her sister's harlotry.**

EZEKIEL 23:11



Now although her sister Oholibah saw this, she became more corrupt in her lust than she, and in her harlotry more corrupt than her sister's harlotry. (Ek.23:11)

- **The judgment of the older sister Oholah (Samaria) should have been a warning to the younger sister Oholibah (Jerusalem).**
- **Unfortunately she failed to heed the warning.**
- **In fact, she was more depraved than her sister.**



**She lusted for the neighboring
Assyrians, Captains and rulers,
Clothed most gorgeously,
Horsemen riding on horses, All
of them desirable young men.**

EZEKIEL 23:12



She lusted for the neighboring Assyrians, Captains and rulers, Clothed most gorgeously, Horsemen riding on horses, All of them desirable young men. (Ek.23:12)

- Jerusalem followed the immoral course charted by her sister: she too lusted after the Assyrians.**
- Judah curried the favor of Assyria rather than relying on her God.**
- It may be that Ezekiel had in mind the disastrous political move of King Ahaz of Judah who willingly made Judah Assyria's vassal.**



**Then I saw that she was
defiled; Both took the
same way.**

EZEKIEL 23:13



Then I saw that she was defiled; Both took the same way. (Ek.23:13)

- **Israel and Syria had banded together to oppose Assyria, and they sought to bring Judah into the alliance.**
- **When Ahaz refused, they attacked Judah hoping to dethrone Ahaz and to replace him with a king who would support their uprising.**
- **Rather than trusting in God for deliverance (as Isaiah the prophet urged him to do), Ahaz sent to Assyria to enlist her aid and protection.**
- **With that act Judah became a vassal of Assyria for the next century (2Ki.16:5-9; Is.7:1-25).**



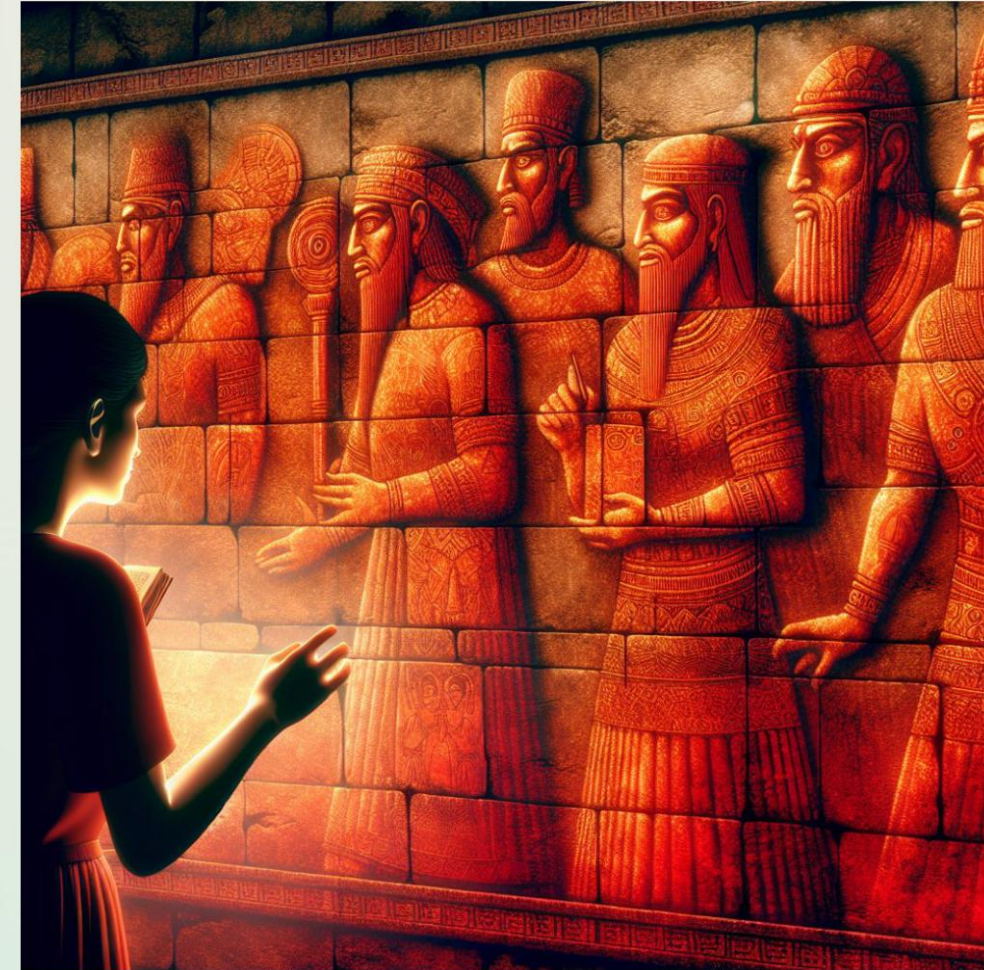
**But she increased her harlotry;
She looked at men portrayed on
the wall, Images of Chaldeans
portrayed in vermilion,**

EZEKIEL 23:14



But she increased her harlotry; She looked at men portrayed on the wall, Images of Chaldeans portrayed in vermillion, (Ek.23:14)

- **Jerusalem's political intrigues did not stop there. She carried her prostitution still further.**
- **Oholibah saw pictures of the Babylonians that aroused her desire for alliance, and she lusted after them and wrote to them (2Ki.23:32; 23:37; Je.22:21).**



But she increased her harlotry; She looked at men portrayed on the wall, Images of Chaldeans portrayed in vermillion, (Ek.23:14)

- **Much visual art in biblical times was painted and or carved on walls.**
- **The splendor that was Babylon deeply impressed the Israelites.**
- **The vermillion refers to the red pigment used for wall painting.**



**Girded with belts around their waists,
Flowing turbans on their heads, All
of them looking like captains, In the
manner of the Babylonians of
Chaldea, The land of their nativity.**

EZEKIEL 23:15



Girded with belts around their waists, Flowing turbans on their heads, All of them looking like captains, In the manner of the Babylonians of Chaldea, The land of their nativity. (Ek.23:15)

- **After appealing to Assyria, Jerusalem turned to Babylon.**

- **Ezekiel described in some detail the garb of the Babylonian soldiers Jerusalem lusted after.**



**As soon as her eyes saw them,
She lusted for them And sent
messengers to them in Chaldea.**

EZEKIEL 23:16



**As soon as her eyes saw them, She lusted for them
And sent messengers to them in Chaldea. (Ek.23:16)**

- **Jerusalem sent messengers to them in Chaldea.**
- **Jerusalem gave improper encouragement to them as her sister had done according to verse 5.**
- **She even became the aggressor and sent messengers to the Babylonians with “suggestions.”**



**Then the Babylonians came to her,
into the bed of love, And they
defiled her with their immorality;
So she was defiled by them, and
alienated herself from them.**

EZEKIEL 23:17



Then the Babylonians came to her, into the bed of love, And they defiled her with their immorality; So she was defiled by them, and alienated herself from them. (Ek.23:17)

- **Then the Babylonians came to her, to the bed of love, and in their lust they defiled her.**
- **Jerusalem's pause from Assyria's domination was short-lived.**
- **King Josiah established her independence, but he was killed in battle as he tried to thwart an Egyptian incursion through his country (2Ki.23:29-30).**



**She revealed her harlotry and
uncovered her nakedness.
Then I alienated Myself from
her, As I had alienated Myself
from her sister.**

EZEKIEL 23:18



She revealed her harlotry and uncovered her nakedness. Then I alienated Myself from her, As I had alienated Myself from her sister. (Ek.23:18)

- **Judah became a vassal of Egypt for four years.**
- **Probably during that time King Jehoiakim contacted Babylon to request her aid.**
- **When Babylon defeated the Egyptians at Carchemish in 605 B.C., Jehoiakim willingly switched allegiances and became Nebuchadnezzar's vassal (2Ki.24:1).**



She revealed her harlotry and uncovered her nakedness. Then I alienated Myself from her, As I had alienated Myself from her sister. (Ek.23:18)

- **But when Babylon came, Jerusalem found that the lovers for whom she had lusted were brutal.**
- **Babylon became a harsher taskmaster than either Assyria or Egypt, and Jerusalem sought to escape Babylon's dominance.**
- **Jerusalem continued in the ways of her sister and even surpassed Samaria's unfaithfulness.**
- **God had finally rejected Samaria for her actions, and He now rejected Jerusalem.**



**Yet she multiplied her harlotry In
calling to remembrance the days
of her youth, When she had
played the harlot in the land of
Egypt.**

EZEKIEL 23:19



Yet she multiplied her harlotry In calling to remembrance the days of her youth, When she had played the harlot in the land of Egypt. (Ek.23:19)

- Jerusalem's faithlessness cost her the only true protection she ever had.**
- Some women will recall with shame their "youthful follies" and will try to make amends by a virtuous life in later years.**
- But this wife recalled with pleasure those disgraceful years and sought to repeat them.**



**For she lusted for her paramours,
Whose flesh is like the flesh of
donkeys, And whose issue is like
the issue of horses.**

EZEKIEL 23:20



For she lusted for her paramours, Whose flesh is like the flesh of donkeys, And whose issue is like the issue of horses.(Ek.23:20)

- **Instead of repenting of her sin, she sought additional human help, becoming more and more promiscuous.**
- **To show his absolute disgust in this course of action, Ezekiel used coarse language (“paramours,” 'lovers')**
- **Ezekiel did this to portray graphically the utter spiritual degradation to which Judah had fallen.**



**Thus you called to remembrance
the lewdness of your youth, When
the Egyptians pressed your
bosom Because of your youthful
breasts.**

EZEKIEL 23:21



Thus you called to remembrance the lewdness of your youth, When the Egyptians pressed your bosom Because of your youthful breasts. (Ek.23:21)

- **Her cycle of sin brought her back to the very nation with which she had originally been defiled and which had enslaved her — Egypt (Ek.23:3, 19, 21).**
- **From 600-586 B.C.) Judah attempted to elicit Egypt's help in her revolt against Babylon.**
- **King Jehoiakim rebelled against Babylon in 600 B.C. after Egypt defeated Babylon (2Ki.24:1).**



Thus you called to remembrance the lewdness of your youth, When the Egyptians pressed your bosom Because of your youthful breasts. (Ek.23:21)

- **Judah eagerly grasped Egypt's hollow promises of aid.**
- **Zedekiah's final revolt against Babylon in 588 B.C. came with Egypt's promise of assistance (2Ki.25:1; Je.37:5-8; Ek.29:6-7).**



JERUSALEM'S JUDGMENT FOR PROSTITUTION

Ezekiel 23:22-35



First Oracle Against Jerusalem

(Ezekiel 23:22-27)

**Therefore, Oholibah, thus says the
Lord GOD: 'Behold, I will stir up your
lovers against you, From whom you
have alienated yourself, And I will
bring them against you from every
side:**

EZEKIEL 23:22



Therefore, Oholibah, thus says the Lord GOD: 'Behold, I will stir up your lovers against you, From whom you have alienated yourself, And I will bring them against you from every side: (Ek.23:22)

- **Here Ezekiel gave four oracles, each beginning with the words, “thus says the Lord GOD” (Ek.23:22, 28, 32, 35).**
- **Those that Jerusalem despised would be the ones who would punish her.**



**The Babylonians, All the Chaldeans,
Pekod, Shoa, Koa, All the Assyrians
with them, All of them desirable
young men, Governors and rulers,
Captains and men of renown, All of
them riding on horses.**

EZEKIEL 23:23



The Babylonians, All the Chaldeans, Pekod, Shoa, Koa, All the Assyrians with them, All of them desirable young men, Governors and rulers, Captains and men of renown, All of them riding on horses. (Ek.23:23)

- **God would bring her lovers against her, including the Babylonians. This included the men of Pekod and Shoa and Koa, and all the Assyrians.**
- **These three tribes (Pekod, Shoa, and Koa), along with the Assyrians, were part of the Babylonian Empire and were represented in Babylon's army.**
- **Ezekiel was saying that the combined army of Babylon and her allies would descend on Jerusalem.**



PARABLE OF TWO SISTERS

23a

EZEKIEL