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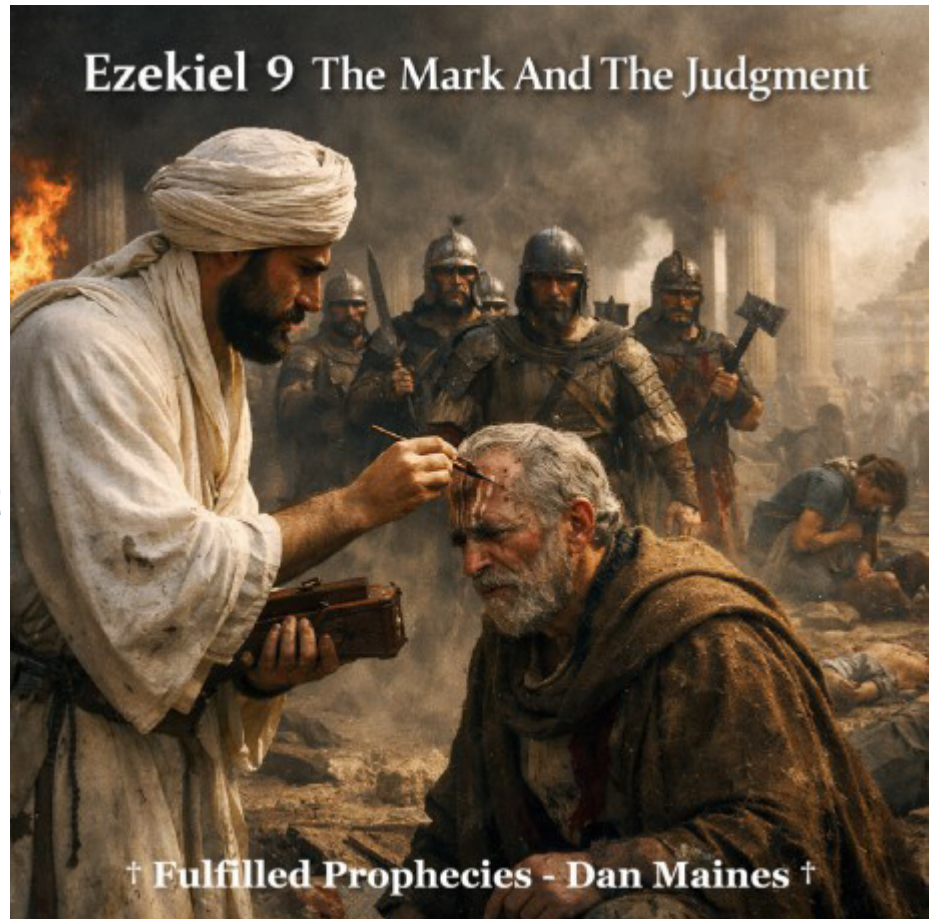
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Ezekiel 9 The Mark And The Judgment



By Dan Maines

Ezekiel 9 The Mark And The Judgment

Introduction

† Ezekiel 9 continues the vision of judgment that began in chapter 8, showing that God had seen the abominations in Jerusalem and was now acting.

† This chapter reveals a separation, those who grieve over sin are marked, those who don't are judged without mercy (Ezekiel

9:4-6).

† From the fulfilled perspective, this points forward to the judgment that came upon Jerusalem in that generation, just as Jesus warned (Matthew 23:36, Luke 21:22).

Ezekiel 9:1-2

Then He cried out in my hearing with a loud voice saying, Come near, executioners of the city, each with his weapon of destruction in his hand. And behold, six men came from the direction of the upper gate which faces north, each with his weapon for slaughter in his hand, and among them was a certain man clothed in linen, with a writing case at his waist. And they went in and stood beside the bronze altar.

† These executioners represent divine agents of judgment, God is the one calling them, showing this isn't random destruction, it's appointed justice (Isaiah 10:5-6).

† The man clothed in linen stands apart, he's not there to destroy, but to mark, showing God always distinguishes His people before judgment falls (Exodus 12:13).

† The altar being present shows this judgment is connected to covenant violation, the place of sacrifice had been defiled, so judgment begins there (1 Peter 4:17).

Ezekiel 9:3

Then the glory of the God of Israel went up from the cherub on which it had been, to the threshold of the temple. And He called to the man clothed in linen at whose waist was the writing case.

† The glory of God moving shows His departure from the temple, just as later Jesus declared the house desolate

(Matthew 23:38).

† God isn't dwelling with a corrupt system anymore, His presence is leaving before judgment strikes.

† This is covenant language, when God departs, protection is gone, and judgment follows (Hosea 9:12).

Ezekiel 9:4

The Lord said to him, Go through the midst of the city, even through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the people who groan and sigh over all the abominations which are being committed in its midst.

† The mark identifies those who are faithful, those who mourn sin instead of participating in it (Psalm 34:18).

† This directly connects to Revelation 7:3, where God's servants are sealed before judgment.

† It's not about outward religion, it's about the heart, those who grieve over sin are set apart.

Ezekiel 9:5-6

But to the others He said in my hearing, Go through the city after him and strike; do not let your eye have pity and do not spare. Kill utterly old men, young men, virgins, little children, and women, but do not touch any person on whom is the mark; and you shall start from My sanctuary. So they started with the elders who were before the temple.

† Judgment begins at the sanctuary, meaning leadership is held accountable first (Ezekiel 8:11, 1 Peter 4:17).

† No pity shows the severity of covenant judgment, this is the result of persistent rebellion.

† The marked are protected, showing again God knows His people even in judgment (2 Timothy 2:19).

Ezekiel 9:7

And He said to them, Defile the temple and fill the courtyards with those who are killed. Go out! So they went out and struck people in the city.

† The temple being defiled shows it had already lost its sanctity, judgment exposes what was already spiritually corrupt.

† This anticipates the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70, when the temple was physically destroyed.

† What was once holy becomes a place of death because of sin.

Ezekiel 9:8

As they were striking the people and I alone was left, I fell on my face and cried out saying, Oh, Lord God! Are You destroying the entire remnant of Israel by pouring out Your wrath on Jerusalem?

† Ezekiel intercedes, showing the heart of a prophet, he pleads for mercy even when judgment is deserved (Jeremiah 14:7).

† This reflects God's pattern, He always preserves a remnant (Isaiah 10:20-22).

† It shows that judgment is never about total destruction, but about purification.

Ezekiel 9:9-10

Then He said to me, The wrongdoing of the house of Israel and Judah is very, very great, and the land is filled with bloodshed and the city is full of perversion; for they say, The Lord has abandoned the land, and the Lord does not see. But as for Me, My eye will have no pity nor will I spare, but I will bring their conduct upon their heads.

† The people believed God didn't see, this is the root of sin, denying accountability (Psalm 94:7-9).

† God declares He sees everything, and judgment is based on their own conduct.

† This matches what Jesus said, that their judgment was the result of filling up the measure of their fathers (Matthew 23:32).

Ezekiel 9:11

Then behold, the man clothed in linen at whose waist was the writing case reported, saying, I have done just as You have commanded me.

† The marking is complete before judgment is finished, showing God secures His people first.

† This is consistent with every major judgment, Noah, Passover, and Jerusalem, God preserves His own.

† It confirms God's sovereignty, everything happens exactly as He commands.

Historical References

† Josephus records that during the destruction of Jerusalem, there were those who fled and escaped, showing a remnant

was preserved, Wars of the Jews, Book 6.

† Eusebius writes that Christians fled Jerusalem before its destruction, having been warned, Ecclesiastical History 3.5.

† This aligns perfectly with the marking principle in Ezekiel 9, God separates His people before judgment.

How It Applies To Us Today

† God still sees sin, nothing is hidden from Him, and He still judges righteously (Hebrews 4:13).

† What matters is whether we grieve over sin or become comfortable with it, that's what separates the marked from the unmarked.

† We've already seen the fulfillment of this pattern in the destruction of Jerusalem, proving God's word is true and reliable.

† Today, it's not about escaping a future judgment on Jerusalem, it's about living faithfully in the kingdom that has already been established.

Q & A Appendix

Q: What does the mark on the forehead represent?

A: It represents those who are faithful and grieve over sin, Ezekiel 9:4, Revelation 7:3.

Q: Why does judgment begin at the temple?

A: Because leadership and those closest to God are held accountable first, Ezekiel 9:6, 1 Peter 4:17.

Q: Does God destroy everyone in judgment?

A: No, He preserves a remnant, Ezekiel 9:4, Isaiah 10:20-22.

Q: How does this connect to the New Testament?

A: It points to the judgment on Jerusalem in that generation, Matthew 23:36, Luke 21:22.

Q: What separates those who are spared from those judged?

A: Their heart toward sin, whether they mourn it or embrace it, Ezekiel 9:4, Psalm 34:18.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† Ezekiel 9:1-11

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History 3.5

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