

Redeemer C.S.I Church Kansas Bible study

Ezekiel Chapter 12 on 05/16/2024 (7 P.m. to 8 P.m.) Rev. N. Suresh Kumar Nelson

Key points of Ezekiel chapter 12:

1. Symbolic Actions: In this chapter, Ezekiel performs various symbolic actions, such as packing his bags and digging through a wall. These actions represent Judah's impending exile and Jerusalem's destruction. They serve as visual aids to convey God's message to the people.

2. Judgment Pronounced: The chapter begins with Ezekiel prophesying against the people of Israel, particularly the leaders who were not heeding the warnings of impending judgment. The exile to Babylon is imminent due to the people's disobedience and idolatry. **3. God's Sovereignty:** Throughout the chapter, God emphasizes His sovereignty and His ability to carry out His plans despite the disbelief and disobedience of the people. Despite their skepticism, Ezekiel's prophecies will surely come to pass.

4. False Prophets: Ezekiel addresses the false prophets who were spreading lies among the people, giving them false hope and leading them astray. God condemns these prophets for their deceitful messages and promises of peace when destruction looms.

5. Promise of Restoration: Despite the impending judgment, the remnant of Israel is promised restoration. God assures His people that He will return them from exile and restore them to their land. This message of hope contrasts with the judgment pronounced earlier in the chapter.

6. Continued Rebellion: Despite the warnings and signs given by Ezekiel, the people continue in their rebellion against God. They refuse to repent and turn back to Him, which ultimately leads to the fulfillment of the prophecies of judgment.

Practical application points with examples based on Ezekiel chapter 12:

1. Obedience Over Rituals: Encourage believers to prioritize obedience to God's commands over religious rituals. For example, instead of simply attending church services, emphasize the importance of living out one's faith in daily life by loving others and seeking justice. (Ezekiel 12:2)

2. Authenticity in Worship: Challenge individuals to cultivate authentic worship rather than mere outward displays of religiosity. For instance, rather than focusing solely on outward expressions like raising hands or singing loudly, encourage believers to cultivate a genuine heart of worship that honors God in all aspects of their lives. (Ezekiel 12:3-7)

3. Listening to God's Warnings: Urge people to heed God's warnings and repent of sin before it's too late. Use examples of historical or contemporary figures who ignored warnings and suffered the consequences. Encourage regular self-examination and repentance in response to God's conviction. (Ezekiel 12:8-16)

4. Living with Integrity: Challenge believers to live lives of integrity and truthfulness. Encourage honesty in speech and actions, even when difficult or unpopular. Use examples of individuals who faced consequences for deceit and dishonesty but experienced God's grace when they chose honesty and repentance. (Ezekiel 12:17-20)

5. Trusting in God's Sovereignty: Remind people to trust in God's sovereignty even in uncertainty and adversity. Encourage them to find peace and hope in God's faithfulness, knowing His plans will ultimately prevail. Share personal testimonies or biblical examples of individuals who trusted God's sovereignty despite challenging circumstances. (Ezekiel 12:21-28)