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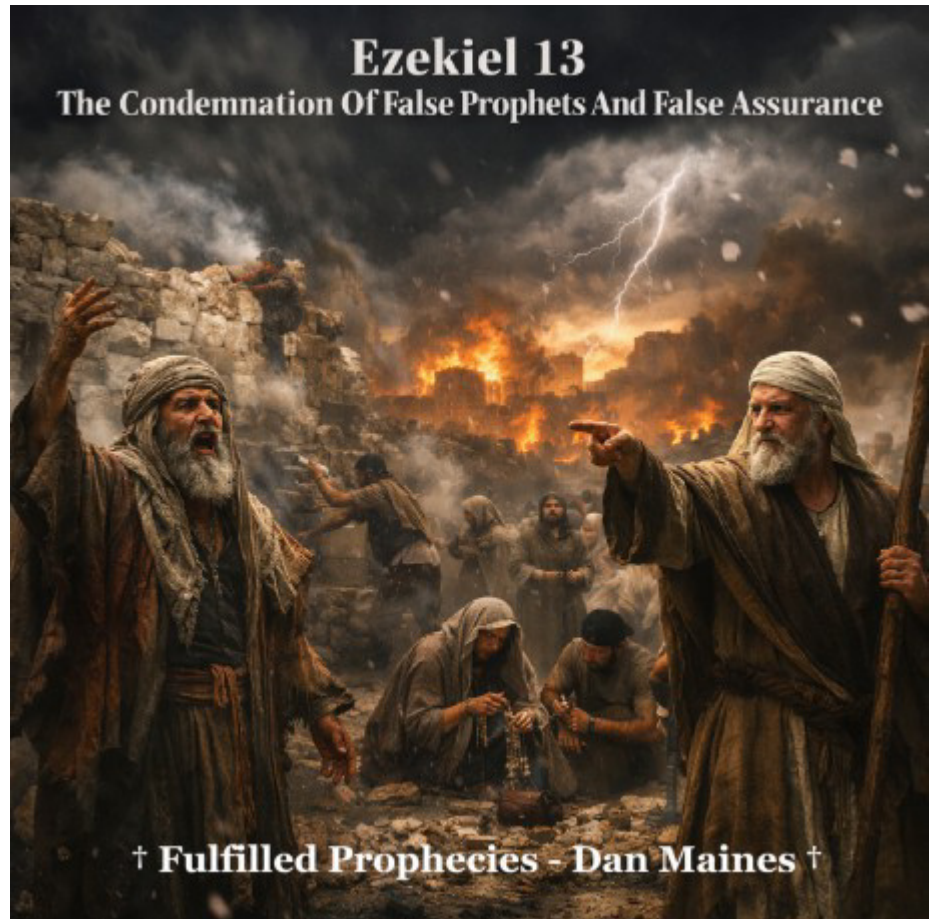
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Ezekiel 13 The Condemnation Of False Prophets And False Assurance



By Dan Maines

Ezekiel 13 The Condemnation Of False Prophets And False Assurance

Introduction

† This chapter exposes one of the most dangerous problems Israel faced, false prophets speaking peace when judgment was already determined. The issue wasn't just error, it was deception that comforted people in rebellion instead of calling them to repentance. (Jeremiah 6:14)

† From the fulfilled perspective, this same pattern carried into the first century, where leaders rejected Christ yet reassured the people that everything was fine. Jesus directly exposed this same blindness before Jerusalem's fall. (Matthew 23:27-28)

† Ezekiel 13 shows us that God doesn't tolerate those who claim to speak for Him while leading people away from truth.

Ezekiel 13:1-3

Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying, Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who prophesy, and say to those who prophesy from their own inspiration, Listen to the word of the Lord! This is what the Lord God says: Woe to the foolish prophets who are following their own spirit and have seen nothing.

† God makes it clear these prophets weren't sent by Him, they were speaking from their own imagination. (Ezekiel 13:2-3)

† This matches what Peter later warned about, false teachers introducing destructive heresies while claiming authority. (2 Peter 2:1)

† In the fulfilled context, the leaders of Israel in Jesus' day did the same, claiming authority while rejecting the truth standing right in front of them. (John 7:48-49)

Ezekiel 13:4-5

Israel, your prophets have been like foxes among ruins. You have not gone up into the breaches, nor did you build the wall around the house of Israel to stand in the battle on the day of the Lord.

† Instead of protecting the people, they exploited them. They avoided confronting sin and left the nation exposed to judgment.

(Ezekiel 22:30)

† True prophets stood in the gap, calling for repentance, but these men refused to do that work. (Isaiah 58:1)

† By the first century, this same failure led directly to the destruction of Jerusalem, because the leaders wouldn't prepare the people for what was coming. (Luke 19:41-44)

Ezekiel 13:6-7

They see falsehood and lying divination who are saying, The Lord declares, when the Lord has not sent them; yet they hope for the fulfillment of their word. Did you not see a false vision and speak a lying divination when you said, The Lord declares, but it is not I who have spoken?

† False assurance is one of the most destructive lies, it gives people confidence while they remain in sin. (Jeremiah 23:16-17)

† These prophets were creating a false hope, telling the people judgment wouldn't come.

† This is exactly what happened before AD 70, the leaders told the people God would protect the city no matter what. (Jeremiah 7:4)

Ezekiel 13:8-9

Therefore this is what the Lord God says: Because you have spoken falsehood and seen a lie, therefore behold, I am against you, declares the Lord God. So My hand will be against the prophets who see false visions and who utter lying divinations. They will have no place in the council of My people, nor will they be written in the register of the house of Israel, nor will they enter the land of Israel, so that you may know that I am the Lord

God.

† God Himself opposes those who speak lies in His name.

† Being cut off from the people shows complete rejection, they lose their place among God's covenant community.

† Jesus echoed this same judgment when He said many would claim to speak in His name, yet He would say, I never knew you. (Matthew 7:22-23)

Ezekiel 13:10-12

It is definitely because they have misled My people by saying, Peace, when there is no peace. And when anyone builds a wall, behold, they plaster it over with whitewash; so tell those who plaster it over with whitewash that it will fall. There will be a flooding rain, and you, hailstones, will fall; and a violent wind will break out. Behold, when the wall has fallen, will you not be asked, Where is the plaster with which you plastered it?

† The whitewashed wall represents a false sense of security.

† Everything looked strong on the outside, but it had no foundation.

† Jesus used the same imagery when He spoke of whitewashed tombs, outwardly clean but inwardly dead. (Matthew 23:27)

Ezekiel 13:13-16

Therefore this is what the Lord God says: I will make a violent wind break out in My wrath; there will also be in My anger a flooding rain and hailstones to consume it in wrath. So I will tear down the wall which you plastered over with whitewash and bring it down to the ground, so that its foundation is laid bare;

and when it falls, you will be consumed in its midst. And you will know that I am the Lord. So I will spend My wrath on the wall and on those who have plastered it over with whitewash; and I will say to you, The wall is gone and its plasterers are gone, along with the prophets of Israel who prophesy to Jerusalem, and who see visions of peace for her when there is no peace, declares the Lord God.

† God tears down every false system built on lies.

† The destruction exposes the truth that was hidden beneath the surface.

† This was fulfilled in the destruction of Jerusalem, where every false assurance failed. (Luke 21:20-22)

Ezekiel 13:17-19

Now you, son of man, set your face against the daughters of your people who are prophesying from their own inspiration. Prophecy against them and say, This is what the Lord God says: Woe to the women who sew magic bands on all wrists and make veils for the heads of people of every stature to hunt down lives! Will you hunt down the lives of My people, but keep your own lives alive? For handfuls of barley and fragments of bread, you have profaned Me to My people, putting to death some who should not die and keeping others alive who should not live, by your lying to My people who listen to lies.

† This exposes manipulation for personal gain, using religion to control people.

† They were profiting off deception, trading truth for material benefit.

† This same corruption existed in the first century leadership who devoured widows' houses. (Mark 12:40)

Ezekiel 13:20-23

Therefore this is what the Lord God says: Behold, I am against your magic bands by which you hunt lives there as birds, and I will tear them from your arms; and I will let them go, those lives whom you hunt as birds. I will also tear off your veils and save My people from your hands, and they will no longer be in your hands to be hunted; and you will know that I am the Lord. Because you have disheartened the righteous with falsehood when I did not cause him grief, but have encouraged the wicked not to turn from his wicked way and keep him alive, therefore you women will no longer see false visions or practice divination, and I will save My people from your hands. So you will know that I am the Lord.

† God promises to rescue His people from deception.

† False teaching discourages the righteous and strengthens the wicked, that's the opposite of truth.

† In the fulfilled perspective, Christ delivered His people out of that corrupt system before its destruction. (Matthew 24:15-16)

Historical References

† Josephus recorded that false prophets in Jerusalem before its fall told the people God would deliver them, leading many to remain in the city and perish.

† Eusebius wrote that the Christians, warned by Christ, fled Jerusalem before its destruction, showing the contrast between true and false guidance.

† Irenaeus warned that false teachers would arise within the church, echoing the same pattern seen in Ezekiel.

How It Applies To Us Today

† We don't follow voices just because they claim authority, we test everything against God's word. (1 John 4:1)

† False peace is still preached today, people are told everything is fine while ignoring sin and truth.

† We stay grounded in what God has actually said, not what people claim He said.

† We don't build our faith on appearances, we build it on truth that stands when everything else falls. (Matthew 7:24-27)

Q & A Appendix

Q What is the main sin of the false prophets in Ezekiel 13?

A They spoke from their own heart and claimed God sent them when He had not. (Ezekiel 13:2-3)

Q What does the whitewashed wall represent?

A A false sense of security built on lies that will not stand under judgment. (Ezekiel 13:10-12)

Q How did this apply to the first century?

A Leaders assured the people of peace while rejecting Christ, leading to Jerusalem's destruction. (Luke 19:41-44)

Q What did God promise to do to false prophets?

A He said He was against them and would remove them from His people. (Ezekiel 13:8-9)

Q How are believers to respond today?

A Test every teaching and remain grounded in God's truth. (1 John 4:1)

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

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Source Index

† Ezekiel 13:1-23

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History; Irenaeus, Against Heresies

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