### Ezekiel

## Chapter 16

1Then the Word of Jehovah came to me and said:  
  
 2‘O son of man,  
  
 ‘To JeruSalem, you must now testify  
 About all of her lawless deeds!  
 3So tell them that thus says Jehovah:  
  
 ‘Your roots and your birth are in CanaAn,  
 Where an Amorite man was your father,  
 And a Hittite [woman], your mother.  
  
 4‘And concerning your birth and the day you were born;  
 Your naval wasn’t cut, nor were you washed,  
 No one [cleansed] you with salt,  
 And you weren’t wrapped up in a blanket.  
  
 5‘For their eyes didn’t feel enough pity for you  
 To do such things on your behalf;  
 They just threw you into the fields,  
 Since your soul had been deformed since your birth.  
  
 6‘Then I came and saw you defiled in your blood,  
 And I said to you:  
  
 ‘Come to life!’  
  
 Yes, I said this to you in your blood:  
  
 ‘Come to life… Become many!’  
  
 7‘I made you like crops that grow in the fields,  
 Then you became many and great  
 And you entered the city of cities.  
  
 ‘Thereafter, your breasts and your hair both grew full…  
 But you were still indecent and naked.  
  
 8‘It was then that I came and beheld you,  
 And I saw that it was your time…  
 A time for you to find rest.  
  
 ‘So I opened and spread out My wings over you  
 And covered your indecent condition.  
 Over you, I then swore an oath,  
 And concluded a Sacred Agreement,’ says Jehovah.  
 So, that’s when you became Mine.  
  
 9‘I bathed you in water and washed off your blood,  
 And then, I rubbed you with oil.  
 10I dressed you in [the best] colored clothes…  
 In blue and linen, I wrapped you,  
 And I placed a braided belt [on your hips].  
  
 11‘I decked you with ornamentation…  
 I put bracelets on [both] of your [wrists],  
 And around your neck, put a necklace.  
  
 12‘I gave you a ring for your nose,  
 As well as disks for your ears,  
 And to boast, a garland [to wear on] your head.  
  
 13‘So, you were adorned in silver and gold;  
 Your wraps were the finest of linen;  
 You had braided hair and colored clothes,  
 And you ate the finest of flour,  
 As well as the best honey and oil.  
  
 ‘So, you became exceedingly [great],  
 And you prospered as one who’s a [queen].  
 14Among the nations, your name became known,  
 And this was true of your beauty;  
 For I’d made your beauty complete…  
 I’m the One who ordered it for you,’ says Jehovah.  
  
 15‘Then, on your beauty, you came to rely,  
 And you gave away [sex], because of your fame…  
 You ‘poured it out’ on the roads.  
  
 16‘Then you [ripped] your clothes, so that you could make strings  
 To tie all your idols together,  
 And you used them to do what’s immoral.  
 So now, there’s no way that you can return…  
 No way may you come back to Me!  
  
 17‘Then you took the things of which you could boast  
 – The silver and gold that I gave you –  
 And made idols, with which you had sex.  
 18You dressed them up in your colored clothes,  
 And set before them My incense and oil.  
  
 19‘You took the bread that I made  
 With the fine flour, honey, and oil,  
 And set it in front of their faces  
 As pleasing scents and aromas.  
  
 ‘And after you did all of this,’ says Jehovah,  
 20‘You took the sons and daughters you bore  
 And offered them up to [your gods]  
 Until [they had all] been consumed.  
  
 21‘Yes you killed them to make your gods happy…  
 You gave all of your children to them!  
 22And this is much more disgusting  
 Than the rest of the bad things you’ve done.  
  
 ‘For, you forgot the days of your youth  
 When you were indecent and naked,  
 And lived befouled in your blood.  
 23And now that you’ve done all your evil,  
 Woe, woe, upon you,’ says Jehovah!  
  
 24‘A whorehouse you’ve built for yourself,  
 And you’ve posted signs in the squares.  
 25You’ve erected them on each corner,  
 And there, you’ve wasted your beauty.  
  
 ‘Between your legs, you’ve led all who would pass.  
 And again, you made it much worse…  
 26You had sex with the sons of Egyptians…  
 With the flesh of those who live just next door!  
 Yes, you have done all these bad things  
 That have driven Me into a rage.  
  
 27‘So {Look!} against you, I’ll stretch My hand,  
 And I’ll take away all your Laws,  
 Then hand you to those who detest you…  
 To the daughters of the Philistines,  
 Whose godless ways you have followed.  
  
 28‘With Assyria’s sons, you also had sex,  
 Which brought you no more satisfaction…  
 You had sex, but it wasn’t enough.  
 29So in CanaAn’s land, you also had sex,  
 As well as with the Chaldeans…  
 But you still couldn’t find satisfaction.  
  
 30‘O what will I do to your heart,’ asks Jehovah,  
 ‘As you are doing these bad things…  
 The works of a woman that’s known as a whore,  
 And who’s even had sex with her daughters!  
  
 31‘Whorehouses, you’ve built upon every [street],  
 But you don’t act as the madam!  
 32An adulterous woman is all that you are…  
 One whose husband acts as her pimp!  
  
 33‘You’ve even paid those you’ve had sex with…  
 You’ve paid wages to all of your lovers  
 As inducements for them to stay near  
 And engage in all of your whoring!  
  
 34‘Your perversions are worse than all others;  
 For with other whores, you’ve even had sex…  
 You paid them – they didn’t pay you;  
 So, what you have done is perversion!  
  
 35‘Because of this, O you whore,  
 Hear the Word of Jehovah:  
  
 36‘Because you paid others with your copper coins,  
 Your shame will soon be uncovered…  
 Your whoring with all of your lovers,  
 As well as your evil thoughts…  
 Your lawless deeds and the blood of your young,  
 Which you have offered [to idols].  
  
 37‘So, because of these things that you’ve done,  
 I’ll gather your lovers against you  
 And mix those you’ve hated among them.  
 Together, I’ll bring them against you  
 Until they have you surrounded.  
 I’ll uncover your evils before them,  
 And then, they’ll all see your shame.  
  
 38‘I’ll punish you as an adulteress,  
 And I will pour out your blood…  
 In My zeal, I’ll appoint you for blood,  
 39And I’ll hand you over to them.  
  
 ‘Then, they’ll cut down your whorehouses…  
 They’ll demolish your base, and rip off your clothes,  
 Then take all the things about which you boast…  
 They’ll leave you indecent and naked again.  
  
 40‘Against you, they will lead mobs  
 Who’ll stone you with rocks and stab you with swords,  
 41Then burn your whorehouses with fire…  
 They will wreak vengeance upon you,  
 There before other women.  
  
 ‘But I’ll turn you away from your whoring,  
 And return the money that you’ve paid your lovers…  
 42Against you, I’ll slacken My rage  
 And remove the jealous zeal I once had…  
 So I can rest and be anxious no more.  
  
 43‘Because you forgot the days of your youth  
 And brought Me regret with your actions;  
 {Look!} I’ll bring them down on your head,’ says Jehovah,  
 ‘And then, you’ll be godless no more!  
  
 44‘For against you, they all have said this:  
  
 ‘The daughter is just like the mother,’  
  
 45And truly, you are just like your mother…  
 A woman released by her man,  
 And one who abandoned her children,  
 As well as her brothers and sisters…  
 Yes, she also pushed them away,  
 Along with her husband and children.  
  
 ‘For an Amorite man was your father,  
 And a Hittite woman, your mother.  
 46Samaria is your big sister,  
 Whose daughters have lived to your left.  
  
 ‘Your younger sister, who lives on your right,  
 Along with her daughters, is Sodom.  
 47And in their ways, you have traveled  
 – Their lawless deeds, you’ve done also –  
 So their ways are now better than yours!  
  
 48‘As I live,’ says Jehovah,  
 ‘Has your sister, Sodom, or her daughters  
 Ever acted like you and those who are yours?  
  
 49‘The sin of Sodom, your sister, was pride.  
 For, although she had plenty of bread  
 (She and her daughters had more than enough),  
 This thing that was found among them was true:  
 They offered no aid to the needy and poor…  
 50Before Me they bragged and broke laws,  
 And as you saw, I removed them!  
  
 51‘Yet, Samaria didn’t sin with half of your sins,  
 And you’re now more lawless than her.  
 Yes, all the lawless things that you’ve done  
 Prove your sisters more righteous.  
 52So now, you must carry your torment!  
  
 ‘For by your sins, you’ve corrupted your sisters…  
 And your lawless ways are much worse than theirs,  
 So that they now look better than you!  
 Yes, be ashamed and accept your dishonor,  
 For it’s you who made them look better.  
  
 53‘So from them, I’ll remove My rejection  
 – The rejection of Sodom and her daughters –  
 And I’ll remove Samaria’s rejection  
 (As well as that of her daughters)…  
 And then, I’ll wipe you out of their midst!  
  
 54‘Therefore, you must now bear the torment and disgrace  
 For all that you did to provoke Me.  
 55And your sister, Sodom, and her daughters  
 Will be restored as they were at the first,  
 Along with Samaria and her daughters,  
 Who’ll become as they were [in their youth].  
 Yes, her daughters will all be restored  
 As they had been [long ago].  
  
 56‘Wasn’t Sodom, your sister, a reason to boast  
 In the days of your pride,  
 57Before your evils were seen…  
 Those evils for which you’re now being scorned  
 By all of Syria’s daughters  
 And by those who are living around you…  
 Like the daughters of the Philistines…  
 Those who live just next door?  
  
 58‘So, because of your godless ways,  
 And the lawless deeds that you’ve done,’ says Jehovah,  
 59‘I’ll do to you as you’ve done to Me…  
 For you’ve disgraced the promise you made  
 By breaking your Agreement with Me.  
  
 60‘Yet, I will remember My oath…  
 The one that I made with you in your youth,  
 To establish My Agreement with you throughout the age…  
 61Then, perhaps you’ll remember the right ways to act.  
  
 ‘But for following in the ways of your sisters  
 – Both the younger and older –  
 You will now be despised.  
  
 ‘And thereafter, I’ll give them to you,  
 Then you can start teaching them...  
 But not of your Agreement with Me,  
 62For My Sacred Agreement will just be with you…  
 And you’ll all know that I am Jehovah.  
  
 63‘So remember, and then be ashamed…  
 Do not open your mouth,  
 Since your face has been so dishonored.  
 And I am the One who has born all the cost  
 Of the sins that you have committed,’ says Jehovah!’