### Ezekiel

## Chapter 24

1It was in the 9th year, in the 10th month, and on the 10th day of the month that the Word of Jehovah came to me and said:  
  
 2‘O son of man,  
  
 ‘Write the name of this day for yourself,  
 Because this is the day that Babylon’s king  
 Will conquer JeruSalem…  
 Yes, that day has arrived!  
  
 3‘And say these words to that house in rebellion…  
 Tell them that thus says Jehovah:  
  
 ‘Prepare the pot… Ready the pot and fill it with water,  
 4Then, you must put in the pieces…  
 All the best pieces… The shoulders and legs,  
 Then, rip the flesh from the bones!  
  
 5‘I have gathered the choicest of cattle;  
 So, start the fire to boil up the bones…  
 Boil and cook the bones in its midst!’  
  
 6‘For their Sovereign Lord Jehovah said this:  
  
 O you city of blood,  
  
 ’There’s a pot that is filled with your venom.  
 So, when they bring out your limbs,  
 [None] will claim your parts as their own.  
  
 7‘Upon a rock, they will pour out your blood…  
 But it won’t be poured on the ground  
 Or be covered by dirt.  
 8For I’ll punish you in My rage  
 And I’ll have them pour your blood on a rock  
 So that [no one] can cover it over.  
  
 9‘Because of this,’ said Jehovah;  
 ‘Woe to you, O city of blood  
 For your funeral pyre will be great.  
  
 10‘I’ll add much wood and kindle a fire  
 To melt away all the meat.  
 And then, to render a broth,  
 The bones will have to be stewed.  
  
 11‘You’ll stay on the coals until you’re burned through  
 And all your brass ornaments melt…  
 Until your uncleanness [is gone]  
 And all of your venom has failed…  
 12Until little venom remains.  
  
 13‘The venom of your filth, I’ll bring to disgrace  
 Until it is all boiled away.  
 Since you dirtied yourself and wouldn’t get clean,  
 You’ll no longer be able to do that  
 Until My rage on you is complete.  
  
 14‘For, I Jehovah, have spoken…  
 I’ll do it and I’ll make it happen!  
 I’ll not warn you or show any mercy,  
 Nor will I offer you comfort.  
  
 ‘I will judge you for the things that you’ve done,  
 As well as for the things that you think,’ says Jehovah.’  
  
  
15Then the Word of Jehovah came to me and said:  
  
 16‘O son of man,  
  
 ‘{Look!} With just one blow, I will now take away   
 [The woman] you’ve treasured most dearly.  
  
 ‘Yet, you must not show any sorrow…  
 17Do all your groaning in silence…  
 Over her, you must quietly groan,  
 And you may not wail at her grave.  
  
 ‘Don’t take off your sandals or braid your hair,  
 Nor let them offer you comfort…  
 And don’t eat the [food] that they bring.’  
  
18Well, the next morning I told the people what he said to me; and then that evening, my wife died. So the [next] morning I did as I was instructed.  
  
19And when the people asked me to explain why I was doing these things, 20I told them that the Word of Jehovah had come to me and said this:  
  
 21‘You must speak to the house of IsraEl  
 And tell them that thus says Jehovah:  
  
 ‘{Look!} My Holy Place, I’ll profane…  
 That wonderful place about which you neigh  
 And the thing that your eyes have desired.  
  
 ‘Now, in order to save your own lives,  
 You’ll have to abandon your daughters and sons…  
 For, they will all fall by the sword.  
  
 22‘Then, after you’ve done this,  
 You won’t take comfort from anyone’s mouth,  
 Or share in the bread of mankind!  
  
 23‘Your hair will remain on your head,  
 And your feet will be wearing sandals.  
 So you won’t lament or be crying…  
 You’ll just melt away in your sins,  
 And none will comfort their brothers!  
  
 24‘Now, EzekiEl will serve as an omen and sign;  
 For, all that he says, you will do.  
 And after these things have all happened,  
 You’ll know that I am Jehovah.’  
  
 25‘[Then He said]:  
  
 ‘O son of man,  
  
 ‘This is how it will be in the day  
 That I take away all their strength  
 And the things about which they boast…  
 The desirable things of their eyes…  
 All of their sons and daughters,  
 Those in whom their souls take most pride.  
  
 26‘Then, those who escape in that day  
 Will come and tell you what happened.  
 27And in that day, you’ll open your mouth…  
 Yes you’ll speak to those who’ve escaped…  
 You’ll speak and be mute no longer…  
 You’ll explain how you were a sign,  
 And they’ll know that I am Jehovah.’