

Jerusalem, the Forgiven Bride
Ezekiel 16:35-63

Main Point:

You deserve to die for your unfaithfulness to God, but take heart: there is forgiveness in Christ.

1. Death is exactly what you deserve for your unfaithfulness to God.

2. Given your greater light and privileges today, this is especially the case.

3. Take heart, however, because there is forgiveness for you in the gospel of Jesus.

Leviticus 20:10 10 “The man who commits adultery with *another* man’s wife ... the adulterer and the adulteress, shall surely be put to death. (NKJV)

Leviticus 24:17 17 “Whoever kills any man shall surely be put to death. (NKJV)

Exodus 22:20 20 “He who sacrifices to *any* god, except to the LORD only, he shall be utterly destroyed. (NKJV)

Derek Thomas "This kind of behavior in a marriage cannot be overlooked. Once it is out in the open, the consequences for the marriage are grave and often terminal."

2 Kings 17:9-11 9 Also the children of Israel secretly did against the LORD their God things that *were* not right, and they built for themselves high places in all their cities, from watchtower to fortified city. 10 They set up for themselves *sacred* pillars and wooden images on every high hill and under every green tree. 11 There they burned incense on all the high places, like the nations whom the LORD had carried away before them; and they did wicked things to provoke the LORD to anger ... (NKJV)

Christopher Wright "Israel was indeed set in the midst of the family of nations, but instead of setting an example to the rest of the family, she had become no better than its worst members."

WLC 150 Q. Are all transgressions of the law of God equally heinous in themselves, and in the sight of God? A. All transgressions of the law of God are not equally heinous; but some sins in themselves, and by reason of several aggravations, are more heinous in the sight of God than others.

Derek Thomas "Israel had received the very finest of the Lord's blessings. [Yet] she had responded with indifference and even contempt ... We are accountable for what we have received."

Derek Thomas "The promises of God are made to God’s true people. They are not made to the entire membership of the professing church."

Matthew Henry “It had often been said in wrath, *You shall know that I am the Lord* ... to your cost; here it is said in mercy ... to your comfort.”

John Gill “[The covenant] was particularly remembered when Christ was made under this law, and became the fulfilling end of it to his people; yielding perfect obedience to it, and bearing the penalty of it in their room and stead.”