

Jerusalem Has Fallen

Ezekiel 33

by Don Falkos

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A fugitive arrived in Babylon, went to Ezekiel, and said, "Jerusalem has fallen." The news was five months old at the time. But it was the first word to reach the distant exiles, except...

The evening before the fugitive arrived, the Lord had spoken to Ezekiel:

The scattered remnants of Israel living among the ruined cities keep saying, "Abraham was only one man, yet he inherited the entire land. We are many, so how much more is the land our inheritance." They eat meat with blood in it, they worship idols, and they murder the innocent. Do they really think the land should be theirs? Murderers! Idolaters! Adulterers!

As surely as I live, those living in the ruins will die by the sword. Wild animals will devour those living in the countryside. Those hiding in fortresses and caves will die of disease. The land will be completely destroyed because of their detestable sins, and they will know I am the Lord.

Your neighbors whisper about you behind closed doors. They mock you, "Hey, let's go listen to the prophet and find out what the Lord has to say today." They come pretending to be sincere. They listen to you; they hear what you say; but they have no intention of doing anything about it. They flatter you, but their hearts are set on their own self-interest. They find you very entertaining, like someone singing a love song – someone with a nice voice who can play an instrument well.

But when everything I've told you takes place, then, at last, they'll realize a prophet has been among them all along.