

# **Israel's Apostasy under Different Titles Series**

**Message #2457, 2458, 2463, 2464  
2469, 2470, 2475**

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**Israel's Apostasy under Different Titles**  
The story of Baal and the Grove; Hosts of Heaven  
Israel serves Baal and the Grove (high places)  
Sun, moon, stars, pass (burn) in fire, Chemosh, Moloch, Ashtoroth, Adultery,  
Idolatry, Lovers, Trees, Harlot

**Joshua dies Israel goes after Baal & Ashtaroth**

**Judges 2:7-14**

v7 - And the people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the LORD, that he did for Israel.

v8 - And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, *being* an hundred and ten years old.

v9 - And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnathheres, in the mount of Ephraim, on the north side of the hill Gaash.

v10 - And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel.

v11 - And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim:

v12 - And they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that *were* round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the LORD to anger.

v13 - And they forsook the LORD, and served Baal and Ashtaroth.

v14 - And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers that spoiled them, and he sold them into the hands of their enemies round about, so that they could not any longer stand before their enemies.

**Israel intermarries with heathen – goes after their gods**

**Judges 3:7**

v3 - And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and forgat the LORD their God, and served Baalim and the groves.

**Gideon destroys Baal gods in Israel**

**Judges 6:25, 28-32**

v25 - And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Take thy father's young bullock, even the second bullock of seven years old, and throw down the altar of Baal that thy father hath, and cut down the grove that *is* by it:

v28 - And when the men of the city arose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was cast down, and the grove was cut down that *was* by it, and the second bullock was offered upon the altar *that was* built.

v29 - And they said one to another, Who hath done this thing? And when they enquired and asked, they said, Gideon the son of Joash hath done this thing.

v30 - Then the men of the city said unto Joash, Bring out thy son, that he may die: because he hath cast down the altar of Baal, and because he hath cut down the grove that *was* by it.

v31 - And Joash said unto all that stood against him, Will ye plead for Baal? will ye save him? he that will plead for him, let him be put to death whilst *it is yet* morning: if he *be* a god, let him plead for himself, because *one* hath cast down his altar.

v32- Therefore on that day he called him Jerubbaal, saying, Let Baal plead against him, because he hath thrown down his altar.

## **When Gideon dies, Israel goes after Baalim**

### **Judges 8:33**

v33 - And it came to pass, as soon as Gideon was dead, that the children of Israel turned again, and went a whoring after Baalim, and made Baalberith their god.

## **Israel goes after the gods of the pagans – Baalim, Ashtaroth**

### **Judges 10:1-7 & 11:24**

v1 - And after Abimelech there arose to defend Israel Tola the son of Puah, the son of Dodo, a man of Issachar; and he dwelt in Shamir in mount Ephraim.

v2 - And he judged Israel twenty and three years, and died, and was buried in Shamir.

v3 - And after him arose Jair, a Gileadite, and judged Israel twenty and two years.

v4 - And he had thirty sons that rode on thirty ass colts, and they had thirty cities, which are called Havothjair unto this day, which *are* in the land of Gilead.

v5 - And Jair died, and was buried in Camon.

v6 - And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim, and Ashtaroth, and the gods of Syria, and the gods of Zidon, and the gods of Moab, and the gods of the children of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines, and forsook the LORD, and served not him.

v7 - And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he sold them into the hands of the Philistines, and into the hands of the children of Ammon.

11:24 - Wilt not thou possess that which Chemosh thy god giveth thee to possess? So whomsoever the LORD our God shall drive out from before us, them will we possess.

## **Ark of Covenant is brought home – Israel puts away Ashtaroth and Baalim**

### **I Samuel 7:3-4**

v3 - And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, If ye do return unto the LORD with all your hearts, *then* put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the LORD, and serve him only: and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.

v4 - Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served the LORD only.

## **Samuel reminds Israel of apostasy as Saul assumes the throne**

### **I Samuel 12: 8-10**

v8 - When Jacob was come into Egypt, and your fathers cried unto the LORD, then the LORD sent Moses and Aaron, which brought forth your fathers out of Egypt, and made them dwell in this place.

v9 - And when they forgat the LORD their God, he sold them into the hand of Sisera, captain of the host of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they fought against them.

v10 - And they cried unto the LORD, and said, We have sinned, because we have forsaken the LORD, and have served Baalim and Ashtaroth: but now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve thee.”

## **Ahijah tells Jeroboams wife your child will die & all sons of Jeroboam**

### **I Kings 14:14-15**

v14 - Moreover the LORD shall raise him up a king over Israel, who shall cut off the house of Jeroboam that day: but what? even now.

v15 - For the LORD shall smite Israel, as a reed is shaken in the water, and he shall root up Israel out of this good land, which he gave to their fathers, and shall scatter them beyond the river, because they have made their groves, provoking the LORD to anger.

### **I Kings 14:22-23**

v22 - And Judah did evil in the sight of the LORD, and they provoked him to jealousy with their sins which they had committed, above all that their fathers had done.

v23 - For they also built them high places, and images, and groves, on every high hill, and under every green tree.

## Asa

### I Kings 15: 11-13

v11 - And Asa did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, as did David his father.

v12 - And he took away the sodomites out of the land, and removed all the idols that his fathers had made.

v13 - And also Maachah his mother, even her he removed from being queen, because she had made an idol in a grove; and Asa destroyed her idol, and burnt it by the brook Kidron.

### II Chronicles 15:16, 17

v16 - And also *concerning* Maachah the mother of Asa the king, he removed her from *being* queen, because she had made an idol in a grove: and Asa cut down her idol, and stamped *it*, and burnt *it* at the brook Kidron.

v17 - But the high places were not taken away out of Israel: nevertheless the heart of Asa was perfect all his days.

## Ahab

### I Kings 16:31-33

v31 - And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him.

v32 - And he reared up an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria.

v33 - And Ahab made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him.

## \*Elijah faces 450 prophets of Baal

### I Kings 18:17, 18, 19, 21, 25, 26, 40

v17 - And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, *Art* thou he that troubleth Israel?

v18 - And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim.

v19 - Now therefore send, *and* gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table.

v21 - And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD *be* God, follow him: but if Baal, *then* follow him. And the people answered him not a word.

v25 - And Elijah said unto the prophets of Baal, Choose you one bullock for yourselves, and dress *it* first; for ye *are* many; and call on the name of your gods, but put no fire *under*.

v26 - And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed *it*, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But *there was* no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made.

v40 - And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.

## **God says I have reserved 7,000 in Israel not bowed knee**

### **I Kings 19:18**

v18 - Yet I have left *me* seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.

## **Ahaziah son of Ahab serves Baal in Northern Israel**

### **I Kings 22: 51-53**

v51 - Ahaziah the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned two years over Israel.

v52 - And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the way of his father, and in the way of his mother, and in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin:

v53 - For he served Baal, and worshipped him, and provoked to anger the LORD God of Israel, according to all that his father had done.

## **Jehoram, son of Ahab, king of Northern Israel continues worship of golden calf**

### **II Kings 3: 1-3**

v1 - Now Jehoram the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned twelve years.

v2 - And he wrought evil in the sight of the LORD; but not like his father, and like his mother: for he put away the image of Baal that his father had made.

v3 - Nevertheless he cleaved unto the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which made Israel to sin; he departed not therefrom.

## Jehu gathers priests of Baal & Kills them

### II Kings 10:18-28

v18 - And Jehu gathered all the people together, and said unto them, Ahab served Baal a little; *but* Jehu shall serve him much.

v19 - Now therefore call unto me all the prophets of Baal, all his servants, and all his priests; let none be wanting: for I have a great sacrifice *to do* to Baal; whosoever shall be wanting, he shall not live. But Jehu did *it* in subtilty, to the intent that he might destroy the worshippers of Baal.

v20 - And Jehu said, Proclaim a solemn assembly for Baal. And they proclaimed *it*.

v21 - And Jehu sent through all Israel: and all the worshippers of Baal came, so that there was not a man left that came not. And they came into the house of Baal; and the house of Baal was full from one end to another.

v22 - And he said unto him that *was* over the vestry, Bring forth vestments for all the worshippers of Baal. And he brought them forth vestments.

v23 - And Jehu went, and Jehonadab the son of Rechab, into the house of Baal, and said unto the worshippers of Baal, Search, and look that there be here with you none of the servants of the LORD, but the worshippers of Baal only.

v24 - And when they went in to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings, Jehu appointed fourscore men without, and said, *If* any of the men whom I have brought into your hands escape, *he that letteth him go*, his life *shall be* for the life of him.

v25 - And it came to pass, as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, that Jehu said to the guard and to the captains, Go in, *and* slay them; let none come forth. And they smote them with the edge of the sword; and the guard and the captains cast *them* out, and went to the city of the house of Baal.

v26 - And they brought forth the images out of the house of Baal, and burned them.

v27 - And they brake down the image of Baal, and brake down the house of Baal, and made it a draught house unto this day.

v28 - Thus Jehu destroyed Baal out of Israel.

## Athaliah's Baal gods destroyed

### II Kings 11:18

v18 - And all the people of the land went into the house of Baal, and brake it down; his altars and his images brake they in pieces thoroughly, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars. And the priest appointed officers over the house of the LORD.

## **II Chronicles 23:17**

v17 - Then all the people went to the house of Baal, and brake it down, and brake his altars and his images in pieces, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars.

## **Grove remains in Samaria (Northern Israel)**

### **II Kings 13:6**

v6 - Nevertheless they departed not from the sins of the house of Jeroboam, who made Israel sin, *but* walked therein: and there remained the grove also in Samaria.

## **\*Scripture reviews Israel's complete idolatry**

### **II Kings 17: 10, 16**

v10 - And they set them up images and groves in every high hill, and under every green tree:

v16 - And they left all the commandments of the LORD their God, and made them molten images, *even* two calves, and made a grove, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal.

## **Hezekiah removes grove and images**

### **II Kings 18: 1-5**

v1 - Now it came to pass in the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, *that* Hezekiah the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign.

v2 - Twenty and five years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also *was* Abi, the daughter of Zachariah.

v3 - And he did *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father did.

v4 - He removed the high places, and brake the images, and cut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brasen serpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan.

v5 - He trusted in the LORD God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor *any* that were before him.

## **\*Manasseh's great apostasy**

### **II Kings 21:3, 7**

v3 - For he built up again the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he reared up altars for Baal, and made a grove, as did Ahab king of Israel; and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them.

v7 - And he set a graven image of the grove that he had made in the house, of which the LORD said to David, and to Solomon his son, In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all tribes of Israel, will I put my name for ever:

## **\*Josiah's great revival destroying Baal & Grove**

### **II Kings 23:1-7, 14, 15**

v1 - And the king sent, and they gathered unto him all the elders of Judah and of Jerusalem.

v2 - And the king went up into the house of the LORD, and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the people, both small and great: and he read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant which was found in the house of the LORD.

v3 - And the king stood by a pillar, and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all *their* heart and all *their* soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people stood to the covenant.

v4 - And the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest, and the priests of the second order, and the keepers of the door, to bring forth out of the temple of the LORD all the vessels that were made for Baal, and for the grove, and for all the host of heaven: and he burned them without Jerusalem in the fields of Kidron, and carried the ashes of them unto Bethel.

v5 - And he put down the idolatrous priests, whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places in the cities of Judah, and in the places round about Jerusalem; them also that burned incense unto Baal, to the sun, and to the moon, and to the planets, and to all the host of heaven.

v6 - And he brought out the grove from the house of the LORD, without Jerusalem, unto the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and stamped *it* small to powder, and cast the powder thereof upon the graves of the children of the people.

v7 - And he brake down the houses of the sodomites, that *were* by the house of the LORD, where the women wove hangings for the grove.

v14 - And he brake in pieces the images, and cut down the groves, and filled their places with the bones of men.

v15 - Moreover the altar that [was] at Bethel, [and] the high place which Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, had made, both that altar and the high place he brake down, and burned the high place, [and] stamped [it] small to powder, and burned the grove.

### **II Chronicles 34:1-7**

v1 - Josiah *was* eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem one and thirty years.

v2 - And he did *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the ways of David his father, and declined *neither* to the right hand, nor to the left.

v3 - For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father: and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images.

v4 - And they brake down the altars of Baalim in his presence; and the images, that *were* on high above them, he cut down; and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images, he brake in pieces, and made dust *of them*, and strowed *it* upon the graves of them that had sacrificed unto them.

v5 - And he burnt the bones of the priests upon their altars, and cleansed Judah and Jerusalem.

v6 - And *so did he* in the cities of Manasseh, and Ephraim, and Simeon, even unto Naphtali, with their mattocks round about.

v7 - And when he had broken down the altars and the groves, and had beaten the graven images into powder, and cut down all the idols throughout all the land of Israel, he returned to Jerusalem.

## **Asa destroys idols strange gods and groves**

### **II Chronicles 14:3**

v3 - For he took away the altars of the strange *gods*, and the high places, and brake down the images, and cut down the groves:

## **\*Jehoshaphat is righteous seeks not Baalim removes groves (1-6); send teachers of the law throughout Judah (7-12).**

### **II Chronicles 17:1-6, 7-12**

v1 - And Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his stead, and strengthened himself against Israel.

v2 - And he placed forces in all the fenced cities of Judah, and set garrisons in the land of Judah, and in the cities of Ephraim, which Asa his father had taken.

v3 - And the LORD was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the first ways of his father David, and sought not unto Baalim;

v4 - But sought to the *LORD* God of his father, and walked in his commandments, and not after the doings of Israel.

v5 - Therefore the LORD stablished the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah brought to Jehoshaphat presents; and he had riches and honour in abundance.

v6 - And his heart was lifted up in the ways of the LORD: moreover he took away the high places and groves out of Judah.

v7 - Also in the third year of his reign he sent to his princes, *even* to Benhail, and to Obadiah, and to Zechariah, and to Nethaneel, and to Michaiah, to teach in the cities of Judah.

v8 - And with them *he sent* Levites, *even* Shemaiah, and Nethaniah, and Zebadiah, and Asahel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehonathan, and Adonijah, and Tobijah, and Tobadonijah, Levites; and with them Elishama and Jehoram, priests.

v9 - And they taught in Judah, and *had* the book of the law of the LORD with them, and went about throughout all the cities of Judah, and taught the people.

v10 - And the fear of the LORD fell upon all the kingdoms of the lands that *were* round about Judah, so that they made no war against Jehoshaphat.

v11 - Also *some* of the Philistines brought Jehoshaphat presents, and tribute silver; and the Arabians brought him flocks, seven thousand and seven hundred rams, and seven thousand and seven hundred he goats.

v12 - And Jehoshaphat waxed great exceedingly; and he built in Judah castles, and cities of store.

### \* **“Shouldest thou help the ungodly” – Jehoshaphat took away groves out of the land and brought Judah back to the Lord God**

#### **II Chronicles 19:1-4**

v1 - And Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned to his house in peace to Jerusalem.

v2 - And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the LORD? therefore *is* wrath upon thee from before the LORD.

v3 - Nevertheless there are good things found in thee, in that thou hast taken away the groves out of the land, and hast prepared thine heart to seek God.

v4 - And Jehoshaphat dwelt at Jerusalem: and he went out again through the people from Beersheba to mount Ephraim, and brought them back unto the LORD God of their fathers.

### **Joash speaks of the wickedness of Athaliah; Joash turns from God to the grove; Joash returns to his wickedness (v22-24)**

#### **II Chronicles 24: 1-7, 18, 22-24 (ref – II Kings 11)**

v1 - Joash *was* seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also *was* Zibiah of Beersheba.

v2 - And Joash did *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD all the days of Jehoiada the priest.

v3 - And Jehoiada took for him two wives; and he begat sons and daughters.

v4 - And it came to pass after this, *that* Joash was minded to repair the house of the LORD.

v5 - And he gathered together the priests and the Levites, and said to them, Go out unto the cities of Judah, and gather of all Israel money to repair the house of your God from year to year, and see that ye hasten the matter. Howbeit the Levites hastened *it* not.

v6 - And the king called for Jehoiada the chief, and said unto him, Why hast thou not required of the Levites to bring in out of Judah and out of Jerusalem the collection, *according to the commandment* of Moses the servant of the LORD, and of the congregation of Israel, for the tabernacle of witness?

v7 - For the sons of Athaliah, that wicked woman, had broken up the house of God; and also all the dedicated things of the house of the LORD did they bestow upon Baalim.

v18 - And they left the house of the LORD God of their fathers, and served groves and idols: and wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this their trespass.

v22 - Thus Joash the king remembered not the kindness which Jehoiada his father had done to him, but slew his son. And when he died, he said, The LORD look upon *it*, and require *it*.

v23 - And it came to pass at the end of the year, *that* the host of Syria came up against him: and they came to Judah and Jerusalem, and destroyed all the princes of the people from among the people, and sent all the spoil of them unto the king of Damascus.

v24 - For the army of the Syrians came with a small company of men, and the LORD delivered a very great host into their hand, because they had forsaken the LORD God of their fathers. So they executed judgment against Joash.

## **Ahaz, king of Judah, son of Jotham (a righteous man – II Chronicles 27:6), son of Uzziah (righteous man) serves Baalim and burns children in fire**

### **II Chronicles 28:1-5 (refer back to chapters 26, 27)**

v1 - Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem: but he did not that which was right in the sight of the LORD, like David his father:

v2 - For he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, and made also molten images for Baalim.

v3 - Moreover he burnt incense in the valley of the son of Hinnom, and burnt his children in the fire, after the abominations of the heathen whom the LORD had cast out before the children of Israel.

v4 - He sacrificed also and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.

v5 - Wherefore the LORD his God delivered him into the hand of the king of Syria; and they smote him, and carried away a great multitude of them captives, and brought them to

Damascus. And he was also delivered into the hand of the king of Israel, who smote him with a great slaughter.

## **Hezekiah destroys grove & high places**

### **II Chronicles 31:1**

v1 - Now when all this was finished, all Israel that were present went out to the cities of Judah, and brake the images in pieces, and cut down the groves, and threw down the high places and the altars out of all Judah and Benjamin, in Ephraim also and Manasseh, until they had utterly destroyed them all. Then all the children of Israel returned, every man to his possession, into their own cities.

## **Manasseh built again the idolatry (Baalim, groves, etc) that his father Hezekiah had destroyed. Manasseh beseeches the Lord and repents (12-13)**

### **II Chronicles 33:3, 19**

v3 - For he built again the high places which Hezekiah his father had broken down, and he reared up altars for Baalim, and made groves, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them.

v19 - His prayer also, and how God was intreated of him, and all his sin, and his trespass, and the places wherein he built high places, and set up groves and graven images, before he was humbled: behold, they are written among the sayings of the seers.

## **Israel's destruction for grove worship**

### **Isaiah 17:8, 9**

v8 - And he shall not look to the altars, the work of his hands, neither shall respect that which his fingers have made, either the groves, or the images.

v9 - In that day shall his strong cities be as a forsaken bough, and an uppermost branch, which they left because of the children of Israel: and there shall be desolation

## **Groves and images shall come down**

### **Isaiah 27:9**

v9 - By this therefore shall the iniquity of Jacob be purged; and this is all the fruit to take away his sin; when he maketh all the stones of the altar as chalkstones that are beaten in sunder, the groves and images shall not stand up.

## **\*Jeremiah condemns false prophets**

### **Jeremiah 2:7, 8, 22, 23**

v7 - And I brought you into a plentiful country, to eat the fruit thereof and the goodness thereof; but when ye entered, ye defiled my land, and made mine heritage an abomination.

v8 - The priests said not, Where is the LORD? and they that handle the law knew me not: the pastors also transgressed against me, and the prophets prophesied by Baal, and walked after things that do not profit.

v22 - For though thou wash thee with nitre, and take thee much soap, *yet* thine iniquity is marked before me, saith the Lord GOD.

v23 - How canst thou say, I am not polluted, I have not gone after Baalim? see thy way in the valley, know what thou hast done: *thou art* a swift dromedary traversing her ways;

### **Jeremiah 7:8, 9**

v8 - Behold, ye trust in lying words, that cannot profit.

v9 - Will ye steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense unto Baal, and walk after other gods whom ye know not;

### **Jeremiah 9:13-16**

v13 - And the LORD saith, Because they have forsaken my law which I set before them, and have not obeyed my voice, neither walked therein;

v14 - But have walked after the imagination of their own heart, and after Baalim, which their fathers taught them:

v15 - Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will feed them, even this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink.

v16 - I will scatter them also among the heathen, whom neither they nor their fathers have known: and I will send a sword after them, till I have consumed them.

### **Jeremiah 11:11-17**

v11 - Therefore thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will bring evil upon them, which they shall not be able to escape; and though they shall cry unto me, I will not hearken unto them.

v12 - Then shall the cities of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem go, and cry unto the gods unto whom they offer incense: but they shall not save them at all in the time of their trouble.

v13 - For according to the number of thy cities were thy gods, O Judah; and according to the number of the streets of Jerusalem have ye set up altars to that shameful thing, even altars to burn incense unto Baal.

v14 - Therefore pray not thou for this people, neither lift up a cry or prayer for them: for I will not hear them in the time that they cry unto me for their trouble.

v15 - What hath my beloved to do in mine house, seeing she hath wrought lewdness with many, and the holy flesh is passed from thee? when thou doest evil, then thou rejoicest.

v16 - The LORD called thy name, A green olive tree, fair, and of goodly fruit: with the noise of a great tumult he hath kindled fire upon it, and the branches of it are broken.

v17 - For the LORD of hosts, that planted thee, hath pronounced evil against thee, for the evil of the house of Israel and of the house of Judah, which they have done against themselves to provoke me to anger in offering incense unto Baal.

## **God will scatter Judah for going after Baal**

### **Jeremiah 12:14-17**

v14 - Thus saith the LORD against all mine evil neighbours, that touch the inheritance which I have caused my people Israel to inherit; Behold, I will pluck them out of their land, and pluck out the house of Judah from among them.

v15 - And it shall come to pass, after that I have plucked them out I will return, and have compassion on them, and will bring them again, every man to his heritage, and every man to his land.

v16 - And it shall come to pass, if they will diligently learn the ways of my people, to swear by my name, The LORD liveth; as they taught my people to swear by Baal; then shall they be built in the midst of my people.

v17 - But if they will not obey, I will utterly pluck up and destroy that nation, saith the LORD.

## **God will deliver Judah as a spoil for grove worship**

### **Jeremiah 17:1-3**

v1 - The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron, and with the point of a diamond: it is graven upon the table of their heart, and upon the horns of your altars;

v2 - Whilst their children remember their altars and their groves by the green trees upon the high hills.

v3 - O my mountain in the field, I will give thy substance and all thy treasures to the spoil, and thy high places for sin, throughout all thy borders.

## **God condemns Israel for offering children in the fires of Tophet to Baal in the Valley of Hinnom**

### **Jeremiah 19:1-9**

v1 - Thus saith the LORD, Go and get a potter's earthen bottle, and take of the ancients of the people, and of the ancients of the priests;

v2 - And go forth unto the valley of the son of Hinnom, which is by the entry of the east gate, and proclaim there the words that I shall tell thee,

v3 - And say, Hear ye the word of the LORD, O kings of Judah, and inhabitants of Jerusalem; Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, the which whosoever heareth, his ears shall tingle.

v4 - Because they have forsaken me, and have estranged this place, and have burned incense in it unto other gods, whom neither they nor their fathers have known, nor the kings of Judah, and have filled this place with the blood of innocents;

v5 - They have built also the high places of Baal, to burn their sons with fire for burnt offerings unto Baal, which I commanded not, nor spake it, neither came it into my mind:

v6 - Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that this place shall no more be called Tophet, nor The valley of the son of Hinnom, but The valley of slaughter.

v7 - And I will make void the counsel of Judah and Jerusalem in this place; and I will cause them to fall by the sword before their enemies, and by the hands of them that seek their lives: and their carcasses will I give to be meat for the fowls of the heaven, and for the beasts of the earth.

v8 - And I will make this city desolate, and an hissing; every one that passeth thereby shall be astonished and hiss because of all the plagues thereof.

v9 - And I will cause them to eat the flesh of their sons and the flesh of their daughters, and they shall eat every one the flesh of his friend in the siege and straitness, wherewith their enemies, and they that seek their lives, shall straiten them.

## **Jeremiah condemns the pastors of Israel**

### **Jeremiah 23:12-17, 20, 21-32**

v12 - Wherefore their way shall be unto them as slippery ways in the darkness: they shall be driven on, and fall therein: for I will bring evil upon them, even the year of their visitation, saith the LORD.

v13 - And I have seen folly in the prophets of Samaria; they prophesied in Baal, and caused my people Israel to err.

v14 - I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem an horrible thing: they commit adultery, and walk in lies: they strengthen also the hands of evildoers, that none doth return from his wickedness: they are all of them unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah.

v15 - Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets; Behold, I will feed them with wormwood, and make them drink the water of gall: for from the prophets of Jerusalem is profaneness gone forth into all the land.

v16 - Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the LORD.

v17 - They say still unto them that despise me, The LORD hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you.

v20 - The anger of the LORD shall not return, until he have executed, and till he have performed the thoughts of his heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it perfectly.

v21 - I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.

v22 - But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings.

v23 - *Am* I a God at hand, saith the LORD, and not a God afar off?

v24 - Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD.

v25 - I have heard what the prophets said, that prophesy lies in my name, saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed.

v26 - How long shall *this* be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies? yea, *they are* prophets of the deceit of their own heart;

v27 - Which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbour, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal.

v28 - The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What *is* the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD.

v29 - *Is* not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer *that* breaketh the rock in pieces?

v30 - Therefore, behold, I *am* against the prophets, saith the LORD, that steal my words every one from his neighbour.

v31 - Behold, I *am* against the prophets, saith the LORD, that use their tongues, and say, He saith.

v32 - Behold, I *am* against them that prophesy false dreams, saith the LORD, and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness; yet I sent them not, nor commanded them: therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the LORD.

## **Jeremiah pronounces judgment on Israel for Baal and Molech worship**

### **Jeremiah 32:26-35**

v26 - Then came the word of the LORD unto Jeremiah, saying,

v27 - Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?

v28 - Therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the Chaldeans, and into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and he shall take it:

v29 - And the Chaldeans, that fight against this city, shall come and set fire on this city, and burn it with the houses, upon whose roofs they have offered incense unto Baal, and poured out drink offerings unto other gods, to provoke me to anger.

v30 - For the children of Israel and the children of Judah have only done evil before me from their youth: for the children of Israel have only provoked me to anger with the work of their hands, saith the LORD.

v31 - For this city hath been to me as a provocation of mine anger and of my fury from the day that they built it even unto this day; that I should remove it from before my face,

v32 - Because of all the evil of the children of Israel and of the children of Judah, which they have done to provoke me to anger, they, their kings, their princes, their priests, and their prophets, and the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

v33 - And they have turned unto me the back, and not the face: though I taught them, rising up early and teaching them, yet they have not hearkened to receive instruction.

v34 - But they set their abominations in the house, which is called by my name, to defile it.

v35 - And they built the high places of Baal, which are in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire unto Molech; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my mind, that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin.

## **Israel's lovers are her idols and give Baal glory for fertility (corn, wine, oil, silver, gold)**

### **Hosea 2:6-23**

v6 - Therefore, behold, I will hedge up thy way with thorns, and make a wall, that she shall not find her paths.

v7 - And she shall follow after her lovers, but she shall not overtake them; and she shall seek them, but shall not find them: then shall she say, I will go and return to my first husband; for then was it better with me than now.

v8 - For she did not know that I gave her corn, and wine, and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold, which they prepared for Baal.

v9 - Therefore will I return, and take away my corn in the time thereof, and my wine in the season thereof, and will recover my wool and my flax given to cover her nakedness.

v10 - And now will I discover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and none shall deliver her out of mine hand.

v11 - I will also cause all her mirth to cease, her feast days, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts.

v12 - And I will destroy her vines and her fig trees, whereof she hath said, These are my rewards that my lovers have given me: and I will make them a forest, and the beasts of the field shall eat them.

v13 - And I will visit upon her the days of Baalim, wherein she burned incense to them, and she decked herself with her earrings and her jewels, and she went after her lovers, and forgot me, saith the LORD.

v14 - Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her.

v15 - And I will give her her vineyards from thence, and the valley of Achor for a door of hope: and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt.

v16 - And it shall be at that day, saith the LORD, that thou shalt call me Ishi; and shalt call me no more Baali.

v17 - For I will take away the names of Baalim out of her mouth, and they shall no more be remembered by their name.

v18 - And in that day will I make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground: and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely.

v19 - And I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies.

v20 - I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the LORD.

v21 - And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith the LORD, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth;

v22 - And the earth shall hear the corn, and the wine, and the oil; and they shall hear Jezreel.

v23 - And I will sow her unto me in the earth; and I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy; and I will say to them which were not my people, Thou art my people; and they shall say, Thou art my God.

## **God says, "I called you out of Egypt, you sacrificed to Baal"**

### **Hosea 11:1-3**

v1 - When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.

v2 - As they called them, so they went from them: they sacrificed unto Baalim, and burned incense to graven images.

v3 - I taught Ephraim also to go, taking them by their arms; but they knew not that I healed them.

## **Ephraim (Northern Israel) offends in Baal worship idols**

### **Hosea 13:1-2**

v1 - When Ephraim spake trembling, he exalted himself in Israel; but when he offended in Baal, he died.

v2 - And now they sin more and more, and have made them molten images of their silver, and idols according to their own understanding, all of it the work of the craftsmen: they say of them, Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves.

## **Israel worships Baal and the host of heaven**

### **Zephaniah 1:1-6**

v1 - The word of the LORD which came unto Zephaniah the son of Cushi, the son of Gedaliah, the son of Amariah, the son of Hizkiah, in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah.

v2 - I will utterly consume all things from off the land, saith the LORD.

v3 - I will consume man and beast; I will consume the fowls of the heaven, and the fishes of the sea, and the stumbling blocks with the wicked; and I will cut off man from off the land, saith the LORD.

v4 - I will also stretch out mine hand upon Judah, and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off the remnant of Baal from this place, and the name of the Chemarims with the priests;

v5 - And them that worship the host of heaven upon the housetops; and them that worship and that swear by the LORD, and that swear by Malcham;

v6 - And them that are turned back from the LORD; and those that have not sought the LORD, nor enquired for him.

## **God will cut off images and groves**

### **Micah 5:12-14**

v12 - And I will cut off witchcrafts out of thine hand; and thou shalt have no more soothsayers:

v13 - Thy graven images also will I cut off, and thy standing images out of the midst of thee; and thou shalt no more worship the work of thine hands.

v14 - And I will pluck up thy groves out of the midst of thee: so will I destroy thy cities.