

A Second Site of Burial

Commentary for March 1, 2024 — ... for the Evil Kings of Judah

The Tombs of the “good” kings of the House of David are in a cavern with connected chambers underground in bedrock, just south and below the southern wall where the Temple was above the Gihon Spring.

The prophets Ezekiel and Jeremiah each give information about the remains of “evil” kings entombed in above-ground sepulchers. Their tombs were also close to the southern wall of the Temples on top of the City of David.

Ezekiel’s Vision of the Carcasses of Kings: Ezekiel 43:7–9

Ezekiel in Chapter 43 of the Book of Ezekiel was taken into the past to view conditions at the Temple before it was destroyed. Ezekiel was taken to Babylon with a group of Jewish captives (as was Daniel and his companions) some 10+ years before Nebuchadnezzar’s army attacked and destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple. He was shown visions in Ezekiel 40:2, 43:3.

A vision quoted below describes what Ezekiel was shown: the worst kind of depravity by leaders and people of Judah and Jerusalem. It was a major cause for the Kingdom, Jerusalem, and Temple being destroyed. Ezekiel was shown the vision because he likely did not know the full story.

“**He** [Ezekiel’s angelic guide] **said to me:**

‘Son of humanity [adam], **see the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, where**

I shall tabernacle in the midst of the sons of Israel for the eon.

**No longer shall the house of Israel
DEFILE MY HOLY NAME, they and THEIR KINGS with**

[1] **their prostitutions and with**

[2] **the corpses of THEIR KINGS in their sepulchers.**

When they put their threshold [gate entrance] **by My threshold and their doorjamb beside My doorjamb with only a sidewall between Me and them, they DEFILED My holy Name with their abhorrences which they did, and I consumed them in My anger.**

Now let them put

[1] **their prostitutions and**

[2] **the corpses of their kings far from Me, and**

I will tabernacle in their midst for the eon.”

• *Ezekiel 43:7–9, CLV*

Jeremiah also talks about the burial tombs of “evil kings.” The “good kings” were buried in the ground with King David. Kings who were “part good” and “part evil” when they died were buried underground, but not with David. There are hints that this is the case.

A passage by Jeremiah tells of the bodies of the evil kings of Judah. Jeremiah, a contemporary of Ezekiel, was a prophet of YHWH for most of his long life. The Book of Jeremiah is complex, and details of its chronology are still obscure. It is not known when Jeremiah was given this prophecy below, but it seems to have been fulfilled at the second invasion of Judah by the Babylonians, when the Kingdom of Judah, Jerusalem, and the Temple were destroyed:

“In that era, averring [declaring] is Yahweh, they shall bring forth

- **the bones of the kings of Judah and**
- **the bones of its chief officials and**
- **the bones of the priests and**
- **the bones of the prophets and**
- **the bones of the dwellers of Jerusalem, from their tombs.**

They will spread them out

- **to the sun and**
- **to the moon and**
- **to all the host of the heavens**
which they loved and
which they served and
which they went after and of
which they inquired and to
which they bowed down;

they shall not be gathered nor entombed;
they shall be for manure on the surface of the ground.

And death will be chosen over life by all the remnant that remains from this evil family in all the remaining places where I have driven them away, averring [declaring] is Yahweh of hosts.”

• *Jeremiah 8:1–3, CLV*

Ezekiel tells us the crimes. Jeremiah shows us the result: dishonor of the bodies of the evil dead kings and leaders. Jeremiah’s narrative has similar elements to Ezekiel’s evil kings of Judah. Clearly the bones of the evil kings (and the leaders, and the common people) of Judah will never be found because of what was done to their remains by the Babylonians and their allies.

The evil kings and their underlings will be raised from the dead and their new physical bones will support new flesh and skin, as described in the valley of dry bones verses of Ezekiel 37:1–14. This will be after the millennium, they will experience **“the great white throne judgment”** lasting at least 1,000 years (Revelation 20:11–15). The evil kings will be loved by God, taught to love others by glorified saints, and fully reconciled to those they hated, injured, tortured, and killed. This process continues until they are forgiven, and reconciled with their victims.

In my assessment the Tombs of David will be discovered. The bodies will be intact and not desecrated, crushed, or burnt to ashes. Their bodies will be treated as “honored dead.” Perhaps they will be reburied by pious believers until Christ returns. The “good” kings will rise **to be** with Christ in the first resurrection. David, and all good kings, Isaiah, Ezekiel, Jeremiah, most all prophets of YHWH, and all believers will have a role in reconciling mankind to God.