

## God's Pronouncement Against Jerusalem

### Ezekiel 5

Group <sup>1</sup>	C	V	Description
Jerusalem's Desolation Foretold	5	1-4	Ezekiel told to shave his head & beard with a sword and spread it around the city as a sign of what God will do to the inhabitants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/3 killed by plague - Outside &amp; famine - Inside</li> <li>• 1/3 killed by sword</li> <li>• 1/3 scattered to the wind followed by the sword</li> <li>• sew some in the edges of robes and burn some with fire</li> </ul>
		5-12	God is punishing Jerusalem for abominations of idolatry
		13-17	God's wrath will serve as a warning

#### Reflections

In the movie, *The Rookie*<sup>2</sup>, a west Texas high school baseball coach is having trouble growing grass on the school's baseball field. It is discovered that deer are getting on to the field at night and eating the grass as it grows. So one of the men of the town, a store owner, tells the coach that he can solve the problem if he can keep the team off the field for a couple of weeks. The coach agrees and the store owner goes to the barber shop and gathers the hair clippings and begins spreading them around the field. The result is that the deer stay away and the grass is given a chance to grow.

You're probably wondering what this has to do with this chapter in Ezekiel. Well, Ezekiel is told by God to shave his head and beard and spread the hair around the city in thirds, each third signifying a different way that God is going to execute His judgment against Jerusalem and Judah.

It is all as a result of their idolatry, which God considered adultery against Him, since the giving of the ten commandments at Sinai after God delivered them from Egypt was in essence a marriage covenant between God and the Israelite people.

If this could happen to the Israelites some 2600 years ago, the same could happen to Christians, the Church, today, the bride of Christ. We need to take heed to this example of God's patience but also God's judgment and wrath that will fall on those who rebel against Him.

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**Key Words:** Old Testament, Prophecy, Ezekiel, Shaving, Jerusalem, God's Wrath, Famine, Sword, Dispersion, Idolatry

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#### Bibliography

Hancock, John Lee. *The Rookie*. Walt Disney Pictures, 2002. Film.

(NASB) *New American Standard Bible*. La Habra, CA: The Lockman Foundation, 1995. Print.

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1 (NASB) "Group" column from the headings in the NASB text.

2 (Hancock) <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0265662/>