

Ezekiel 16 – 19 July 2015

What does an orphan need or want to be satisfied?

A lonely, poor, cold, dirty orphan....what do they need?

Can they become more easily satisfied than someone raised rich and famous?

You ever seemed discontent with life?

Christian life ever seem boring or limited?

You dream of being more popular or rich?

Ezekiel 16 will enable us to be **satisfied** with our life by using an analogy of an orphan that becomes adopted. **Let's look at 5 acknowledgements that will enable the orphan to live satisfied.**

The 1st acknowledgement that will enable this orphan or us to live satisfied is our original helplessness.

1. Vs 1-6 – **Her original helplessness**

a. You were an outcast, not being cared for.

b. I came and rescued you.

The 2nd acknowledgement that will enable this orphan or us to live satisfied is that God's intervention was full of amazing grace!

2. Vs 7-14 – **God's grace shown to her**

a. I caused you to grow and flourish – vs 7

b. I married thee to show my unending love – vs 8

c. I gave you even more than you needed – vs 9-14

i. They're beautiful b/c of His beauty bestowed.

ii. Notice, He put all the work into making them this way...not them.

The 3rd acknowledgement that will enable this orphan or us to live satisfied is our complete selfishness.

3. Vs 15-34 – **Her sin**

a. Vs 15 – PRIDE - Your pleasure was in the gift not the Giver. It was the treasure not the Treater.

i. It's a matter of mind-set and beliefs.

1. Did they believe that they had earned these things?

2. Did they believe that these were just gifts that belong to another and could be taken in a moment?

b. Vs 16-22 – IDOLATRY

- i. They've taken their gifts from God and gifted them to their false gods or passions.
- ii. Some of us have been without a job...
 1. At new job; we praised God for His blessing and sustenance.
 2. Would we later take that money and use it for harlots & false, fleshly passions?
- iii. Vs 22 – We're told to remember our state before God.
 1. The only time the Bible even tells us to look to the past, is to remember His goodness to us.
 2. Do it right now.....

c. Vs 23-29 – ADULTERY and LEWDNESS

- i. Their independence and luxury led to total indulgence in the flesh.
 1. And it always will...apart from the Spirit of the Living God.

2. We'll see later that this is exactly what happened to Sodom.

3. Read Prov 30:8-9

ii. "Yet thou wast not satisfied herewith".

1. Satisfaction doesn't come thru the security of having the most toys.

2. Satisfaction doesn't come thru earthly relationships that ebb and flow.

3. **Satisfaction can only come thru believing that God picked us up off the trash heap of eternity and set his loving arms around us eternally.**

d. Vs 30-34 – You're giving all your gifts and treasure to your passions, but they're not giving anything good back to you. How are they helping you? They're not.

4. Vs 35-52 – **Her punishment**

a. vs 35-37 – Her judgment will be very public.

b. vs 38-42 – The very nations whom Judah was flirting and fornication with would come to judge them.

i. We flirt with gossip and then it's turned on us.

- ii. We flirt with laziness and then it's turned on us when we lose our job.
 - iii. We flirt with prescription drug use and then it's turned on us.
- c. vs 43-“Remember your youth” is to remember your position in Christ.
 - i. You were a outcast orphaned sinner
 - ii. You were then taken under the loving wing of Christ Jesus.
- d. vs 44-46 – You're behaving as if in a family with these pagan nations...and Israel.
 - i. Jesus said the Pharisees were not of Abraham but of their father the devil.
 - ii. What if today we spoke that way to false pastors that don't believe the Bible?
- e. vs 47-48 – You've not done as Sodom, you've done WORST than Sodom.
- f. vs 49-50
 - i. We think of sexual sin, but these are what led to the outward sexual sin.

- ii. Do you see the similarity with America? If not, you need to travel more or read more books.

g. vs 51-52

- i. Judah makes them look good comparatively.
- ii. We need to be people that preach a warning of sin and its judgment to come.
 - 1. We need to preach that the kingdom of God is at hand...we have a cure.
 - 2. If the hearers of our warning don't heed it, then IAW Matt 10:15, it will be more tolerable for Sodom in the Day of Judgment than for that person who wouldn't receive it.

5. Vs 53-63 – **Her restoration**

- a. vs 53-59 – Israel, Judah and Sodom will stand in the latter days with the scars of what they've put themselves thru.
 - i. Probably referring to the Millennial Kingdom.
- b. vs 60-63 –

The 4th acknowledgement that will enable this orphan or us to live satisfied is that God will remain faithful!

- i. God is always faithful regardless of our faithlessness.
- ii. Bow or be bowed
 - 1. We can humble ourselves or have this type of forces humility placed upon us.
 - 2. Don't picture scolded children being yelled at with their heads hanging.
 - a. Picture what their reaction will be after hearing Zec 12:10 & 13:6 – absolutely ashamed...of themselves.

Conclusion:

If we see ourselves any different than as this orphan, then we'll feel entitled.

May God grace us with a full understanding of His great provision and how what He provided truly is all that we need.