

James Burgess, Pastor
Compassionate
Tabernacle of Faith

*Messaging That Can't
Be Ignored*

Scripture Text

Ezekiel 4:1-3 NIV

1. "Now, son of man, take a block of clay, put it in front of you and draw the city of Jerusalem on it.
2. Then lay siege to it: Erect siege works against it, build a ramp up to it, set up camps against it and put battering rams around it.
3. Then take an iron pan, place it as an iron wall between you and the city and turn your face toward it. It will be under siege, and you shall besiege it. This will be a sign to the people of Israel.

God sometimes uses shocking methods to awaken spiritually numb people to the seriousness of sin and its consequences.

Main Thought:

Ezekiel 4:1-3 NIV

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*I. God will use
Visual
Warnings to
a pursue
Hardened
Hearts*

*God will use
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Ezekiel 4:4-9 NIV

4. "Then lie on your left side and put the sin of the people of Israel upon yourself. You are to bear their sin for the number of days you **lie on your side**.
5. I have assigned you the same number of days as the years of their sin. So for **390 days you will bear the sin of the people of Israel**.
6. "After you have finished this, lie down again, this time on your right side, and bear the sin of the people of Judah. I **have assigned you 40 days**, a day for each year. side.

*II. Sin Always
Produces
Consequences*

Ezekiel 4:4-17 NIV

7. Turn your face toward the siege of Jerusalem and with bared arm prophesy against her.
8. I will tie you up with ropes so that you cannot turn from one side to the other until you have finished the days of your siege.
9. "Take wheat and barley, beans and lentils, millet and spelt; put them in a storage jar and use them to **make bread** for yourself. You are to eat it during the 390 days you lie on your side.

*II. Sin Always
Produces
Consequences*

Ezekiel 5:1-11 NIV

1. "Now, son of man, take a sharp sword and use it as a barber's **razor to shave your head and your beard**. Then take a set of scales and **divide up the hair**.
2. When the days of your siege come to an end, **burn a third of the hair** inside the city. Take a **third and strike it with the sword all around the city**. And **scatter a third to the wind**. For I will pursue them with drawn sword.
3. **But take a few hairs and tuck them away in the folds of your garment**.
4. Again, take a few of these and throw them into the fire and burn them up. A fire will spread from there to all Israel.

*III. Violation of
God's holy
calling and
standard
brings divine
discipline*

Ezekiel 5:1-11 NIV

5. "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: This is Jerusalem, which I have set in the center of the nations, with countries all around her.
6. Yet in her wickedness she has rebelled against my laws and decrees more than the nations and countries around her. She has rejected my laws and has not followed my decrees.
7. "Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says: You have been more unruly than the nations around you and have not followed my decrees or kept my laws. You have not even conformed to the standards of the nations around you.
8. "Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself am against you, Jerusalem, and I will inflict punishment on you in the sight of the nations.

III. Violation of God's holy calling and standard brings divine discipline

Ezekiel 5:1-11 NIV

9. Because of all your detestable idols, I will do to you what I have never done before and will never do again.
10. Therefore in your midst parents will eat their children, and children will eat their parents. I will inflict punishment on you and will scatter all your survivors to the winds.
11. Therefore as surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, **because you have defiled my sanctuary with all your vile images and detestable practices**, I myself will shave you; I will not look on you with pity or spare you.

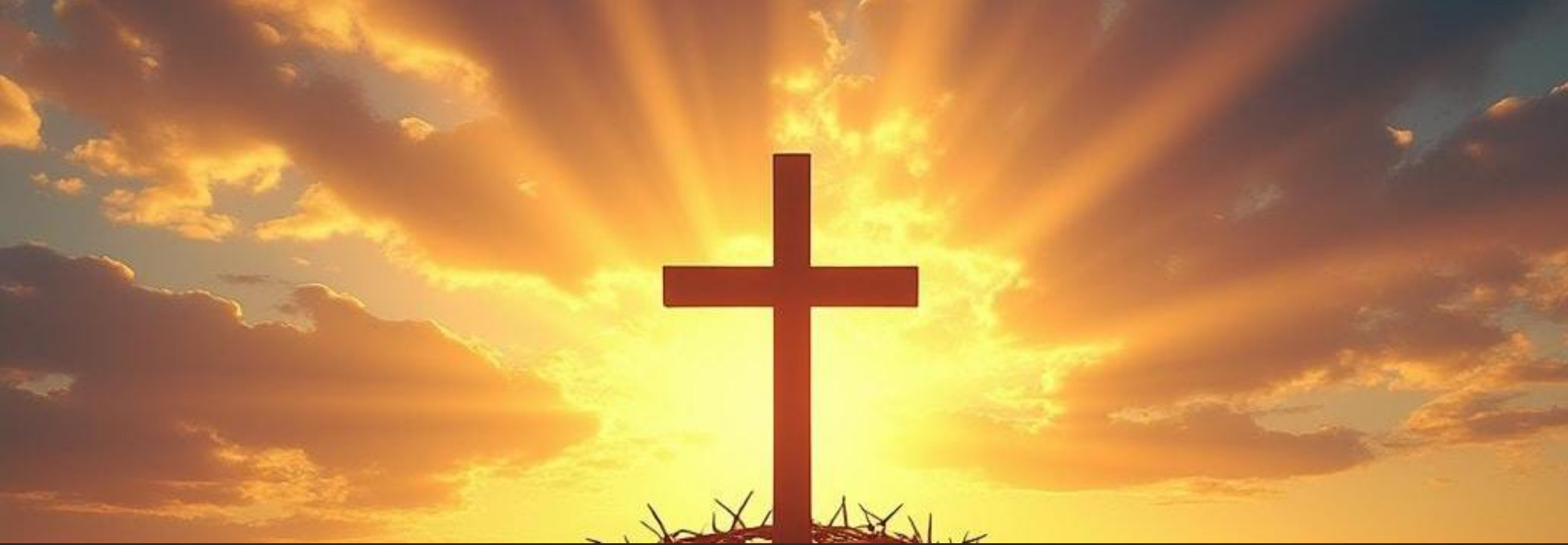
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God will use Visual Warnings
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Sin Always Produces
Consequences

Violation of God's holy
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The Message That Can't Be Ignored

THE Visual of God's LOVE!