



## Daily Verse and Comment

### Ezekiel 23:36-39

(36) And the LORD said to me, "Son of man, will you judge Oholah and Oholibah, and declare to them their abominations, (37) That they have committed adultery, and blood *is* on their hands? And they have committed adultery with their idols and have also caused their sons whom they bore to Me to pass through the fire to them, to devour them. (38) And moreover they have *also* done this to Me: They have defiled My sanctuary in that day, and have profaned My Sabbaths. (39) And when they had slain their children to their idols, then they came into My sanctuary the same day to profane it. And lo, thus have they done in the midst of My house.

*A Faithful Version*

What vile things these people were committing on God's holy [Sabbath](#) days! They worshipped idols, sacrificed their children, even burning them in the fire, and afterward, they presented themselves at the Temple services. That is horrifying! [God](#) specifically mentions that they did these things on the Sabbath—on *His* day. It shows how far idolatry will take a person, imposing its will on the actions of an individual.

We need to be very careful about this. These people were guilty of the common Israelitish [sin](#) of idolatry—syncretism, the blending of the world's way with God's way. God, of course, does not accept it as true worship. How could He? The Israelites would attend services, supposedly in honor and out of respect for the Creator God after *killing* their children in the fires of Molech!

In Ezekiel 20-23, where a brief overview of the relationship between God and Israel is presented, idolatry and profaning the Sabbath are specifically named nine times as the *major reasons* God drove Israel into captivity.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

**To learn more, see:**

**[Sabbathkeeping \(Part 1\)](#)**



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