

Ezekiel 18

King James Version (KJV)

(This chapter is about personal responsibility)

18 The word of the LORD came unto me again, saying,

² What mean ye, that ye use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying, The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge? (The answer is NO. It was a saying around Jerusalem, but it disagrees with God's Word)

See Jeremiah-31:29 (We pay for our own decisions; not our children; not our parents. We don't pay for their sins, they don't pay for ours)

³ As I live, saith the Lord GOD, ye shall not have occasion any more to use this proverb in Israel. (You will only answer for yourself and for your actions)

⁴ Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die. (God created all souls. They are His to do with as He pleases. HE can bless us greatly when we live righteously; or He can sentence our soul to die in hell on judgment day if we live an evil life)

NOTE: (Hell is not some endless suffering, as the ignorant preachers tell us. God is far more merciful. Hell is when a person's soul dies <painlessly>. They just cease to exist, and are forgotten forever)

⁵ But if a man be just, and do that which is lawful and right, (man = ish, <not adam> means any man, Gentile or Israelite)

⁶ And hath not eaten upon the mountains, neither hath lifted up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, neither hath defiled his neighbour's wife, neither hath come near to a menstrual woman, (eaten upon the mountains = grove worship to false gods, like Ishtar; rolling Easter eggs, sunrise fertility rites and orgies, etc)

⁷ And hath not oppressed any, but hath restored to the debtor his pledge, hath spoiled none by violence, hath given his bread to the hungry, and hath covered the naked with a garment; (Honest, generous, fair - physically; help people to learn the Word of God if they ask - spiritually)

⁸ He that hath not given forth upon usury, neither hath taken any increase, that hath withdrawn his hand from iniquity, hath executed true judgment between man and man, (Honest people who do their best to please God)

⁹ Hath walked in my statutes, and hath kept my judgments, to deal truly; he is just, he shall surely live, saith the Lord GOD. (Believes in God and follows His Ten Commandments)

¹⁰ If he beget a son that is a robber, a shedder of blood, and that doeth the like to any one of these things, (the son is a robber and a murderer – pure evil)

¹¹ And that doeth not any of those duties, but even hath eaten upon the mountains, and defiled his neighbour's wife, (Ishtar worship <idol worship> and adultery)

¹² Hath oppressed the poor and needy, hath spoiled by violence, hath not restored the pledge, and hath lifted up his eyes to the idols, hath committed abomination, (He is a liar, a thief, a persecutor of the poor and helpless people, an idolater)

¹³ Hath given forth upon usury, and hath taken increase: shall he then live? he shall not live: he hath done all these abominations; he shall surely die; his blood shall be upon him. (Each man is responsible for only his own actions; not his father's; not his son's. He will pay for what he did on judgment day)

¹⁴ Now, lo, if he beget a son, that seeth all his father's sins which he hath done, and considereth, and doeth not such like, (The bad guy begets a good son. He sees what a louse his father is, so he does not follow the father's evil ways. He leads a good honest life, instead)

¹⁵ That hath not eaten upon the mountains, neither hath lifted up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, hath not defiled his neighbour's wife, (He is honest, faithful to God and His Ten Commandments)

¹⁶ Neither hath oppressed any, hath not withholden the pledge, neither hath spoiled by violence, but hath given his bread to the hungry, and hath covered the naked with a garment, (He is fair and just to all people; he keeps his word; he is generous & peaceful)

¹⁷ That hath taken off his hand from the poor, that hath not received usury nor increase, hath executed my judgments, hath walked in my statutes; he shall not die for the iniquity of his father, he shall surely live. (Regardless of what his father did, the son is judged only by his deeds. He will live forever in the afterlife)

¹⁸ As for his father, because he cruelly oppressed, spoiled his brother by violence, and did that which is not good among his people, lo, even he shall die in his iniquity. (The evil father will die, regardless of how good his son is. One man cannot save another. Only God can save us)

¹⁹ Yet say ye, Why? doth not the son bear the iniquity of the father? When the son hath done that which is lawful and right, and hath kept all my statutes, and hath done them, he shall surely live. (No one is responsible for the actions of another – neither the father, nor the son)

²⁰ The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him. (Simple, and honest judgment)

²¹ But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die. (If he truly repents, asks for forgiveness, stops doing evil and starts doing good – God will forgive him and he will be saved. That is the power of God)

²² All his transgressions that he hath committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him: in his righteousness that he hath done he shall live. (Upon repentance, his sins are erased forever)

NOTE: (God judges by His laws; man judges by precedent – God's law is fair; man's law is not)

²³ Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord God: and not that he should return from his ways, and live? (God wishes that all people should repent and straighten out; they won't)

2Peter-3:9 (God is very patient with us. HE wishes that everyone would repent and live forever)

²⁴ But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? All his righteousness that he hath

done shall not be mentioned: in his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die. (He will die spiritually. If a good man turns to evil and dies while still doing evil – he will not make salvation. He will die in hell)

(The Book of Life is in Heaven with God. It's not in some church records or letters. We will be judged by what is written in the Book of Life)

²⁵ Yet ye say, The way of the LORD is not equal. Hear now, O house of Israel; Is not my way equal? are not your ways unequal? (unequal = unfair) (Man judges by precedent. God judges by right and wrong)

²⁶ When a righteous man turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and dieth in them; for his iniquity that he hath done shall he die.

²⁷ Again, when the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive. (It's not where you began that matters. It's where you end up at the end of your life – good or evil)

²⁸ Because he considereth, and turneth away from all his transgressions that he hath committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die. (That is the salvation that Jesus Christ purchased for us; when He died on the cross)

(The Kenites who framed and murdered Him will pay dearly for that sin)

²⁹ Yet saith the house of Israel, The way of the LORD is not equal. O house of Israel, are not my ways equal? are not your ways unequal? (These verses are to the house of Israel. They claim that God is not just and fair. God judges by what we think and by what we do. HE cannot be bought or influenced by others. HE is fair and unbiased; but man is not)

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord God. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. (God hopes that all people will come to repentance and live in the eternity. They won't)

³¹ Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will

ye die, O house of Israel? (Why would you choose death, when you can choose repentance, salvation and life?)

³² For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye. (God wants all His children to live for eternity)

NOTE: (It doesn't matter what this preacher said or that preacher said. There are no precedents. That's why God says that men's ways are not equal. The truth is – What does God say? It's all written here in the Bible. Church precedents, biases and judgments are irrelevant)