- 0:53Well, greetings brethren and welcome to another Wednesday night Bible study where together we study the Scriptures line upon line.
- 1:02God willing this evening, we plan to cover Ezekiel chapter 19.
- 1:08It's been a little while since we've been in the actual line by line study.
- 1:13What happened?
- 1:14We had the Q and A last week, the week before I think I might have been traveling or I forget what happened there.
- 1:21So it's been a few weeks and Ezekiel 19 is a bit of a continuation from Ezekiel 17.
- 1:29And so we'll see that as we proceed in the study.
- 1:33Let me go ahead and open with a word of prayer.
- 1:35Thanks so much for showing up.
- 1:37We'll open with a word of prayer and then I'll check the chat just to make sure that I am coming through clearly.
- 1:44And God will, will get into Ezekiel chapter 19.
- 1:48Our loving father when you come before you Lord, what a incredible blessing it is for us just to have in the middle of this week, in the middle of each week by your will, the opportunity just to pull away from the world and immerse ourselves in your word.
- 2:07We thank you so much, Father, for the faithful saints before us who stood up and risked everything so that your word could be preserved.
- 2:18We thank you God for the prophets.
- 2:21We thank you for the priests.
- 2:23We certainly thank you for the prophet Ezekiel, father, both prophet and priest.
- 2:28And we thank you that we can study His word line by line.
- 2:30We pray God that as we do.
- 2:32He'll help us to better understand not just the book of Ezekiel, but your entire body of scripture.
- 2:39And also the times that we're living in and how we ought to conduct ourselves.
- 2:45We praise you father.
- 2:46We thank you that we have you that we have Christ, that we have each other, that we have your holy spirit and we pray in the mighty name of Jesus Christ.
- 2:53Amen.
- 2:55Let me go ahead and check the chat.
- 2:59Wow, lots of brethren here.
- 3:00Welcome everyone.
- 3:02Griselda 73 Brother Ian Palmatier, Rose, Bud and Petty Milk.
- 3:09Very, very nice.
- 3:10I, in fact, I was supposed to travel this week, but my travel plans were disrupted by this massive storm that passed through.
- 3:20So hopefully all of you, see petty milk has the internet back.
- 3:24I hope all of you were safe who were in the storm's path.
- 3:28Sister Denise is on Sister Christy, Pastor Murray Judy and Chuck.
- 3:33Good evening, brother Jeff.

- 3:36Sister Donna, wow, chaw jaws.
- 3:39Wonderful Dave and Deb very, very good brother Rick four Melanin and we've got DW Mac 535356.
- 3:52Wonderful to have you.
- 3:54Wonderful.
- 3:55And brother Pastor Murray sound and audio,, audio and video are good.
- 4:00Very good.
- 4:01All right, let's jump into Ezekiel chapter 19.
- 4:05I'll go ahead and,, share my screen.
- 4:09And before we get into Ezekiel 19, actually, I, I want to start with Genesis with this, prophecy from Israel regarding his sons and specifically the metaphor or the symbology that he used regarding Judah because that's going to feature in Ezekiel 19, which is a lamentation.
- 4:39Judah should be praised and, and this metaphor, this symbolic language that Israel sets up regarding his son, Judah.
- 4:48Ezekiel contradicts it because of Judah's behavior.
- 4:53So here we see in Genesis 49 and verse nine, Judah is a lion's whelp from the prey, my son, you are gone up, he stooped down, he crouched as a lion and as an old lion who shall rouse him up.
- 5:11So you get this sense of tremendous power and conquest from Judah.
- 5:17And then in verse 10, Israel says, the scepter shall not depart from Judah nor a lawgiver from between his feet until Shiloh come and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.
- 5:34And then in verse 11, he says, binding his fall unto the vine and his donkeys called onto the choice vine.
- 5:44He washed his garments in wine and his clothes in the blood of grapes.
- 5:49So there's these two metaphors that Israel sets up for Judah.
- 5:54One is a lion's whelp or a lion.
- 5:59In fact, Christ himself is the conquering lion of the tribe of Judah.
- 6:04And the other is this vine, this this very healthy fruitful vine.
- 6:10So bear that in mind these two symbols of Judah, the lion and the vine.
- 6:16Because Ezekiel very knowledgeable priest now has this lamentation, this sturge this, this woe for this, this lament for Judah.
- 6:30And so he begins moreover, take you up a lamentation for the princes of Israel.
- 6:39So chapter 19 is a lamentation for the leaders.
- 6:45What's the saying that the fish rots from the head?
- 6:50And so there's a problem at the top and all about corruption goes cascades down from there.
- 6:56And again, this is something, a lot of these ancient dynamics we see today in our society, we see the filth and the corruption at the top and how that as a result of that cascades into society and the people, the masses throw off restraint and they become extremely corrupt because of what's happening at the top.
- 7:20So this is a lamentation for the princes, the heads of Israel and say, what is your mother, a lioness?
- 7:31So here he's bringing forth this symbology from Genesis 49.
- 7:35What is your mother, a lioness?
- 7:38She lay down among the lions or she lay down among lions.

- 7:43She nourished her whelps or her her young lions, her cubs, she nourished her whelps among young lions.
- 7:52So she's in the mix, all these powerful forces, these, these nations, powerful leaders and she's right there in the mix with her, with her young, she brought up one of her whelps.
- 8:06It became a young lion and had learned to catch the prey, it devoured men.
- 8:14So the mother, well, let's read it here.
- 8:17So this is referring to if you go to second kings 2331 it's referring to King Jez Jehovah.
- 8:26And we can see that this king, sorry, just lost my mouse here.
- 8:33Where did it go?
- 8:34There it is.
- 8:40There is sorry, we can just see that this king Jeah has he, he, he came after Josiah and Josiah was a good king.
- 8:52Je Je has has not so much.
- 8:55He was a very corrupt king.
- 8:58And we'll see this here in second kings 2331.
- 9:01He was 23 years old when he began to reign and he reigned three months in Jerusalem.
- 9:07So he didn't reign for long, but he was a wicked king.
- 9:10His mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Lina.
- 9:16And then we'll see in chapter 24 of second kings.
- 9:20So Zedekiah will come a little while after Jo has, but these are the two kings that Ezekiel is taking up a lament for.
- 9:30These are the two Whelps or the two young cubs.
- 9:34So one of them is Jehovah.
- 9:37His mother was Hemet.
- 9:39Zedekiah was 21 years old when he began to reign and he reigned 11 years in Jerusalem.
- 9:45And his mother's name was Heme, the daughter of Jeremiah of Lib.
- 9:49So they have the same mother.
- 9:52And so here, what is your mother, a lioness?
- 9:56She lay down among the lions among lions.
- 9:59She nourished her wealths among young lions.
- 10:00She brought up one of her weals.
- 10:02This is Jo HOA.
- 10:03It became a young lion and learns catch prey at devoured men.
- 10:07So we'll come to Zedekiah later, but Hamutal is the mother.
- 10:12So in a very literal sense, this is this woman bringing up her Children to be these powerful leaders, these very destructive leaders.
- 10:21But in a more figurative symbolic sense, the mother is really Judah, the mother is this this covenant people who produce kings.
- 10:34And so we'll see here what the fate of these kings will be in, in and again in the piece.
- 10:42There's this symbology or symbolism of lions.
- 10:47Let's see that at, at the head.
- 10:49Again, the fish rots from the head.
- 10:51Let's see this in Ezekiel 22.
- 10:53We'll come to this in a couple of weeks.

- 10:55God willing, there is a conspiracy of her prophets in the midst thereof.
- 11:01So we can't be naive and say, you know, everything is a conspiracy theory.
- 11:05There aren't real conspiracies, there are conspiracy facts and among the prophets, Ezekiel is calling out that there's a conspiracy among the prophets in the midst thereof.
- 11:15And, and, and the prophets are very powerful teachers because they craft the narrative where they help the people and the kings to interpret what's happening around them and, and who they are and, and what, what's possible for them.
- 11:31And so if the prophets are corrupt, they're going to empower and enable corrupt kings instead of being a check and a balance against the king, they're going to become enablers of the king's corruption.
- 11:45And so there's a conspiracy of her prophets in the midst thereof like a roaring lion ravening the prey.
- 11:52This, this is how God sees these prophets as a roaring lion ravening the prey.
- 11:58They have devoured souls, they have taken the treasure and precious things.
- 12:04They have made her many windows in the midst thereof.
- 12:09It's a conspiracy and we would be naive to trust these leaders.
- 12:16These leaders have betrayed us.
- 12:18If we were in, in this time, they've turned against us, they're devouring us.
- 12:23And I think as we study this, it's very easy for us to relate to it because of what's happening today in our society where our leaders in the Western world have in fact betrayed us. 12:42We can't trust them.
- 12:43There is a conspiracy that's the prophets.
- 12:47Then he goes on to say the priests and Ezekiel was both the prophet and the priest of a very as a priest, very informed with respect to the holiness of the Lord and the Lord's ways and, and very sensitive to the abominations of these people because he was brought up as a priest.
- 13:11But her priests have violated my law.
- 13:16The Malachi says that the people should seek the law, they should seek the Torah and judgments from the Torah, from the priests lips, but the priests have abandoned the Torah.
- 13:28And that's again, fast forward to today, not just in the broader Christian world, but even in our own covenant community.
- 13:35And I don't necessarily speak specifically of our organization.
- 13:39But the covenant community today, many have violated the law have turned from the Torah and are making up judgments from their imagination and their feelings instead of understanding the law.
- 13:52And when people come to them, they're able to point the people to the Torah and judgments from the Torah.
- 13:59Her priest have violated my law and have profaned my holy things.
- 14:05The priests who should be preserving and protecting the holy things.
- 14:10They've profaned God's holy things and they've listened to this, they've put no difference between the holy and the profane.
- 14:18And again, we fast forward to today.
- 14:20Are we highly sensitive to the difference between the holy and the profane?
- 14:26Or do we just mix everything together one day?

14:29The Sabbath Day is much the same as any other day, someone who is baptized and has the Holy Spirit is much the same as someone who doesn't.

14:37And it's just everything is all just mixed up.

14:40God is not mixed up.

14:41God is not the author of confusion.

14:43God is God is a God of separation and, and divisions and very clear boundaries and borders and separations because there's a difference between the Holy and the prophet.

14:57And I think many of us lack courage, lack backbone and want to compromise.

15:02But God wants a difference between the holy and profane.

15:06Neither have they showed difference between the unclean and the clean.

15:10They're just mixing everything together and they've hid their eyes from my Sabbath and I am profaned among them, people should be going to the priests to learn the difference between the holy and the profane.

15:23But because of the priests, God's holiness is profaned now.

15:29So we go with the profits and the priests.

15:33Now we come to the princess and this is a lamentation for the princess, her princes in the midst thereof are like wolves ravening the prey to shed blood.

15:44This, this is against their own people and, and you know, today we can see the same thing.

15:52The the most vaccinated country in the world I think is Israel or getting news this week of what's going on in New York with all these secret tunnels and it looks like these are enabling the abuse of Children and the trafficking of Children.

16:09This is what it appears based on what the investigations, this is against their own people.

16:17So we can't be fooled by displays of religiosity, long beards and beads and hats and the, the, what we care about is the heart and these, these leaders and these priests and these prophets, they're all corrupt and there's a conspiracy among them and they've turned against their own people and they're devouring souls.

16:39They're like wolves ravening the prey to shed blood and to destroy souls to get dishonest gain.

16:46These are our leaders as it was back then as it is today and, and warn to any of us if we're so naive that we think we can trust these leaders.

16:57They're full of corruption back to Ezekiel 19.

17:02So this is a lamentation.

17:03Now for these princes, these kings, these leaders who, who are sitting so pretty, sitting on so much wealth, so much power.

17:13And Ezekiel is told by God take up a lamentation for them that they're coming down.

17:19They're, they're going to be destroyed.

17:23Now, these young whelps, these young lions that I've come up in Judah, the nation's also heard of him, this young lion she has, he was taken in their pit and they brought him with chains unto the land of Egypt and Pharo Nico.

17:46Oh Sorry.

17:46This is, this is the counterpart now second kings 2333.

17:51And Pra Miko put him in bands at rib Lott in the land of Hama that he might not reign in Jerusalem and he might that he might not reign in the in the land of Jerusalem and put the land to tribute of 100 talents of silver and of gold.

18:13And Pharaoh Niko made Eliakim the son of Josiah king in the place of Josiah, his father and turned his name to Jehoash and took Jehova away and he came to Egypt and died there.

18:29So he was taken out of Jerusalem.

18:30And this is exactly what the prophet said would happen and this is now take up a lamentation.

18:36He's gone down back to Ezekiel 19.

18:41Now, when she, the mother saw that she had waited and her hope was lost so that her son was killed, then she took another of her whelps and made him a young lion.

18:54So Judas is producing these kings and he went up and down among the lions.

19:00He became a young lion and learned to catch the prey and devoured men.

19:05And this is now pointing to Sakai's reign and he knew their desolate places and he laid waste their cities and the land was desolate and the fullness thereof by the noise of his roaring.

19:20So he was a ravenous leader and he was just building his wealth and just rapacious in his, in his greed.

19:32Then the nations set against him on every side from the provinces and spread their net over him.

19:40He was taken in their pit.

19:42And you know, we can almost again see a parallel here to today with Prime Minister Netanyahu of Israel today where what he's doing with Gaza.

19:57the whole world is looking at this and saying this isn't right.

20:01And, and people who may be indifferent to what's going on in the Middle East.

20:05They're all saying no, this has to stop, cease fire.

20:09We've got to stop this.

20:11 and, and he's, he's in a very bad position.

20:13So eventually all the nations are going to surround him or him or whoever the leader will be.

20:20And so it's like before this even happens, take up a lamentation because they're going down.

20:27So, however, this king was behaving, it was just beyond the pale and the nation set against him on every side from the provinces and spread their net over him and he was taken in their pit.

20:39Here is the counterpart to this second chronicles 36 and verse six against him, came up Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and bound him in fetters to carry him to Babylon and they put him in ward and chains and brought him to the king of Babylon and brought him into hold or the prison that his voice should no more be heard upon the mountains of Israel.

20:59Here's Jeremiah's prophecy regarding this in the beginning of the reign of Jehoash, the son of Josiah king of Judah came this word unto Jeremiah from the Lord saying this is Jeremiah 27.

21:13Thus saith the Lord to me, make you bonds and yokes and put them on your neck.

21:19This is God's instruction to Jeremiah and send them to the king of Edom and to the king of Moab and to the king of the Ammonites and to the king of Tyrus and to the king of the Zyon by the hand of the messengers which come to Jerusalem unto Zedekiah king of Judah.

21:41Now many of us today would say Jeremiah don't listen to God.

21:46This is political.

21:48Do, don't be political, don't, don't have anything to do with politics.

- 21:52But the Bible is all about politics and, and the prophets are very aware of God's will regarding politics.
- 22:01And so he was to, to do this and send this message to these kings by the hand of messengers which come to Jerusalem unto Zedekiah king of Judah.
- 22:13So they're sending these messengers to Zedekiah.
- 22:16He's to present this message to them and command them to send to their masters to go back to their kings.
- 22:23Thus says, the Lord of hosts the God of Israel.
- 22:27Thus, shall you say unto your masters, I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the ground by my great power and by my outstretched arm and I've given it unto whom it seemed appropriate unto me.
- 22:44This is amazing.
- 22:44This is God participating in the politics of man because God has a will and he's making sure that his will unfolds.
- 22:55And he says, and now have I given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar? 23:02The king of Babylon.
- 23:04So God is intervening in man's affairs to say I'm setting up Nebuchadnezzar as the world's ruler and all of you kings need to submit to him.
- 23:15In fact, God calls him his servant by the hand of the hand of the hand of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, my servant and the beasts of the field.
- 23:23Have I given him also to serve him?
- 23:27And this is politics and all nations shall serve him and his son and his son's son until the very time of his land come.
- 23:38And then many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of him.
- 23:44And it shall come to pass that the nation and the kingdom which will not serve the same Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon.
- 23:54And that will not put their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon.
- 24:00That nation will I punish says the Lord with the sword and with the famine and with the pestilence until I have destroyed them by his hand.
- 24:12So God is going to empower this king and he's telling all these nations submit to him.
- 24:18And if you don't, God is saying I'm going to empower him to crush you.
- 24:24Therefore, harken not you to your profits, nor to your diviners, nor to your dreamers, nor to your enchanters, nor to your sorcerers which speak unto you saying you shall not serve the king of Babylon.
- 24:42Do.
- 24:42This is, this is the God of Israel instructing these gentile kings not to listen to their diviners and prophets and dreamers that are saying, don't serve the good with the, you know, your our foreign policy is we've got to resist B law God is saying, no, I'm gonna be involved in your foreign policy and your for foreign policy needs to cooperated with, with Nebuchadnezzar.
- 25:09So don't listen to these prophets of yours.
- 25:12So this is to the gentile nation, nations, how much more to Judah?
- 25:17Because they prophesy a lie to you to remove you far from your land and that I should drive you out and you should perish.

- 25:28But the nations that bring their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon and serve him.
- 25:36Those will I let remain still in their own land, says the Lord and they shall till it and dwell there.
- 25:43It then your mind goes on.
- 25:47I spoke of God through Jeremiah.
- 25:49I spoke also to Zedekiah king of Judah according to all these words.
- 25:54So the same instruction that was given to the gentile nations.
- 25:57God gave the same set of instructions to Zedekiah saying, bring your neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon.
- 26:06God is dictating the foreign policy to this king.
- 26:10Bring your neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon and serve him and his people and live.
- 26:15Why will you die?
- 26:17You and your people by the sword, by the famine and by the pestilence as the Lord has spoken against the nation that will not serve the king of Babylon.
- 26:28So that's the backdrop we set up in kings there, the history in kings, the prophecy in Jeremiah back to Ezekiel 19.
- 26:39Now the imagery from Ezekiel shifts from these lions, these these roaring lions that are extremely destructive.
- 26:51Israel meant the metaphor or the symbol of the lion as a praise of Judah.
- 26:56Eze Ezekiel is using it or God through Ezekiel is using it as, as a curse of Judah.
- 27:03This, this, this lion like behavior is so destructive that take up a lamentation.
- 27:10These, these people are cursed, these kings are cursed and it's a lamentation for the kings.
- 27:16Now he pivots and he uses the other symbol that Israel introduced that of the vine.
- 27:24And he says, your mother is like a vine in your blood planted by the waters.
- 27:31She was fruitful and full of branches by reason of many waters.
- 27:37And this clearly is not the just physical mother, but the mother being Judah, this, this covenant people that is producing these kings.
- 27:50He al he took also.
- 27:52So this is I said that this is a counterpart to chapter 17 which if you'll remember was the parable of the Great Eagle symbolizing Nebuchadnezzar, who the Sedeki rebelled against that in the the, the good great eagle set him up for success.
- 28:15There was an oath between them and then Zedekiah violated the oath and, and, and God's like how is this gonna stand?
- 28:23What do you, what do you expect here?
- 28:25So here Ezekiel 17, a couple of weeks ago, we did this verse five, he took also of the seed of the land and planted it in a fruitful field.
- 28:37He placed it by great waters and set it as a willow tree.
- 28:40So you can see the same concept carried forward here in chapter 19 that this vine is just really fruitful by reason of many waters.
- 28:50Well, the the metaphor of chapter 17 was the king planted it by these great waters and set it as a willow tree and it grew and became a spreading vine of low stature.
- 29:03So it's not like King Solomon where all the world is looking to his glory, but it's a there, there, there's a king and, and they're a glory, but they're a vassal state.

- 29:13They're under Nebuchadnezzar.
- 29:15So it became a spreading vine is healthy but of low stature whose branches turned toward him and the roots thereof were under him.
- 29:24So it became a vine and brought forth branches and shot forth sprigs.
- 29:30So that was the relationship that Zedekiah had when Nebuchadnezzar set him up as king back to chapter 19 verse 11.
- 29:40And she had strong rods for the scepters of them that bear rule.
- 29:45And her stature was exalted among the thick branches and she appeared in her height with the multitude of her branches.
- 29:54So she's flourishing.
- 29:56But she was plucked up in fury.
- 29:58What happened?
- 30:00She, she was actually flourishing but she was plucked up in fury.
- 30:05She was cast down to the ground and the east wind dried up her fruit, her strong rods were broken and withered, the fire destroyed them.
- 30:15So there was a turn of events here.
- 30:18She was thriving.
- 30:19She was flourishing.
- 30:20And then there was this turn of events going back to Ezekiel 17, we read verse 10, yes, behold, being planted, shall it prosper?
- 30:32Shall it not utterly wither?
- 30:33When the East wind touches it, it shall wither in the furrows where it grew.
- 30:39So because of that betrayal, God saying, is it gonna prosper?
- 30:43Moreover, the word of the Lord came unto me saying, say now to the rebellious house, know you not what these things mean.
- 30:51Tell them.
- 30:51Behold, the king of Babylon has come to Jerusalem and has taken the king thereof and the princes thereof and led them with him to Babylon.
- 31:01So there was a betrayal that we saw back in chapter 17 where he swore an oath to Babylon.
- 31:06The Connecticut, Nezar is a vassal state.
- 31:08Babylon being the Susan state, but instead of being loyal to that oath, he had a foreign policy where he thought he would go to Egypt and, and try to throw off the yoke of Babylon and that policy just it did not work out back to chapter 19 verse 13.
- 31:25And now she is planted in the wilderness in a dry and thirsty ground.
- 31:30So instead of being instead of flourishing with many waters because of this ill advised foreign policy, instead of listening to the true prophet Jeremiah, listening to the false prophets thinking that they could break away and not follow the will of God.
- 31:45Now she's planted in the wilderness in a dry and thirsty ground and fire has gone out of a rod of her branches which has devoured her fruit so that she has no strong rod to be a scepter to rule.
- 32:01So the, the scepter should not depart from Judah is what Israel pronounced.
- 32:09And now with Zedekiah, he, he brought down the whole thing brought down the whole kingdom and now she has no strong rod to be a acceptor to rule.

- 32:21This is a lamentation and shall be for a lamentation.
- 32:27So this is the, the, the judgments of God on Judah, on the house of Judah, or the house of Israel.
- 32:37And, and this, this judgment is specifically against the princes against the leaders.
- 32:43We're gonna continue a few more chapters of God's judgment against Judah, very thorough, comprehensive judgment.
- 32:50And then he's going to judge the surrounding nations.
- 32:54And then after all of this judgment, we're gonna begin to see the gospel, the good news.
- 33:01What, what, what Christ is going to enable for this very nation which is full of abomination, full of corruption, full of rebellion.
- 33:10But they're in covenant with God and God is a faithful God of covenant.
- 33:15So I'll end there for chapter 19 bit of a short chapter.
- 33:21But with the references to the other chapters, we filled that out a bit.
- 33:25Let me just go ahead and check the chat this week.
- 33:29We do have, I'll just put the card up for our Sabbath service.
- 33:35So God willing, you'll be able to join us for our Sabbath service.
- 33:39Deacon Jan.
- 33:40We will be speaking this Sabbath at 130.
- 33:44Hopefully, you'll be able to join us.
- 33:46We'll just go ahead and check the chat all good.
- 33:51Very, very good brethren.
- 33:53God bless you.
- 33:54God willing will be in Ezekiel chapter 20 next week and God willing, you'll be able to join us for Sabbath 1:30 p.m. and Deacon Jan will be speaking.
- 34:04God bless you, brother.