



EZEKIEL: *Death and Resurrection*

A Bible Study with John Oswalt

EZEKIEL 18–19

Background:

- Note that another proverbial saying was corrected in chapter 12, verse 22. The one here was evidently very popular, since it is also referred to in Jeremiah 31:29–30.
 - Chapter 19 is composed of two more allegories detailing the tragic fate of Josiah's sons.
 - A lament is a specific literary genre, marked typically by a unique meter (3 accents, then 2, 3 then 2, etc.), sometimes called a “limping” meter, and specialized vocabulary.
1. What are the people thinking when they repeat the proverb? What is wrong with that according to Ezekiel?
 2. List the qualities and behaviors of the righteous person (and the wicked) in verses 5–17. What are your observations?
 3. On verses 7, 12, 16, compare Exodus 22:26. What is the point?
 4. So what is the overall point being made? See Colossians 3:25. But how shall we square this with Exodus 34:7?
 5. What about salvation by grace? Is this salvation by works? What does this say about “sinning religion”?
 6. What is the real concern that the chapter is addressing? See verses 30–32.

7. Consider these two options: chapter 19 is either a genuine lament, expressing genuine sorrow, or a parody of a lament in which the writer is almost mocking the dead (as is the case in Isaiah 14). A case can be made for either position.
8. Why might Ezekiel have said these things about Judah's royal house?
9. Remember what has been said earlier about the royal house from Josiah to Zedekiah and see how that succession might apply here.