The Abominations of a Bloody City
Ezek. 22:1-15

Introduction:
A. Ezekiel explains why Jerusalem is about to be destroyed by Babylonians – about 600 BC.
   1. Babylon’s 20 year campaign against Jerusalem. (606-586).
   2. Three great prophets of the period: Daniel, Jeremiah and Ezekiel.
B. The conditions in Jerusalem are too close to conditions around us for comfort.

Discussion:
I. Violence.
   A. Jerusalem a bloody city (vv. 1-4, 6, 9, 12, 13).
   B. Violence becoming too common place in our society.
      1. Need to encourage attitudes and actions that prevent violence. (Matt. 5:21-26).
      2. Need to support authorities’ efforts to punish violent offenders (cf. Rom. 13:1-5).

II. Lewdness.
   A. Jerusalem was overflowing with lewdness (vv. 9-10).
   B. Lewdness is becoming all too acceptable in our society.
      1. Need to understand that open nakedness is shameful (cf. Rev. 3:18).
      2. Need to create within our selves a deeper sense of modesty. (1 Tim. 2:9; Tit. 2:5).
      3. Need to understand seriousness of sexual promiscuity. (Mt. 5:28-30; 1 Cor. 6:9-10).

III. Irreverence.
   A. Jerusalem’s irreverence ran deep.
      1. Toward parents (v. 7).
      2. Toward holy things – nothing sacred (v. 8, 26).
   B. Irreverence in our society runs deep.
      2. No difference between Lord’s things and ordinary: His day, word, assemblies, etc.

IV. Greed.
   A. Jerusalem’s greed showed several symptoms
      1. Oppression of orphans and widows (v.7).
      2. Dishonest profits (vv. 12,13).
      3. Involved in things listed above.
   B. Greed leads to many sins today. (Cf. 1 Tim. 6:6-10).

V. Idolatry.
   A. Jerusalem had turned from God to idols. (vv. 3-4).
   B. The further from God people get the more violent, lewd, irreverent, greedy they become.

Conclusion:
A. “The bloody city” was severely punished. (vv. 15-16).
B. Will that be the plight of our society?