

Ezekiel

A. Introduction

1. Title: "Ezekiel" ["Strengthened by God"] (1:3; 24:24)

¹ Notes prepared with help of The Master's Seminary BI 501 Bible Survey syllabus.

2. Date: 593 B.C. (1:2) to 571 B.C. (29:17)

Approximate Dating of Prophecies

1:2	-	July 31, 593 B.C. (cf. 3:15, 16 - Aug. 6, 593 B.C.)
8:1	-	Sept. 17, 592 B.C.
20:1	-	Aug. 14, 591 B.C.
24:1	-	Jan. 15, 588 B.C.
26:1	-	587/6 B.C.
*29:1	-	Jan. 5, 587 B.C.
*29:17	-	Apr. 26, 571 B.C.
30:20	-	Apr. 29, 587 B.C.
31:1	-	June 21, 587 B.C.
32:1	-	Mar. 3, 585 B.C.
32:17	-	Mar. 17, 585 B.C.
*33:21	-	Jan. 9, 585 B.C.
40:1	-	Apr. 28, 573 B.C.

**places where flash back or ahead; the rest of the book is in chronological order until 29:1 (thematic sequence)*

3. The First Recipients of these Prophecies: The Exiles in Babylon (1:3; 3:15; see 2 Kings 24:8-16)

✠ These exiles are the “good figs” from Jeremiah 24:

Jeremiah 24:3–10 Then the LORD said to me, “What do you see, Jeremiah?” And I said, “Figs, the good figs, very good; and the bad *figs*, very bad, which cannot be eaten due to rottenness.” ⁴ Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying, ⁵ “Thus says the LORD God of Israel, ‘Like these good figs, so I will regard as good the captives of Judah, whom I have sent out of this place *into* the land of the Chaldeans. ⁶ ‘For I will set My eyes on them for good, and I will bring them again to this land; and I will build them up and not overthrow them, and I will plant them and not pluck them up. ⁷ ‘I will give them a heart to know Me, for I am the LORD; and they will be My people, and I will be their God, for they will return to Me with their whole heart. ⁸ ‘But like the bad figs which cannot be eaten due to rottenness—indeed, thus says the LORD—so I will abandon Zedekiah king of Judah and his officials, and the remnant of Jerusalem who remain in this land and the ones who dwell in the land of Egypt. ⁹ ‘I will make them a terror *and an* evil for all the kingdoms of the earth, as a reproach and a proverb, a taunt and a curse in all places where I will scatter them. ¹⁰ ‘I will send the sword, the famine and the pestilence upon them until they are destroyed from the land which I gave to them and their forefathers.’ ”

B. Outline²

1. Prophecies of Jerusalem's Ruin (1:1-24:27)
 - a. Preparation and Commission of Ezekiel (1:1-3:27)
 - b. Proclamation of Jerusalem's Condemnation (4:1-24:27)
2. Prophecies of the Nations' Ruin (25:1-32:32)
*Ammon, Moab, Edom, Philistia, Tyre, Sidon, Egypt
3. Provision for Israel's Repentance (33:1-33)
4. Prophecies of Israel's Restoration (34:1-48:35)
 - a. Regathering of Israel to the Land (34:1-37:28)
 - b. Removal of Israel's Enemies from the Land (38:1-39:29)
 - c. Reinstatement of True Worship in Israel (40:1-46:24)
 - d. Redistribution of the Land in Israel (47:1-48:35)

C. Major Themes

1. The God of Glory (1:28; 3:12, 23; 8:4; 9:3; 10:4, 18, 19; 11:22, 23; 39:21; 43:2, 4, 5; 44:4)

Isaiah: an emphasis on the holiness of God

Jeremiah: emphasis on the sovereignty & judgment of God

Ezekiel: emphasis on the glory of God

- 1) The **definition of God's glory**: *Glory* has the idea of a display of weightiness; splendor; outward display of value, excellence; a unique standing far above others; the outward expression of the inward greatness of Yahweh
- 2) The **location of God's glory**: the glory of God is not restricted to one nation or place.

² MacArthur Study Bible, p. 1152.

3) The holiness of God's glory.

8:1-4 It came about in the sixth year, on the fifth *day* of the sixth month, as I was sitting in my house with the elders of Judah sitting before me, that the hand of the Lord GOD fell on me there. ² Then I looked, and behold, a likeness as the appearance of a man; from His loins and downward *there was* the appearance of fire, and from His loins and upward the appearance of brightness, like the appearance of glowing metal. ³ He stretched out the form of a hand and caught me by a lock of my head; and the Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven and brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem, to the entrance of the north gate of the inner *court*, where the seat of the idol of jealousy, which provokes to jealousy, was *located*. ⁴ And behold, the glory of the God of Israel *was* there, like the appearance which I saw in the plain.

8:11 Standing in front of them were seventy elders of the house of Israel, with Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan standing among them, each man with his censer in his hand and the fragrance of the cloud of incense rising.

9:1-9 Then He cried out in my hearing with a loud voice saying, "Draw near, O executioners of the city, each with his destroying weapon in his hand." ² Behold, six men came from the direction of the upper gate which faces north, each with his shattering weapon in his hand; and among them was a certain man clothed in linen with a writing case at his loins. And they went in and stood beside the bronze altar. ³ Then the glory of the God of Israel went up from the cherub on which it had been, to the threshold of the temple. And He called to the man clothed in linen at whose loins was the writing case. ⁴ The LORD said to him, "Go through the midst of the city, *even* through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and groan over all the abominations which are being committed in its midst." ⁵ But to the others He said in my hearing, "Go through the city after him and strike; do not let your eye have pity and do not spare. ⁶ "Utterly slay old men, young men, maidens, little children, and women, but do not touch any man on whom is the mark; and you shall start from My sanctuary." So they started with the elders who *were* before the temple. ⁷ And He said to them, "Defile the temple and fill the courts with the slain. Go out!" Thus they went out and struck down *the people* in the city. ⁸ As they were striking *the people* and I *alone* was left, I fell on my face and cried out saying, "Alas, Lord GOD! Are You destroying the whole remnant of Israel by pouring out Your wrath on Jerusalem?" ⁹ Then He said to me,

“The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is very, very great, and the land is filled with blood and the city is full of perversion; for they say, ‘The LORD has forsaken the land, and the LORD does not see!’

10:3–4 Now the cherubim were standing on the right side of the temple when the man entered, and the cloud filled the inner court. ⁴ Then the glory of the LORD went up from the cherub to the threshold of the temple, and the temple was filled with the cloud and the court was filled with the brightness of the glory of the LORD.

10:15 Then the cherubim rose up. They are the living beings that I saw by the river Chebar.

10:18–19 Then the glory of the LORD departed from the threshold of the temple and stood over the cherubim. ¹⁹ When the cherubim departed, they lifted their wings and rose up from the earth in my sight with the wheels beside them; and they stood still at the entrance of the east gate of the LORD’S house, and the glory of the God of Israel hovered over them.

11:1–5 Moreover, the Spirit lifted me up and brought me to the east gate of the LORD’S house which faced eastward. And behold, *there were* twenty-five men at the entrance of the gate, and among them I saw Jaazaniah son of Azzur and Pelatiah son of Benaiah, leaders of the people. ² He said to me, “Son of man, these are the men who devise iniquity and give evil advice in this city, ³ who say, ‘The time *is not near* to build houses. This *city* is the pot and we are the flesh.’ ⁴ “Therefore, prophesy against them, son of man, prophesy!” ⁵ Then the Spirit of the LORD fell upon me, and He said to me, “Say, ‘Thus says the LORD, “So you think, house of Israel, for I know your thoughts.

11:19–25 “And I will give them one heart, and put a new spirit within them. And I will take the heart of stone out of their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, ²⁰ that they may walk in My statutes and keep My ordinances and do them. Then they will be My people, and I shall be their God. ²¹ “But as for those whose hearts go after their detestable things and abominations, I will bring their conduct down on their heads,” declares the Lord GOD. ²² Then the cherubim lifted up their wings with the wheels beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel hovered over them. ²³ The glory of the LORD went up from the midst of the city and stood over the mountain which is east of the city. [what’s the mountain east of the city? Mt. of Olives] ²⁴ And the Spirit lifted me up and brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God to the exiles in

Chaldea. So the vision that I had seen left me. ²⁵ Then I told the exiles all the things that the LORD had shown me.

- When was the next time that the glory of God returned to Israel?

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Acts 1:9-12 And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. ¹¹ They also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.” [literal, bodily] ¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away.

- At the conclusion of the Tribulation, the glory will return for the Millennial reign of Christ:

Zechariah 14:3-4 “Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle. 4 In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south.”

Ezekiel 43:2-5 and behold, the glory of the God of Israel was coming from the way of the east. And His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His glory. ³ And *it was* like the appearance of the vision which I saw, like the vision which I saw when He came to destroy the city. And the visions *were* like the vision which I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell on my face. ⁴ And the glory of the LORD came into the house by the way of the gate facing toward the east. ⁵ And the Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house.

2. Ministry to a hard-hearted people

Ezekiel 3:8-9 “Behold, I have made your face as hard as their faces and your forehead as hard as their foreheads. ⁹ Like emery harder than flint I have made your forehead. Do not be afraid of them or be dismayed before them, though they are a rebellious house.”

2:1-8 Then He said to me, “Son of man, stand on your feet that I may speak with you!” ² As He spoke to me the Spirit entered me and set me on my feet; and I heard *Him* speaking to me. ³ Then He said to me, “Son of man, I am sending you to the sons of Israel, to a rebellious people who have rebelled against Me; they and their fathers have transgressed against Me to this very day. ⁴ “I am sending you to them who are stubborn and obstinate children, and you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD.’ ⁵ “As for them, whether they listen or not—for they are a rebellious house—they will know that a prophet has been among them. ⁶ “And you, son of man, neither fear them nor fear their words, though thistles and thorns are with you and you sit on scorpions; neither fear their words nor be dismayed at their presence, for they are a rebellious house. ⁷ “But you shall speak My words to them whether they listen or not, for they are rebellious. ⁸ “Now you, son of man, listen to what I am speaking to you; do not be rebellious like that rebellious house. Open your mouth and eat what I am giving you.”

3:7-11 yet the house of Israel will not be willing to listen to you, since they are not willing to listen to Me. Surely the whole house of Israel is

stubborn and obstinate. ⁸ “Behold, I have made your face as hard as their faces and your forehead as hard as their foreheads. ⁹ “Like emery harder than flint I have made your forehead. Do not be afraid of them or be dismayed before them, though they are a rebellious house.” ¹⁰ Moreover, He said to me, “Son of man, take into your heart all My words which I will speak to you and listen closely. ¹¹ “Go to the exiles, to the sons of your people, and speak to them and tell them, whether they listen or not, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD.’ ”

3. “They will know that I am Yahweh [or, Lord God]” (73x)

3 ways that Yahweh will be known:

- a. Israel Will Know That God is Yahweh through God’s Judgment (5:13; 6:7, 10, 13, 14; 7:4, 9, 27; 11:10, 12; 12:15, 16, 20; 13:3, 14, 21, 23; 14:8; 15:5; 17:21; 20:26; 22:22; 23:49; 24:24, 27; 33:29)
 - Daniel Block: “The intensity of his wrath...is directly proportional to the depth of his love. It arises out of the profundity of his covenant love. Because he feels so deeply he must respond so vigorously. His relationship with his people has been violated...” (1:14).
- b. Israel Will Know That God is Yahweh through God’s Restoration (16:62; 20:38, 42, 44; 29:21; 34:27, 30; 36:11, 38; 37:6, 13, 14; 39:22, 28)

20:40–44 “For on My holy mountain, on the high mountain of Israel,” declares the Lord GOD, “there the whole house of Israel, all of them, will serve Me in the land; there I will accept them and there I will seek your contributions and the choicest of your gifts, with all your holy things. ⁴¹ “As a soothing aroma I will accept you when I bring you out from the peoples and gather you from the lands where you are scattered; and I will prove Myself holy among you in the sight of the nations. ⁴² “And you will know that I am the LORD, when I bring you into the land of Israel, into the land which I swore to give to your forefathers. ⁴³ “There you will remember your ways and all your deeds with which you have defiled yourselves; and you will loathe yourselves in your own sight for all the evil things that you have done. ⁴⁴ “Then you will know that I am the LORD when I have dealt with

you for My name's sake, not according to your evil ways or according to your corrupt deeds, O house of Israel," declares the Lord GOD.' "

36:22-24 "Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for My holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you went. ²³ "I will vindicate the holiness of My great name which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD," declares the Lord GOD, "when I prove Myself holy among you in their sight. ²⁴ "For I will take you from the nations, gather you from all the lands and bring you into your own land.

36:30-32 "I will multiply the fruit of the tree and the produce of the field, so that you will not receive again the disgrace of famine among the nations. ³¹ "Then you will remember your evil ways and your deeds that were not good, and you will loathe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and your abominations. ³² "I am not doing *this* for your sake," declares the Lord GOD, "let it be known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your ways, O house of Israel!"

- c. The Nations Will Know that God is Yahweh Through God's Hand (21:5; 25:5, 7, 11, 17; 26:6; 28:22; 29:6, 9; 30:19, 25, 26; 32:15; 35:4, 9, 12, 15; 36:23; 37:28; 38:16, 23; 39:6, 7, 23)

- 4. "Son of Man" (93x - 2:1, 3, 6, 8; 3:1, 3, 4, 10, 17, 25; 4:1, 16; 5:1; 6:2; 7:2; 8:5, 6, 8, 12, 15, 17; 11:2, 4, 15; 12:2, 3, 9, 18, 22, 27; 13:2, 17; 14:3, 13; 15:2; 16:2; 17:2; 20:3, 4, 27, 46; 21:2, 6, 9, 12, 14, 19, 28; 22:2, 18, 24; 23:2, 36; 24:2, 16, 25; 25:2; 26:2; 27:2; 28:2, 12, 21; 29:2, 18; 30:2, 21; 31:2; 32:2, 18; 33:2, 7, 10, 12, 24, 30; 34:2; 35:2; 36:1, 17; 37:3, 9, 11, 16; 38:2, 14; 39:1, 17; 40:4; 43:7, 10, 18; 44:5; 47:6)

Ezekiel 2:1-3 Then He said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet that I may speak with you!" ² As He spoke to me the Spirit entered me and set me on my feet; and I heard *Him* speaking to me. ³ Then He said to me, "Son of man, I am sending you to the sons of Israel, to a rebellious people who have rebelled against Me; they and their fathers have transgressed against Me to this very day.

5. The House of Israel (83x – 3:1, 4, 5, 7, 17; 4:3, 4, 5; 5:4; 6:11; 8:6, 10, 11, 12; 9:9; 11:5, 15; 12:6, 9, 10, 24, 27; 13:5, 9; 14:4, 5, 6, 7, 11; 17:2; 18:6, 15, 25, 29, 30, 31; 20:5, 13, 27, 30, 31, 39, 40, 44; 22:18; 24:21; 28:24, 25; 29:6, 16, 21; 33:7, 10, 11, 20; 34:30; 35:15; 36:10, 17, 21, 22, 32, 37; 37:11, 16; 39:12, 22, 23, 25, 29; 40:4; 43:7, 10; 44:6, 12, 22; 45:6, 8, 17)/ The House of Judah (4:6; 8:17; 9:9; 25:3, 12)
6. The Temple (5:11; 8:1-11:25; 23:38, 39; 24:21; 25:3; 37:26, 28; 40:1- 46:24; 47:12; 48:21).

✠ The difficult prophecy:

24:15–24 And the word of the LORD came to me saying, ¹⁶ “Son of man, behold, I am about to take from you the desire of your eyes with a blow; but you shall not mourn and you shall not weep, and your tears shall not come. ¹⁷ “Groan silently; make no mourning for the dead. Bind on your turban and put your shoes on your feet, and do not cover *your* mustache and do not eat the bread of men.” ¹⁸ So I spoke to the people in the morning, and in the evening my wife died. And in the morning I did as I was commanded. ¹⁹ The people said to me, “Will you not tell us what these things that you are doing mean for us?” ²⁰ Then I said to them, “The word of the LORD came to me saying, ²¹ ‘Speak to the house of Israel, “Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Behold, I am about to profane My sanctuary, the pride of your power, the desire of your eyes and the delight of your soul;

and your sons and your daughters whom you have left behind will fall by the sword. ²² 'You will do as I have done; you will not cover *your* mustache and you will not eat the bread of men. ²³ 'Your turbans will be on your heads and your shoes on your feet. You will not mourn and you will not weep, but you will rot away in your iniquities and you will groan to one another. ²⁴ 'Thus Ezekiel will be a sign to you; according to all that he has done you will do; when it comes, then you will know that I am the Lord GOD.' "

- Nebuchadnezzar's destruction of the Temple is not the last word on the Jerusalem Temple (judgment; and sin; and disaster & suffering in the lives of God's people is never the last word)

Psalm 30:5 For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for a lifetime; Weeping may last for the night, but a shout of joy *comes* in the morning.

40:1-6 In the twenty-fifth year of our exile, at the beginning of the year, on the tenth of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was taken, on that same day the hand of the LORD was upon me and He brought me there. ² In the visions of God He brought me into the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain, and on it to the south there was a structure like a city. ³ So He brought me there; and behold, there was a man whose appearance was like the appearance of bronze, with a line of flax and a measuring rod in his hand; and he was standing in the gateway. ⁴ The man said to me, "Son of man, see with your eyes, hear with your ears, and give attention to all that I am going to show you; for you have been brought here in order to show it to you. Declare to the house of Israel all that you see." ⁵ And behold, there was a wall on the outside of the temple all around, and in the man's hand was a measuring rod of six cubits, each of which was a cubit and a handbreadth. So he measured the thickness of the wall, one rod; and the height, one rod. ⁶ Then he went to the gate which faced east,

went up its steps and measured the threshold of the gate, one rod in width; and the other threshold was one rod in width.

- So, what is this?

Blue-prints for the new temple; verse after verse of blue-prints.

- Could Ezekiel's temple be Herod's temple which he built/expanded in 20 BC?

Dimensional Comparison

Feature	Solomon's Temple (1 Kings 6)	Millennial Temple (Ezekiel 40-42)
Temple Building	~90 ft long x 30 ft wide x 45 ft high	~175 ft long (including the porch/Holy Place)
Total Complex	Fits within current Temple Mount area	~875 ft x 875 ft (1 mile square by some estimates)
Measuring Unit	Standard Cubit (~18 inches)	"Long Cubit" (Cubit + Handbreadth, ~21 inches)
Outer Wall	Simple courtyard	500 x 500 cubits square (approx. 875 ft)
Gatehouses	Simple entrances	Massive: ~100 ft tall, 42 ft wide, 83 ft long

- Could this new temple and city be the one described in Rev 21?

7. The Restoration of Israel & the End Times

Rough Chronology of Israel's Future Millennial Restoration in Ezek 36-48

✠ Ezek 36: The new covenant restoration of Israel

- Mass revival/salvation among Israelites end of the tribulation

Ezekiel 36:26-28 “Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ “I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances. ²⁸ “You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God.

- The earth upgraded to Edenic conditions

Ezekiel 36:35 “They will say, ‘This desolate land has become like the garden of Eden; and the waste, desolate and ruined cities are fortified *and* inhabited.’

✠ Ezek 37: The resurrection & regathering of Jews to the land

Ezekiel 37:1 The hand of the LORD was upon me, and He brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; and it was full of bones.

Ezekiel 37:11-12 Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel; behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up and our hope has perished. We are completely cut off.’ ¹² “Therefore prophesy and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I will open your graves and cause you to come up out of your graves, My people; and I will bring you into the land of Israel.

✠ Ezek 38-39: Israel attacked by Gog & Magog during the Tribulation

Ezekiel 38:1-6 the word of the LORD came to me saying, ² “Son of man, set your face toward Gog of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him ³ and say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I am against you, O Gog, prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal. ⁴ I will turn you about and put hooks into your jaws, and I

will bring you out, and all your army, horses and horsemen, all of them splendidly attired, a great company *with* buckler and shield, all of them wielding swords; ⁵ Persia, Ethiopia and Put with them, all of them *with* shield and helmet; ⁶ Gomer with all its troops; Beth-togarmah *from* the remote parts of the north with all its troops – many peoples with you.

Ezekiel 38:14–16 “Therefore prophesy, son of man, and say to Gog, “Thus says the Lord GOD, “On that day when My people Israel are living securely, will you not know *it*? ¹⁵ “You will come from your place out of the remote parts of the north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great assembly and a mighty army; ¹⁶ and you will come up against My people Israel like a cloud to cover the land. It shall come about in the last days that I will bring you against My land, so that the nations may know Me when I am sanctified through you before their eyes, O Gog.”

Ezekiel foretells a massive battle that will involve Israel’s remotest neighbors. They will attack Israel at a time when she feels secure under the false protection of the Antichrist sometime during the 7-Year Tribulation. The lands involved in the attack will include the modern-day nations of Russia, Turkey, Iran, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Libya. This is not to say that those nations will attack them (for those nations could be long gone), but the peoples living in those lands. Ezekiel first pictured the invasion by Gog and his allies (38:1–16), and then described the judgment of Gog and his allies (38:17–39:29).

✠ Ezek 40-43: The New Millennial Temple for Restored Israel

✠ Ezek 44-46: The New Millennial Worship

✠ Ezek 47-48: The New Millennial Land Boundaries for Restored Israel

47:13 Thus says the Lord GOD, “This shall be the boundary by which you shall divide the land for an inheritance among the twelve tribes of Israel; Joseph shall have two portions.

8. The Holy Spirit (1:12, 20; 2:2; 3:12, 14, 24; 8:3; 11:1, 5, 24; 36:27; 37:1, 14; 39:29; 43:5)

36:24–32 “For I will take you from the nations, gather you from all the lands and bring you into your own land. ²⁵ “Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. ²⁶ “Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ “I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances. ²⁸ “You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God. ²⁹ “Moreover, I will save you from all your uncleanness; and I will call for the grain and multiply it, and I will not bring a famine on you. ³⁰ “I will multiply the fruit of the tree and the produce of the field, so that you will not receive again the disgrace of famine among the nations. ³¹ “Then you will remember your evil ways and your deeds that were not good, and you will loathe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and your abominations. ³² “I am not doing *this* for your sake,” declares the Lord GOD, “let it be known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your ways, O house of Israel!”

Ezek 37 Dry Bones, the passage teaches:

- 1) Israel as a nation will be resurrected
- 2) Not a passage speaking on the general idea of revival
- 3) Illustration of Israel’s future reality
- 4) It is not speaking of Israel’s reconstitution as a nation in 1948 b/c rebels remain in Israel

9. The Faithful Spokesman (1:1-3:27; 33:1-31)

33:1–11 And the word of the LORD came to me, saying, ² “Son of man, speak to the sons of your people and say to them, ‘If I bring a sword upon a land, and the people of the land take one man from among them and make him their

watchman, ³ and he sees the sword coming upon the land and blows on the trumpet and warns the people, ⁴ then he who hears the sound of the trumpet and does not take warning, and a sword comes and takes him away, his blood will be on his *own* head. ⁵ 'He heard the sound of the trumpet but did not take warning; his blood will be on himself. But had he taken warning, he would have delivered his life. ⁶ 'But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet and the people are not warned, and a sword comes and takes a person from them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood I will require from the watchman's hand.' ⁷ "Now as for you, son of man, I have appointed you a watchman for the house of Israel; so you will hear a message from My mouth and give them warning from Me. ⁸ "When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you will surely die,' and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require from your hand. ⁹ "But if you on your part warn a wicked man to turn from his way and he does not turn from his way, he will die in his iniquity, but you have delivered your life. ¹⁰ "Now as for you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, 'Thus you have spoken, saying, "Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we are rotting away in them; how then can we survive?" ' ¹¹ "Say to them, 'As I live!' declares the Lord GOD, 'I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways! Why then will you die, O house of Israel?'

- Ezekiel appointed as a watchman (3, 33)

33:30-33 "But as for you, son of man, your fellow citizens who talk about you by the walls and in the doorways of the houses, speak to one another, each to his brother, saying, 'Come now and hear what the message is which comes forth from the LORD.' ³¹ "They come to you as people come, and sit before you *as* My people and hear your words, but they do not do them, for they do the lustful desires *expressed* by their mouth, *and* their heart goes after their gain. ³² "Behold, you are to them like a sensual song by one who has a beautiful voice and plays well on an instrument; for they hear your words but they do not practice them. ³³ "So when it comes to pass – as surely it will – then they will know that a prophet has been in their midst."

34:1-10 Then the word of the LORD came to me saying, ² "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel. Prophesy and say to those shepherds, 'Thus

says the Lord GOD, "Woe, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flock? ³ "You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat *sheep* without feeding the flock. ⁴ "Those who are sickly you have not strengthened, the diseased you have not healed, the broken you have not bound up, the scattered you have not brought back, nor have you sought for the lost; but with force and with severity you have dominated them. ⁵ "They were scattered for lack of a shepherd, and they became food for every beast of the field and were scattered. ⁶ "My flock wandered through all the mountains and on every high hill; My flock was scattered over all the surface of the earth, and there was no one to search or seek *for them*." ' ' ' ⁷ Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: ⁸ "As I live," declares the Lord GOD, "surely because My flock has become a prey, My flock has even become food for all the beasts of the field for lack of a shepherd, and My shepherds did not search for My flock, but *rather* the shepherds fed themselves and did not feed My flock; ⁹ therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: ¹⁰ "Thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will demand My sheep from them and make them cease from feeding sheep. So the shepherds will not feed themselves anymore, but I will deliver My flock from their mouth, so that they will not be food for them." ' ' "

D. Purpose of Ezekiel: The fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the temple were necessary measures for the God of glory to employ to correct His disobedient people; however, in the future, Yahweh will restore a repentant remnant of His people in the Millennial Kingdom to the Land and will establish them there with a new temple.

E. Bibliography

1. Exegetical:

Block, *The Book of Ezekiel* (NICOT). 2 vols.

Ralph Alexander (EBC)

2. English Interpretation:

Feinberg, *The Prophecy of Ezekiel*. (premill)

3. Expositional:

MacArthur: *Ezekiel: Redemption for God's People* (premill)

Charles Dyer *The Bible Knowledge Commentary* (premill)

Duguid, *Ezekiel* (NIVAC)