



## Bible Books Book by Book Series

# EZEKIEL

Hebrews 4:12 "For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the ideas and thoughts of the heart."

### Course Text: Ezekiel

Ezekiel began his prophetic ministry among the Jews who were first taken into captivity in Babylon, and continued until after the destruction of Jerusalem and the complete captivity of all the people. The phrase "the word of the LORD came to me saying" appears 46 times in Ezekiel. His book is remarkable in the diversity of its literary forms. It has visions, parables, prophecy, exhortations, condemnations, poetry mostly in the form of laments (such as we just learned about in the last lesson in Lamentations), temple building plans, instructions on offerings, and descriptions of how they were to divide the land when they returned. This variety makes it difficult to organize the book into an understandable outline. Ezekiel writes about the coming destruction of Jerusalem, the captivity of the remnant remaining in Judah, and the sins that led to this catastrophe. After these things actually occur, he talks about God's judgments on the various nations in the Middle East, the eventual restoration of the people to Jerusalem to the Promised Land, and the plans for a new temple. I have organized this study around the visions and parables of the book:

- Ezk 1:1-7:27 Visions of the Four Figures and of Divine Glory
- Ezk 8:1-16:63 Visions of Abominations, Slaughter and the Departure of God's Glory from the Temple
- Ezk 17:1-20:49 Parable of Two Eagles and a Vine
- Ezk 21:1-23:49 Parable of the Sword of the Lord
- Ezk 24:1-32:32 Parable of the Boiling Pot
- Ezk 33:1-36:38 Parable of the Watchman's Duty
- Ezk 37:1-39:29 Vision of the Valley of the Dry Bones
- Ezk 40:1-48:35 Visions of the Man with a Measuring Rod and God's Glory Returning to the Temple

*Notice that the book begins and ends talking about God's Glory*

### Suggested methodology:

1. Let the students have a copy of the lesson well before the class meets. (Perhaps the previous meeting)
2. The students read the Bible book and answer the questions in this lesson before the group meets.
3. At the class meeting allow time for greetings and fellowship. (Save most of this for the end)
4. Take prayer requests (Try to keep it from becoming a competition to see who has the most or the worst.)
5. Pray (The idea here is to leave our troubles with God so we can give His word our attention with a clear mind.)
6. Discuss the questions on page 9. Let those who prefer to listen, listen. My answers, when provided, are just one opinion; you may have a better answer. It might be good to establish the norm that only those who have actually read the book should discuss it aloud.
7. Discuss whatever other questions people have on their mind about the Ezekiel.
8. Close in prayer (It is best to call on others to pray, but try to get their permission ahead of time.)
9. Fellowship (Leave this as open ended as possible for the time and place you meet.)

Depending on the number of people, this class is expected to take about two hours.

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## Ezekiel Chapters 1 to 16

### The Visions of the Four Figures and of Divine Glory

The prophet Ezekiel is called by God and he prophesies about the siege of Jerusalem and its destruction. He preaches against idolatry and wickedness. Please read Ezekiel 1:1-7:27 and answer the following four questions:

- [1] What kind of faces were on the four figures? \_\_\_\_\_
- [2] What made Ezekiel stand in the God's presence? \_\_\_\_\_
- [3] What did Ezekiel do with the scroll from the hand of God? \_\_\_\_\_
- [4] Where did Ezekiel write the name of Jerusalem? \_\_\_\_\_

### The Visions of Abominations, Slaughter and the Departure of God's Glory from the Temple

Ezekiel prophesies that the rulers will be judged but that the nation will be restored. He preaches against false prophets and idolatrous elders. Even though Jerusalem will be destroyed it will be restored because God remembers his covenant. Please read Ezekiel 8:1-16:63 and answer the following four questions:

- [5] Those with the mark on their foreheads were spared death at the hands of the angel of death. Who received the mark? \_\_\_\_\_
- [6] What three men did God use as examples of righteousness? \_\_\_\_\_
- [7] What kind of lumber is less useful than vines? \_\_\_\_\_
- [8] What two nations were the mother and father of Jerusalem? \_\_\_\_\_

### The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Human.. take a sharp sword and use it like a barber's razor. **Ez 5:1**

### The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



**Ezekial 3:12** Hey Z-man.. eat a scroll.

## Ezekiel Chapters 1 to 16

### The Visions of the Four Figures and of Divine Glory

- [1] What kind of faces were on the four figures? man lion bull eagle Ezk 1:10
- [2] What made Ezekiel stand in the God's presence? The Holy Spirit Ezk 2:2
- [3] What did Ezekiel do with the scroll from the hand of God? He ate it Ezk 3:1-2
- [4] Where did Ezekiel write the name of Jerusalem? A brick Ezk 4:1

### The Visions of Abominations, Slaughter and the Departure of God's Glory from the Temple

- [5] Those with the mark on their foreheads were spared death at the hands of the angel of death. Who received the mark? People who sighed and groaned over the wickedness and abominations which were being committed. Ezk 9:4
- [6] What three men did God use as examples of righteousness? Noah, Daniel and Job Ezk 14:14 & 17
- [7] What kind of lumber is less useful than vines? Burned vines Ezk 15:2-5
- [8] What two nations were the mother and father of Jerusalem? Amorites and Hittites Ezk 16:3 & 45

### THE BACK PEW - Jeff Larson



**Not going anywhere for a while? Ez. 4:4**  
Ezekiel, lie down on your left side for 390 days.. then... turn over. **A Failed Snickers Commercial**

## Ezekiel Chapters 17 to 32

### The Parable of Two Eagles and a Vine

King Zedekiah rebels. Ezekiel preaches on God's justice, laments for the leaders of Israel, and again prophesizes the restoration of Israel. Please read Ezekiel 17:1-20:49 and answer the following two questions:

[9] What gives God no pleasure? \_\_\_\_\_

[10] Who will be the King of Israel when it is restored? \_\_\_\_\_

### The Parable of the Sword of the Lord

Ezekiel preaches against the sins of Israel, Samaria and Jerusalem. Please read Ezekiel 21:1-23:49 and answer the following two questions:

[11] How does the Sword of the Lord flash? \_\_\_\_\_

[12] What do Oholah and Oholibah represent? \_\_\_\_\_

### The Parable of the Boiling Pot

Ezekiel's wife dies. Judgments against various nations are prophesized. The restoration of Israel is again prophesized. Please read Ezekiel 24:1-32:32 and answer the following three questions.

[13] About what was Ezekiel not allowed to mourn or weep? \_\_\_\_\_

[14] Against what city did God say he would bring many nations, as waves on the sea shore? \_\_\_\_\_

[15] God said the Pharaoh thought of himself as a \_\_\_\_\_

but he was really a \_\_\_\_\_

### The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



He was always different from the rest. **Ezekial 28**

----- ANSWERS -----

**Ezekiel Chapters 17 to 32**

**The Parable of Two Eagles and a Vine**

[9] What gives God no pleasure? The death of anyone Ezk 18:32

[10] Who will be the King of Israel when it is restored? The Lord God Ezk 20:33

**The Parable of the Sword of the Lord**

[11] How does the Sword of the Lord flash? like lightning Ezk 21:10

[12] What do Oholah and Oholibah represent? Samaria and Jerusalem Ezk 23:4

**The Parable of the Boiling Pot**

[13] About what was Ezekiel not allowed to mourn or weep? The death of his wife Ezk 24:16-18

[14] Against what city did God say he would bring many nations, as waves on the sea shore?

Tyre Ezk 26:3

[15] God said the Pharaoh thought of himself as a young lion but he was really a monster in the sea.

Ezk 32:2 (Or you could answer Pharaoh thought he was *creator of the Nile* but he was really a *monster in the river* Ezk 29:3)

**The Back Pew - Jeff Larson**



After discovering her boyfriend Bruce was also dating her best friend, Katie unleashes her uncanny ability to paraphrase obscure scriptures to fit her mood.. like **Ez 22:18**

## Ezekiel Chapters 33 to 48

### The Parable of the Watchman's Duty

Jerusalem falls. Ezekiel prophesies against the leaders of Israel and Mount Seir. The restoration of Israel is again promised with the explanation that God does it for the sake of His name. Please read Ezekiel 33:1-36:38 and answer the following two questions.

[16] In this parable who is the watchman? \_\_\_\_\_

[17] Who are the sheep of God's pasture? \_\_\_\_\_

### The Vision of the Valley of the Dry Bones

The eventual reunion of Israel and Judah into a single Davidic Kingdom is prophesied. The invasion by, and demise of, Gog are prophesied. Please read Ezekiel 37:1-39:29 and answer the following two questions:

[18] What happened to the dry bones when Ezekiel prophesied over them? \_\_\_\_\_

[19] Who will be king of the reunited kingdom? \_\_\_\_\_

### The Visions of the Man with a Measuring Rod and God's Glory in the Temple

The restored temple, city and nation is prophesied in some detail. Please read Ezekiel 40:1-48:35 and answer the following two questions:

[20] Which Levitical priests were to be put in charge? \_\_\_\_\_

[21] What flowed to the east under the threshold of the temple? \_\_\_\_\_

### The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



and the Lord said, "Human, I will take your wife. She will DIE!! but don't cry loudly.

**Ez 24:15-17**

----- ANSWERS -----

**Ezekiel Chapters 33 to 48**

**The Parable of the Watchman's Duty**

[16] In this parable who is the watchman? Ezekiel Ezk 33:7

[17] Who are the sheep of God's pasture? Israel Ezk 34:30-31

**The Vision of the Valley of the Dry Bones**

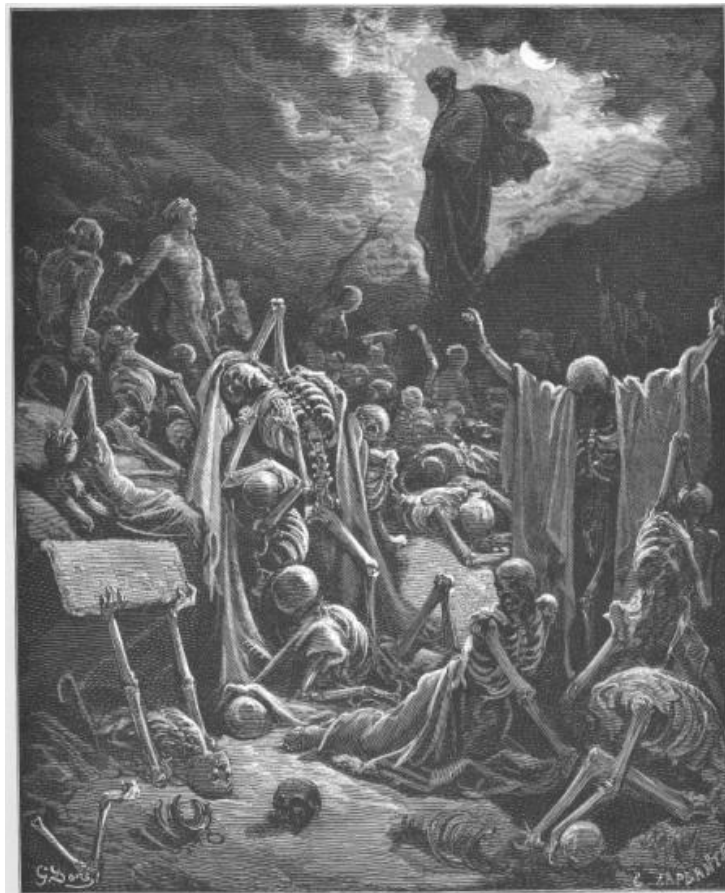
[18] What happened to the dry bones when Ezekiel prophesied over them? They grew flesh and skin  
Ezk 37:7-10 (They did not begin to live until Ezekiel prophesied to the winds.)

[19] Who will be king of the reunited kingdom? David Ezk 37:21-24

**The Visions of the Man with a Measuring Rod and God's Glory in the Temple**

[20] Which Levitical priests were to be put in charge? The sons of Zadok Ezk 40:46, 43:19, 44:15, &  
48:11 (Because they remained loyal to God when everyone else went astray)

[21] What flowed to the east under the threshold of the temple? Water Ezk 47:1-2



THE VISION OF THE VALLEY OF DRY BONES  
And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord God,  
they knowest. . . . (Ezekiel 37: 3)



(1) Compare Ezekiel 8:2 and Rev 1:9-20. Do you think Ezekiel and John were talking to the same person? Why or why not?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(2) How would you explain the Parable of Two Eagles and a Vine in Ezekiel 17:1-10?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(3) Compare Ezekiel 20:33 and Ezekiel 37:21-24. How can both of these be true?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(4) If someone asked you what Ezekiel was about what would you say?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(5) How can the lessons of Ezekiel be applied to our own life?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(6) Which verse or passage would you select to memorize from Ezekiel? Why?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions about Ezekiel, now is the time to discuss them with your classmates.

**(1) EZEKIEL 8:2** Short answer, I do not know for sure. The descriptions seem to match though. Certainly both Ezekiel and John were taken up to view heavenly visions.

**(2) EZEKIEL 17:1-10** Many theologians say the first eagle represented the King of Babylon who took many of the Jewish nobles into exile (17:12-21). They add that the second eagle symbolized the King of Egypt (17:15-21) who slaughtered the remnant.

**(3) EZEKIEL 20:33 & 37:21-24** When we try to comprehend the details of the “Prophetic future”, such as the gathering of Israel from the nations, bringing them back to their own land, David reigning over them, Christ on the throne, and the apostles on twelve thrones; Jehovah reigning over them with a *mighty hand, ... and with fury poured out*; we sometimes mix up the events. When we look at God’s dealing with them *in the wilderness of Egypt*, we are as if looking in a “rear-view” mirror, and we can view the events in their exact historical order. Paul said, *Now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now we know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known* (I Cor. 13:12). I don’t think Paul is writing about the same events as Ezekiel, but I think the same principle applies in both cases.

**(4) Ezekiel Summary** Ezekiel writes about the coming destruction of Jerusalem, the captivity of the remnant remaining in Judah, and the sins that led to this catastrophe. After these things actually occur, he talks about God's judgments on the various nations in the Middle East, the eventual restoration of the people to Jerusalem to the Promised Land, and the plans for a new temple.

**(5) Ezekiel Life Application** To me the two big lessons was that even when things are at their worst God is still at work and that God always has better plans for the future.

**(6) Something to Remember** My choice would be Ezekiel 18:32 "For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies," declares the Lord GOD. "Therefore, repent and live."