

Outline of
Ezekiel



Introduction

Writer

Ezekiel was a priest (Ezekiel 1:3) but never served in that office, as he was still a young man when he was taken captive during the reign of Jehoiachin (2 Kings 24:10-16). Daniel was taken captive in the first captivity during Jehoiakim's reign, about eight years before Ezekiel was taken captive.

Ezekiel was contemporary with Jeremiah and Daniel. Jeremiah was an old man who spoke to the remnant that remained in the land; Daniel spoke in the court of the king of Babylon; Ezekiel spoke to the captives who had been brought to the rivers of Babylon. While the other captives wept when they remembered Zion, Ezekiel exulted in the greatest visions ever given to any prophet.

His message

His message was the most spiritual of the prophets, as he dealt more with the person of God. Someone has said, "Ezekiel is the prophet of the Spirit, as Isaiah is the prophet of the Son, and Jeremiah the prophet of the Father."

During the first years of the captivity, the false prophets said that the people would be returned to Jerusalem and that the city would not be destroyed. It was not until the final deportation, during Zedekiah's reign, that the city was destroyed — some eleven years after Ezekiel was taken captive.

Jeremiah had sent a message to Babylon (Jeremiah 29) saying that the city would be destroyed. Ezekiel confirmed this message and warned the people that they must turn to God before they could return to Jerusalem.

Ezekiel began his ministry five years after his captivity, when he was about 30 years old.

His method

In many ways he spoke in the darkest days of the nation. He stood at the bottom of the valley in the darkest corner. He had to meet the false hope given by the false prophets and the indifference and the despondency begotten in the days of sin and disaster. The people would not listen to him or his message. Therefore, he resorted to a new method. Instead of speaking in parables, he acted them out (Ezekiel 24:24). We have had "flagpole sitters" and "walkathons" in our day, which attract the attention of the public. This sort of thing was the method of Ezekiel and is indicative of a day of decay.

His meaning

Ezekiel was the prophet of the glory of the Lord. Three prophets of Israel spoke when they were out of the land: Ezekiel, Daniel, and John. Each wrote an apocalypse. Although they used highly symbolic language, they saw the brightest light and held the highest hope. Ezekiel saw the Shekinah glory of the Lord leave Solomon's temple, and he saw the return of the glory of the Lord which was projected into the future during the kingdom. The meaning of Ezekiel is seen in the coming glory during the kingdom. Ezekiel looked beyond the sufferings of Christ to "the glory that should follow" (1 Peter 1:11).

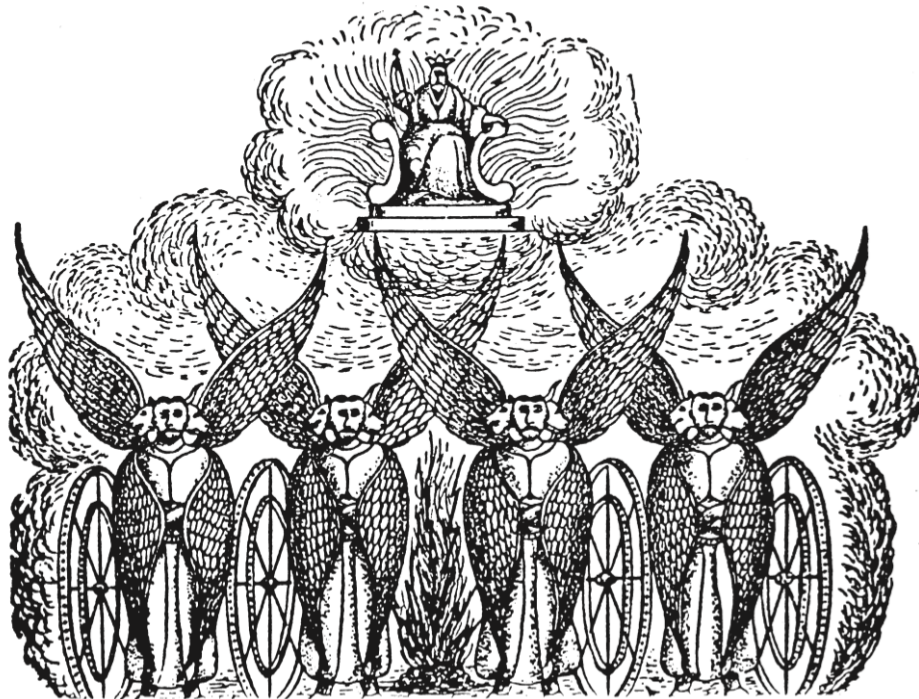
Source: Dr. John Vernon McGee (1904 – 1988), THRU THE BIBLE RADIO NETWORK

DATE B.C.	JUDAH (2)		EZEKIEL
	KINGS	PROPHETS	
	JOSIAH (640-609)	JEREMIAH (627-580)	BORN (623)
	JEHOAHAZ (609)	HABAKKUK (609)	
	JEHOIAKIM (609-597)	DANIEL (605-530)	
597	FIRST DEPORTATION		TAKEN (597)
	JEHOIAKIN (597)		CALLED (592) PROPHESED I (592-589)
	ZEDEKIAH (597-586)		
589	SIEGE OF JERUSALEM		BEREAIVED (589)
586	FALL OF JERUSALEM		PROPHESED II (586-585) PROPHESED III (567)
	NEBUCHADNEZZAR (605-562)		

RIVER CHEBAR (TEL AVIV)

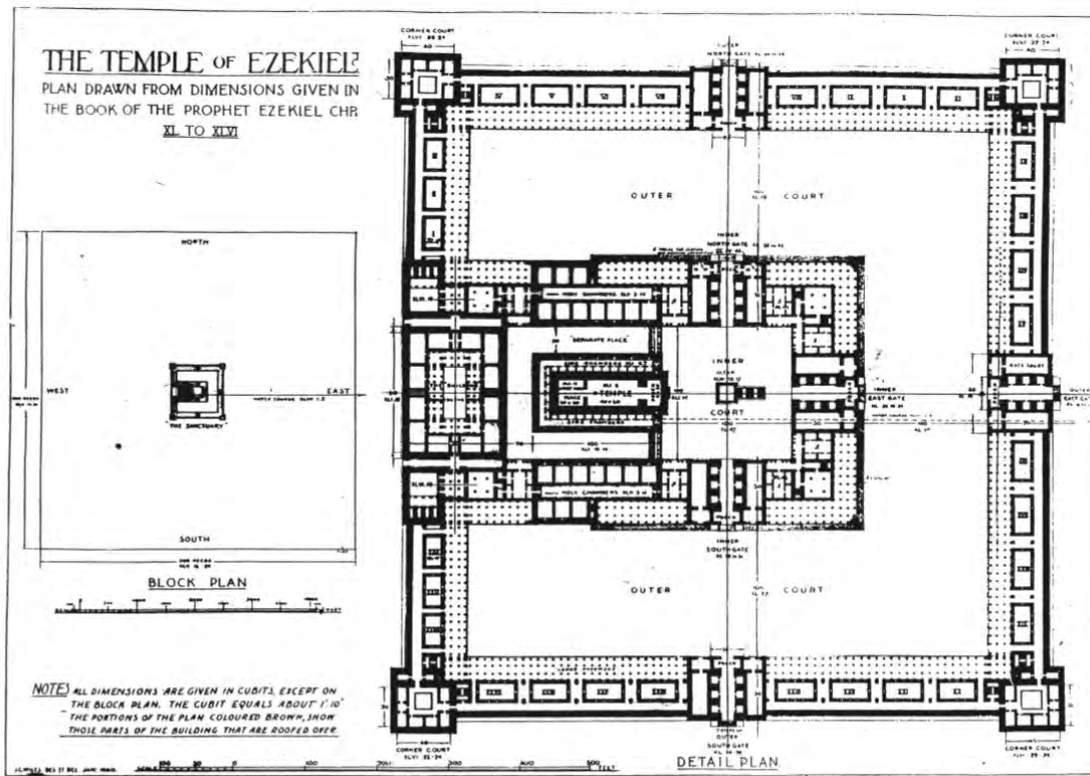


EZEKIEL'S VISION



YEAR OF EXILE	AGE OF EZEKIEL	CONTENT of PROPHECY	CHAPTERS OF BOOK
5th	30	REDEPLOYMENT of the <u>PRIEST</u> EZEKIEL	1-3
I 5th to 9th	30-33 *	RETRIBUTION for the CITY JERUSALEM 'Then <u>you</u> will know that I am....'	4-24
		JERUSALEM BESIEGED (589)	
II 11th to 12th	36-37	REVENGE on the NEIGHBOURS of JUDAH 'Then <u>they</u> will know that I am....'	25-32
		JERUSALEM DESTROYED (587)	
12th	37	RETURN FROM the EXILE in BABYLON 'Then the <u>nations</u> will know that I am....'	33-39
III 25th	50	RESTORATION of the <u>TEMPLE</u> in ISRAEL	40-48

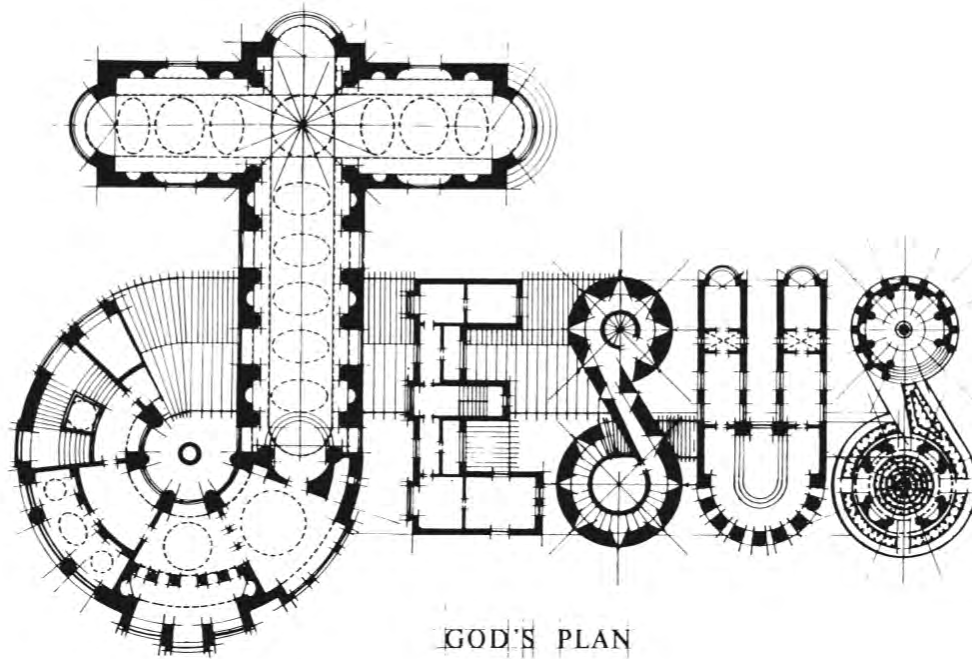
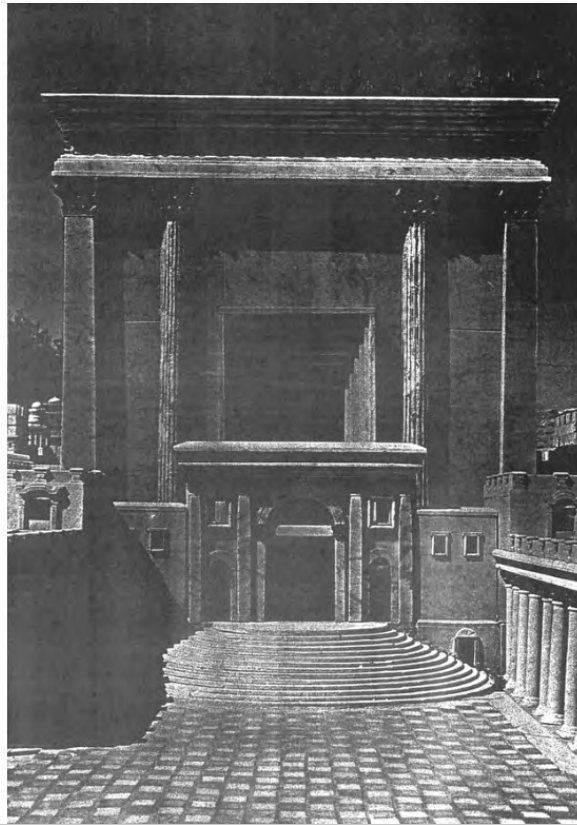
Part III



HOLYLAND MODEL (JERUSALEM IN JESUS DAY)



TEMPLE
ENTRANCE

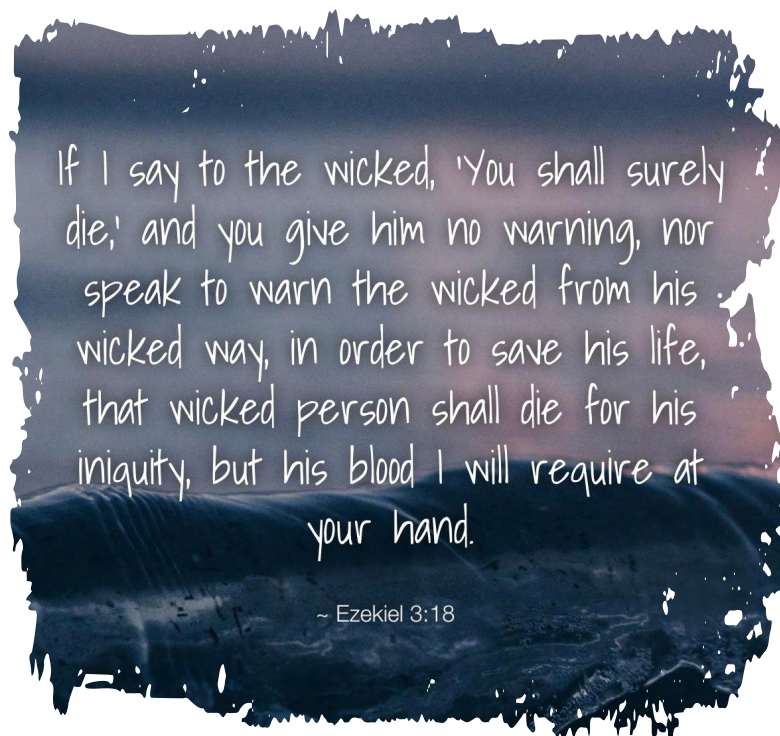


GOD'S PLAN

I. Glory of the Lord; commission of the prophet

Chapters 1 – 7

- A. Display of the glory, Chapter 1
- B. Prophet's call and enduement with power for the office, Chapter 2
- C. Prophet's preparation; office as watchman, Chapter 3
- D. Judgment of Jerusalem, Chapter 4
- E. Sign of prophet shaving hair, Chapter 5
- F. Sword to fall upon Jerusalem; remnant to be saved, Chapter 6
- G. Prophecy of final destruction of Jerusalem, Chapter 7



II. Glory of the Lord; complete captivity of Jerusalem and Israel; departure of the glory

Chapters 8 – 24

- A. Vision of the glory; temple defilement by idolatry explains its destruction, Chapter 8
- B. Shekinah glory prepares to leave temple, Chapter 9
- C. Shekinah glory fills holy place; leaves the temple, Chapter 10
- D. Prophecy against rulers of Jerusalem, Chapter 11
- E. Ezekiel enacts destruction of Jerusalem, Chapter 12
- F. Prophecy against pseudo-prophets and prophetesses, Chapter 13
- G. Prophecy against idolatry of elders; certain destruction of Jerusalem, Chapter 14
- H. Vision of the vine, Chapter 15

- I. Jerusalem likened to abandoned baby adopted by God, Chapter 16
- J. Riddle of two eagles, Chapter 17
- K. Wages of sin is death; Jerusalem is the awful example, Chapter 18
- L. Elegy of Jehovah over princes of Israel, Chapter 19
- M. Review of Israel's long history of sins; future judgment and restoration, Chapter 20
- N. King of Babylon to remove last king of Davidic line until Messiah comes, Chapter 21
- O. Review of abominations of Jerusalem, Chapter 22
- P. Parable of two sisters – Oholah (Samaria) and Oholibah (Jerusalem), Chapter 23
- Q. Parable of the boiling pot, Chapter 24

THE SOUL WHO SINS SHALL DIE.

THE SON SHALL NOT SUFFER FOR THE INIQUITY OF THE FATHER,
NOR THE FATHER SUFFER FOR THE INIQUITY OF THE SON.

THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE RIGHTEOUS SHALL BE UPON HIMSELF,
AND THE WICKEDNESS OF THE WICKED SHALL BE UPON HIMSELF.

EZEKIEL 18:20

III. Glory of the Lord; judgment of nations Chapters 25 – 32

- A. Against Ammon, Moab, Edom, Philistia, Chapter 25
- B. Against Tyre, Chapters 26 – 28
- C. Against Egypt, Chapters 29 – 32

I LOOKED FOR SOMEONE AMONG THEM
WHO WOULD BUILD UP THE WALL AND
STAND BEFORE ME IN THE GAP ON BEHALF
OF THE LAND SO I WOULD NOT HAVE TO
DESTROY IT, BUT I FOUND NO ONE.

EZEKIEL 22:30



IV. Glory of the Lord and coming kingdom

Chapters 33 – 48

- A. Recommission of the prophet, Chapters 33, 34
- B. Restoration of Israel, Chapters 35, 36
- C. Resurrection of Israel, Chapter 37
- D. Repudiation of Gog and Magog, Chapters 38, 39
- E. Rebuilt temple, Chapters 40 – 42
- F. Return of the glory of the Lord, Chapters 43 – 48



Quiz on Ezekiel

1. Who was Ezekiel and where was he a captive?

2. What would not be able to deliver them in the day of the wrath of the Lord?

3. What did Ezekiel do when he saw the appearance of the likeness of the glory of God?

4. In Chapter 24, God asked Ezekiel not to weep over the death of whom?

5. What did the false prophets say to the people in Chapter 13?

6. In Chapter 18, who was responsible for a sin committed?

7. In Chapter 22 Verse 30, who was the Lord searching for?

8. In Chapter 36, what will the Lord do to the hearts of his people?

9. What did the bones to which Ezekiel prophesied represent?

10. For what purpose did the elders of Israel come to Ezekiel, in Chapter 20?

GENEVA
BIBLE SCHOOL

