

Ezekiel

God removes His covenant presence from His people, dwelling with the exiles instead, and promises to restore His presence permanently by sending the Spirit under the new covenant

CHAPTER 1

Ezekiel Sees God on His Chariot, Introducing the Main Themes of his Vision

‘And above the firmament over their heads was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like a sapphire stone; on the likeness of the throne was a likeness with the appearance of a man high above it. Also from the appearance of His waist upward I saw, as it were, the color of amber with the appearance of fire all around within it; and from the appearance of His waist and downward I saw, as it were, the appearance of fire with brightness all around. Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the brightness all around it. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. So when I saw it, I fell on my face, and heard a voice of One speaking.’
Ezek. 1:26-28.

CHAPTER 2

The Lord Sends Ezekiel to Prophecy Whether the People Hear or Refuse, Commanding Ezekiel to Eat the Scroll as a Symbol of Assimilating God’s Word into his Life and Ministry

‘You shall speak My words to them, whether they hear or whether they refuse, for they are rebellious. But you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Do not be rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you. Now when

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I looked, there was a hand stretched out to me; and behold, a scroll of a book was in it. Then He spread it before me; and there was writing on the inside and on the outside, and written on it were lamentations and mourning and woe.' Ezek. 2:7-10.

CHAPTER 3

The Spirit of God Shows Ezekiel the Glory of the Lord in the Temple, Giving him the Terms of his Prophetic Ministry

'Nevertheless if you warn the righteous man that the righteous should not sin, and he does not sin, he shall surely live because he took warning; also you will have delivered your soul.' Ezek. 3:21.

CHAPTER 4

Ezekiel Portrays the Siege of Jerusalem Personally, Cooking his Bread Over Cow Dung

'Then the LORD said, "So shall the children of Israel eat their defiled bread among the Gentiles, where I will drive them.'" Ezek. 4:13.

CHAPTER 5

Ezekiel Shaves his Head, Sending his Hair in Thirds to the Sword, Famine, and Pestilence, Saving a Few Hairs in his Belt to Symbolize the Remnant that God Will Save

'Thus shall My anger be spent, and I will cause My fury to rest upon them, and I will be avenged; and they shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it in My zeal, when I have spent My fury upon them.' Ezek. 5:13.

CHAPTER 6

God Will Leave the Slain of Israel with their Dead Idols, and the Remnant Will Seek Him in Exile

'Yet I will leave a remnant, so that you may have some who escape the sword among the nations, when you are scattered throughout the countries. Then those of you who escape will remember Me among the nations where they are carried captive, because I was crushed by their adulterous heart which has departed from Me, and by their eyes which play the harlot after their idols; they will loathe themselves for the evils which they committed in all their abominations. And they shall

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know that I am the LORD; I have not said in vain that I would bring this calamity upon them.’ Ezek. 6:8-10.

CHAPTER 7

They Shall Know that God is the Lord When His Eye Does not Spare or Pity them, and He Punishes their Prophets, Priests, and Kings

‘Disaster will come upon disaster, and rumor will be upon rumor. Then they will seek a vision from a prophet; but the law will perish from the priest, and counsel from the elders. The king will mourn, the prince will be clothed with desolation, and the hands of the common people will tremble. I will do to them according to their way, and according to what they deserve I will judge them; then they shall know that I am the LORD.’ Ezek. 7:26-27.

CHAPTER 8

The Lord’s Presence Reappears from Chapter 1, Introducing the Next Key Section in the Book by Showing Ezekiel that the Further the People Go into the Temple, the Further from God’s Presence they Go

‘Furthermore He said to me, “Son of man, do you see what they are doing, the great abominations that the house of Israel commits here, to make Me go far away from My sanctuary? Now turn again, you will see greater abominations.”’ Ezek. 8:6.

CHAPTER 9

The Lord Sends Six Men to Destroy the City in a Vision, One of Whom Marks the Elect Remnant on their Foreheads, While the Men Defile the Temple with the Slain and the Lord’s Presence Prepares to Leave the Temple

‘Now the glory of the God of Israel had gone up from the cherub, where it had been, to the threshold of the temple. And He called to the man clothed with linen, who had the writer’s inkhorn at his side, and the LORD said to him, “Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it.”’ Ezek. 9:3-4.

CHAPTER 10

The Lord’s Glory Prepares to Depart from the Temple as the Man Casts Fire on the Rebellious City

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‘Then the glory of the LORD departed from the threshold of the temple and stood over the cherubim. And the cherubim lifted their wings and mounted up from the earth in my sight. When they went out, the wheels were beside them; and they stood at the door of the east gate of the LORD’s house, and the glory of the God of Israel was above them.’ Ezek. 10:18-19.

CHAPTER 11

The Glory of the Lord Leaves the Temple, Concluding this Section, and the Lord Encourages the Elect Remnant by Promising His Presence Among them in Exile, Placing His Law in their Hearts by Giving them New Hearts Through the Holy Spirit

‘Therefore say, “thus says the LORD God: Although I have cast them far off among the Gentiles, and though I have scattered them among the countries, yet I shall be a little sanctuary for them in the countries where they have gone ... Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new Spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God.”’ Ezek. 11:16, 19-20.

CHAPTER 12

Ezekiel Acts out Judah’s Captivity by Digging Through the Wall While Carrying his Possessions, While the People Respond that the Vision is Far Off

‘Therefore say to them, “Thus says the LORD God: None of My words will be postponed any more, but the word which I speak will be done, says the LORD God.”’ Ezek. 12:28.

CHAPTER 13

The Lord Rebukes the Foolish Prophets for Misleading the People and Killing those Who Should Live and Sparing those Who Should Die

‘Because with lies you have made the heart of the righteous sad, whom I have not made sad; and you have strengthened the hands of the wicked, so that he does not turn from his wicked way to save his life. Therefore you shall no longer envision futility nor practice divination; for I will deliver My

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people out of your hand, and you shall know that I am the LORD.' Ezek. 13:22-23.

CHAPTER 14

The Lord Rejects the Elders of Israel for Stealing the People's Hearts from God, the Lord will Remove the False Prophets Who Deceive them, and the Exile is Certain, Even if Noah, Daniel, and Job Were to Intercede for them

'Even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness, says the LORD God.' Ezek. 14:14.

CHAPTER 15

Israel is Like an Outcast Vine that is Useful for Nothing Because of their Persistent Unfaithfulness

'Thus I will make the land desolate, because they have persisted in unfaithfulness, says the LORD God.' Ezek. 15:8.

CHAPTER 16

The Lord Tells a Shocking Parable to Illustrate Israel's Unfaithfulness, Showing that they Would be Most Ashamed of their Sins When He Makes Atonement for them

'Nevertheless I will remember My covenant with you in the days of your youth, and I will establish an everlasting covenant with you. Then you will remember your ways and be ashamed, when you receive your older and your younger sisters; for I will give them to you for daughters, but not because of My covenant with you. And I will establish My covenant with you. Then you shall know that I am the LORD, that you may remember and be ashamed, and never open your mouth anymore because of your shame, when I provide you an atonement for all you have done, says the LORD God.' Ezek. 16:60-63.

CHAPTER 17

The Lord Uses a Parable of Two Eagles to Show that Israel Sinned by Going to Egypt and not Submitting to the Chaldeans, Nevertheless Promising to Plant a Remnant

'On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it; and it will bring forth boughs, and bear fruit, and be a majestic cedar.

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Under it will dwell birds of every sort; in the shadow of its branches they will dwell.' Ezek. 17:23.

CHAPTER 18

The Lord Refutes the People Who Say that the Way of the Lord is not Fair, since the Children Face Exile for the Sins of the Fathers, Calling the Wicked to Repentance and Hope

'The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself ... Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? Says the LORD God, and not that he should turn from his ways and live? ... Yet you say, "The way of the LORD is not fair." Hear now, O house of Israel, is it not My way which is fair, and your ways which are not fair?' Ezek. 18:20, 23, 25.

CHAPTER 19

Israel is Like a Vine Transplanted into the Wilderness, though her Rulers were Like Lions, Pushing them to Lament their Sad Condition

'And now she is planted in the wilderness, in a dry and thirsty land. Fire has come out from a rod of her branches and devoured her fruit, so that she has no strong branch – a scepter for ruling. This is a lamentation, and has become a lamentation.' Ezek. 19:13-14.

CHAPTER 20

The Lord Reminds Israel of His Kindness in Redeeming them from Egypt, Appealing to their Sabbath Breaking as the Example of Despising Him and Turning to Idols, and Applying the Mosaic Covenant Blessings and Curses

'I will make you pass under the rod, and bring you into the bond of the covenant ... As for you, O house of Israel, says the LORD God: Go serve every one of you his idols – and hereafter – if you will not obey Me; but profane My holy name no more with your gifts and your idols ... And there you shall remember your ways and all your doings with which you were defiled; and you shall loathe yourselves in your own sight because of all the evils that you have committed. Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have dealt with you for My name's sake, not according

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to your wicked ways nor according to your corrupt doings, O house of Israel, says the LORD.' Ezek. 20:37, 39, 43-44.

CHAPTER 21

Babylon is God's Sword to Punish Israel's Sins and those of the Nations, Beginning with Ammon

'Overthrown, overthrown, I will make it overthrown! It shall be no longer, until He comes whose right it is, and I will give it to Him.' Ezek. 21:27.

CHAPTER 22

God Rebukes Israel for Despising the Holy Things and Profaning the Sabbath, He Will Refine them Like Silver in a Furnace, and He Reproves their Prophets and Priests for not Interceding

'So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one.' Ezek. 22:30.

CHAPTER 23

Israel and Judah are Likened to Two Harlot Sisters Rebelling Against the Lord, Singling out Jerusalem for Judgment, and Making Judgment Certain

'Moreover they have done this to Me: They have defiled My sanctuary on the same day and profaned My Sabbaths. For after they had slain their children for their idols, on the same day they came into My sanctuary to profane it; and indeed thus they have done in the midst of My house.' Ezek. 23:38-39.

CHAPTER 24

Jerusalem Will be Like a Cooking Pot in the Babylonian Siege, and Ezekiel Becomes a Sign to them When his Wife Dies and he Cannot Mourn Properly

'I, the LORD, have spoken it; it shall come to pass, and I will do it; I will not hold back, nor will I spare, nor will I relent; according to your ways and according to your deeds they will judge you, says the LORD God.' Ezek. 24:14.

CHAPTER 25

The Lord Pronounces Judgment on the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Edomites, and the Philistines, Judgment Beginning with Israel's Traditional Enemies

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‘Thus says the LORD God: “Because the Philistines dealt vengefully and took vengeance with a spiteful heart, to destroy because of the old hatred.” Ezek. 25:15.

CHAPTER 26

The Lord Proclaims Judgment Against Tyre as a Paradigm for His Judgments Against All Nations

‘Son of man, because Tyre has said against Jerusalem, “Aha! She is broken who was the gateway of the peoples; now she is turned over to me; I shall be filled; she is laid waste.” Ezek. 26:2.

CHAPTER 27

The Prophet Takes Up a Lamentation for Tyre, Showing the Desolation of the Nations

‘All the inhabitants of the isles will be astonished at you; their kings will be greatly afraid, and their countenance will be troubled. The merchants among the peoples will hiss at you; You will become a horror, and be no more forever.’ Ezek. 27:35-36.

CHAPTER 28

The King of Tyre, Who Exalted himself as a god, Will Die the Death of the Uncircumcised, Sidon Will Share in her Judgment, and God Will Restore Israel

‘Thus says the LORD God: “When I have gathered the house of Israel from the peoples among whom they are scattered, and I am hallowed in them in the sight of the Gentiles, then they will dwell in their own land which I gave to My servant Jacob. And they will dwell safely there, build houses, and plant vineyards; yes, they will dwell securely, when I execute judgments on all those around them who despise them. Then they shall know that I am the LORD their God.” Ezek. 28:25-26.

CHAPTER 29

The Lord Will Judge Egypt as a Paradigm for Removing Israel’s Hope in Anyone Except the Lord

‘No longer shall it be the confidence of the house of Israel, but will remind them of their iniquity when they turned to follow them. Then they shall know that I am the LORD God.’ Ezek. 29:16.

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CHAPTER 30

The Lord Shall Strengthen Babylon Against Egypt and Pharaoh

‘Then they shall know that I am the LORD, when I have set a fire in Egypt and all her helpers are destroyed.’ Ezek. 30:8.

CHAPTER 31

God Will Cut Down Egypt Like a Great Tree

‘To which of the trees in Eden will you then be likened in glory and greatness? Yet you shall be brought down with the trees of Eden to the depths of the earth; you shall lie in the midst of the uncircumcised, with those slain by the sword. This is Pharaoh and all his multitude, says the LORD.’ Ezek. 31:18.

CHAPTER 32

The Prophets Takes Up a Concluding Lamentation for Egypt, Summarizing His Judgments Against Israel’s Enemies and Israel’s Helpers

‘Pharaoh will see them and be comforted over all his multitude, Pharaoh and all his army, slain by the sword, says the LORD God. For I have caused My terror in the land of the living; and he shall be placed in the midst of the uncircumcised with those slain by the sword, Pharaoh and all his multitude, says the LORD God.’ Ezek. 32:31-32.

CHAPTER 33

Ezekiel’s Call is Reviewed, With Reference to Chapters 3, 11, and 18, Preparing for Ezekiel’s Final Rebuke and Consolation to Israel, While the People Love Ezekiel’s Preaching, Though Failing to Hear his Message

‘Say to them: “As I live,” says the LORD God, “I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?”’ Ezek. 33:11.

CHAPTER 34

The Lord Rebukes Israel’s Shepherds Who Feed themselves Instead of the Flock, Promising to Search Out His Flock Himself by Establishing the Messiah as One Shepherd Over Them, Fulfilling the Davidic Covenant

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‘And I will establish one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them – My servant David. He shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and My servant David a prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.’ Ezek. 34:23-24.

CHAPTER 35

The Lord Will Remember His Covenant with Israel by Judging Mount Seir of the Edomites for their Envy

‘Because you have said, “These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess them,” although the LORD was there, therefore, as I live, says the LORD God, I will do according to your anger and according to the envy which you showed in your hatred against them; and I will make Myself known among them when I judge you.’ Ezek. 35:10-11.

CHAPTER 36

The Lord Takes an Oath to Restore Israel According to His Covenant with them, Removing the Causes of Judgment by Promising to Forgive their Sins and Renew their Hearts in the New Covenant

‘Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them. Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.’ Ezek. 36:25-28.

CHAPTER 37

The Lord Illustrates the Promises of Chapter 36 Through a Vision of Putting the Spirit into an Army Built from Dry Bones, Establishing the Davidic Messiah as their Shepherd, Building on Chapter 34 and the Promises of the New Covenant

‘David My servant shall be king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd; they shall also walk in My judgments and observe My statutes, and do them. Then they shall dwell in the land that I have given to Jacob My servant, where your

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fathers dwelt; and they shall dwell there, they, their children, and their children's children, forever; and My servant David shall be their prince forever. Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them, and it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; I will establish them and multiply them, and I will set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore.' Ezek. 37:24-26.

CHAPTER 38

God Raises Up Gog and Magog as a Paradigm for His Victory Over all the Enemies of His People

'Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.' Ezek. 38:23.

CHAPTER 39

Israel Will Cleanse the Land for Seven Months After God Fights for them as they Celebrate God's Covenant Faithfulness

'Then they shall know that I am the LORD their God, who sent them into captivity among the nations, but also brought them back to their land, and left none of them captive any longer. And I will not hide My face from them anymore; for I shall have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel, says the LORD God.' Ezek. 39:28.

CHAPTER 40

Ezekiel Begins His Final Vision of the Lord Restoring His Presence in Covenant with His People Through the Image of an Idyllic Enormous Temple

'The chamber which faces north is for the priests who have charge of the altar; these are the sons of Zadok, from the sons of Levi, who come near the LORD to minister to Him.' Ezek. 40:46.

CHAPTER 41

The Angel Measures the Holy Place and the Area for the Temple

'He measured the length, twenty cubits; and the width, twenty cubits, beyond the sanctuary; and he said to me, "This is the Most Holy Place.'" Ezek. 41:4.

CHAPTER 42

The Lord Shows the Chambers for the Priests to Lead in Worship

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‘When the priests enter them, they shall not go out of the holy chamber into the outer court; but there they shall leave their garments in which they minister, for they are holy. They shall put on other garments; then they may approach that which is for the people.’ Ezek. 42:14.

CHAPTER 43

The Glory of the Lord from Ezekiel’s First Vision Comes to Dwell in the Idyllic Temple, Signifying His Restored Covenant Presence

‘And He said to me, “Son of man, this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, where I dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever. No more shall the house of Israel defile My holy name, they nor their kings, by their harlotry or with the carcasses of their kings on their high places.”’ Ezek. 43:7.

CHAPTER 44

The Prince May Feast in God’s Presence, Fulfilling the Davidic Covenant, While no one Uncircumcised in Heart or in Flesh May Enter the Temple, and God Regulates the Priesthood

‘And the LORD said to me, “This gate shall be shut; it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter by it, because the LORD God of Israel has entered by it; therefore it shall be shut. As for the prince, because he is the prince, he may sit in it to eat bread before the LORD; he shall enter by way of the vestibule of the gateway, and go out by the same way.”’ Ezek. 44:2-3.

CHAPTER 45

The Lord Sections Off the Holy District Around the Sanctuary, Makes Provisions for the Prince, and Directs Israel to the Day of Atonement

‘The land shall be his possession in Israel; and My princes shall no more oppress My people, but they shall give the rest of the land to the house of Israel, according to their tribes.’ Ezek. 45:8.

CHAPTER 46

The Lord Restores Sabbath Worship, Orders the Prince to Respect Inheritance Laws, and Regulates the Offerings

‘Thus says the LORD God, “The gateway of the inner court that faces toward the east shall be shut six working days; but

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on the Sabbath it shall be opened, and on the day of the New Moon it shall be opened.” Ezek. 46:1.

CHAPTER 47

The Lord Signifies the Blessings of the New Covenant by Sending Healing Waters from the Temple to Heal the Nations, Incorporating Strangers into Israel

‘Along the bank of the river, on this side and that, will grow all kinds of trees used for food; their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. They will bear fruit every month, because their water flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for medicine.’ Ezek. 47:12.

CHAPTER 48

The Lord Appoints New Divisions of the Tribes in the Land, Revolving Around the Holy District, and the Lord Fulfills His Covenant by Dwelling with His People

‘All the way around shall be eighteen thousand cubits; and the name of the city from that day shall be: THE LORD IS THERE.’ Ezek. 48:35.