

LESSON 20: Ezekiel

LOGOS

A General and Light Survey of the Bible

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(REVISED) TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Lesson 1:	Overview
Lesson 2:	Genesis
Lesson 3:	Exodus
Lesson 4:	Leviticus
Lesson 5:	Numbers
Lesson 6:	Deuteronomy
Lesson 7:	Joshua
Lesson 8:	Judges, Ruth
Lesson 9:	1st & 2nd Samuel
Lesson 10:	1st & 2nd Kings
Lesson 11:	1st & 2nd Chronicles
Lesson 12:	Ezra, Nehemiah
Lesson 13:	Esther
Lesson 14:	Job
Lesson 15:	Psalms
Lesson 16:	Proverbs
Lesson 17:	Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs

--- SUMMER ---

Lesson 18:	Isaiah
Lesson 19:	Jeremiah, Lamentations
Lesson 20:	Ezekiel
September 25, 2024:	Daniel
October 2, 2024:	Hosea, Joel, Amos
October 9, 2024:	Obadian, Jonah, Micah
October 16, 2024:	Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah
October 23, 2024:	Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi
October 30, 2024:	INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT
November 6, 2024:	The Synoptics (Matthew, Mark, Luke)
November 13, 2024:	John
November 20, 2024:	Acts
November 27, 2024:	Romans

--- ADVENT / CHRISTMAS ---

January 8, 2025:	1st & 2nd Corinthians
January 15, 2025:	Galatians
January 22, 2025:	Ephesians
January 29, 2025:	Colossians
February 5, 2025:	1st & 2nd Thessalonians
February 12, 2025:	1st & 2nd Timothy
February 19, 2025:	Titus, Philemon
February 26, 2025:	Hebrews
March 5, 2025:	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>
March 12, 2025:	James
March 19, 2025:	1st & 2nd Peter, Jude
March 26, 2025:	1st, 2nd, 3rd John
April 2, 2025:	Revelation

Lesson 20

EZEKIEL

- Ezekiel was among the Jews taken captive by King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon when King Jehoiachin was captured in 597BC.
- Like Jeremiah, Ezekiel was a priest, as well as a prophet.
- He was thirty years old when he began his prophetic ministry to the Jews in Babylon and continued for about 20 years.

OUTLINE

- **Judgment on Judah (chaps. 1–24)**
 - Ezekiel's preparation (chaps. 1–3)
 - *In my thirtieth year... while I was among the exiles by the Kebar River, the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God... it was the fifth year of the exile of King Jehoiachin... (1:1-2)*
 - In a vision Ezekiel saw a thunderstorm. Amid the storm a light glowed brightly. In the light he saw four humanoid creatures (identified in chapter 10 as angels) each with four faces and four wings. They were standing upright, and their feet were calf-like. Two of the wings of each creature were outstretched so that their wings touched one another, forming a square. The front of each angel was the face of a man, and on the right side was the face of a lion. On the left was the face of an ox, and the face of an eagle was in the back. Looking below the angels, Ezekiel saw some wheels. Each wheel sparkled with a yellow-green glow. They intersected at right angles and could roll in four directions without being turned. The rims of the wheels were covered with eyes, possibly representing the all-seeing nature of God. Above their wings was a great expanse of shining brilliance. When the angels moved their wings, they made a loud sound like water rushing down a mountain stream. When they stopped Ezekiel became aware of the voice of God seated on the throne. He had the appearance of God's glory (Jesus?).
 - Ezekiel responded in humble submission, falling facedown, as he heard the voice of God speak. (1:4-28)
 - *He said to me, "Son of man, stand up on your feet and I will speak to you... I am sending you to the Israelites, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against me... The people to whom I am sending you are obstinate and stubborn... they will know that a prophet has been among them... do not be afraid of them or their words... You must speak my words to them, whether they listen or fail to listen..." Then I looked, and I saw a hand stretched out to me. In it was a scroll... On both sides of it were written words of lament and mourning and woe. And he said to me, "...eat this*

scroll; then go and speak to the people of Israel.” So, I ate it, and it tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth... Then the Spirit lifted me up, and I heard behind me a loud rumbling sound as the glory of the LORD rose from the place where it was standing... The Spirit then lifted me up and took me away, and I went in bitterness and in the anger of my spirit, with the strong hand of the LORD on me. I came to the exiles who lived at Tel Aviv... And there, where they were living, I sat among them for seven days—deeply distressed. (2:1-3:15)

- Ezekiel’s prophecies against Judah and Jerusalem (chaps. 4–24)
 - *He then said to me: “Son of man, I am about to cut off the food supply in Jerusalem. The people will eat rationed food in anxiety and drink rationed water in despair... They will be appalled at the sight of each other and will waste away because of their sin” (4:16-17).*
 - *“Now... take a sharp sword and... shave your head and your beard. Then take a set of scales and divide up the hair... burn a third of the hair... Take a third and strike it with the sword... And scatter a third to the wind... But take a few hairs and tuck them away in the folds of your garment... This is what the Sovereign LORD says: ‘This is Jerusalem... She has rejected my laws and has not followed my decrees... I myself am against you, Jerusalem, and I will inflict punishment on you in the sight of the nations... Therefore, in your midst parents will eat their children, and children will eat their parents... I will inflict punishment on you and will scatter all your survivors to the winds... I will not look on you with pity or spare you. A third of your people will die of the plague or perish by famine... a third will fall by the sword... and a third I will scatter to the winds and pursue with drawn sword... You will be a reproach and a taunt, a warning and an object of horror to the nations around you... I the LORD have spoken.’” (5:1-17)*
 - *Ezekiel prophesied the departure of God’s glory from the Temple in Jerusalem (10)*
 - *The word of the LORD came to me: “Son of man, the people of Jerusalem have said of your fellow exiles and all the other Israelites, ‘They are far away from the LORD; this land was given to us as our possession.’ Therefore say: ‘Although I sent them far away among the nations and scattered them among the countries... I will gather you from the nations and bring you back from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you back the land of Israel again... I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them... They will be my people, and I will be their God... Then the vision I had seen went up from me,*

and I told the exiles everything the LORD had shown me. (11:14-25)

- Ezekiel prophesied judgement on false prophets and idolaters both among the exiles and in Jerusalem (13-14)
- *The word of the LORD came to me: “Son of man, if a country sins against me by being unfaithful and I stretch out my hand against it to cut off its food supply and send famine upon it and kill its people and their animals, even if these three men — Noah, Daniel and Job — were in it, they could save only themselves by their righteousness, declares the Sovereign LORD” (14:12-14)..*
- God compared Jerusalem to a useless vine and an adulterous wife. (15-16)
- *The word of the LORD came to me: “Son of man, with one blow I am about to take away from you the delight of your eyes. Yet do not lament or weep or shed any tears. Groan quietly; do not mourn for the dead...” So, I spoke to the people in the morning, and in the evening my wife died... I did as I had been commanded. Then the people asked me, “Won’t you tell us what these things have to do with us? Why are you acting like this?” So, I said to them, “This is what the Sovereign LORD says: ‘I am about to desecrate my sanctuary... the delight of your eyes, the object of your affection. The sons and daughters you left behind will fall by the sword... You will not mourn or weep but will waste away because of your sins and groan among yourselves... When this happens, you will know that I am the Sovereign LORD.’ “And you, son of man, on the day I take away their stronghold, their joy and glory, the delight of their eyes, their heart’s desire, and their sons and daughters as well... a fugitive will come to tell you the news. At that time your mouth will be opened; you will speak with him and will no longer be silent. So, you will be a sign to them, and they will know that I am the LORD.” (24:15-27)*
- **Judgment on Gentile Nations (chaps. 25–32)**
 - Ammon: *“Because you said ‘Aha!’ over my sanctuary when it was desecrated and over the land of Israel when it was laid waste and over the people of Judah when they went into exile, therefore I am going to give you to the people of the East... Because you have clapped your hands and stamped your feet, rejoicing with all the malice of your heart against the land of Israel, therefore I will stretch out my hand against you and give you as plunder to the nations. I will wipe you out from among the nations and exterminate you from the countries. I will destroy you, and you will know that I am the LORD” (25:3-7).*
 - Moab: *“Because Moab and Seir said, ‘Look, Judah has become like all the other nations,’ therefore I will expose the flank of Mo-*

ab... I will give Moab along with the Ammonites to the people of the East... I will inflict punishment on Moab. Then they will know that I am the LORD” (25:8-11).

- Edom: *“‘Because Edom took revenge on Judah... I will lay it waste... they will know my vengeance,’ declares the Sovereign Lord” (25:12-14).*
- Philistia: *“Because the Philistines acted in vengeance and took revenge with malice in their hearts, and with ancient hostility sought to destroy Judah... I am about to stretch out my hand against the Philistines... I will carry out great vengeance on them and punish them in my wrath. Then they will know that I am the Lord...” (25:15-17)*
- Tyre: *“...because Tyre has said of Jerusalem, ‘Aha! The gate to the nations is broken, and its doors have swung open to me; now that she lies in ruins I will prosper,’ ...I am against you, Tyre... From the north I am going to bring against Tyre Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon... with horses and chariots, with horsemen and a great army” (26:1-28:19)*
- Sidon: *“I am against you, Sidon, and among you I will display my glory. You will know that I am the Lord, when I inflict punishment on you... I will send a plague upon you and make blood flow in your streets... Then you will know that I am the Lord” (28:20-26).*
- Egypt: *“I am against you, Pharaoh king of Egypt, you great monster lying among your streams. You say, ‘The Nile belongs to me; I made it for myself.’ But I will put hooks in your jaws... I will pull you out from among your streams... I will leave you in the desert, you and all the fish of your streams. You will fall on the open field and not be gathered or picked up. I will give you as food to the beasts of the earth and the birds of the sky” (chaps. 29-32).*
- **Blessings on Israel (chaps. 33-48)**
 - New life for Israel (chaps. 33-39)
 - *In the twelfth year of our exile, in the tenth month on the fifth day, a man who had escaped from Jerusalem came to me and said, “The city has fallen!” (33:21).*
 - *“Woe to you shepherds of Israel who only take care of yourselves! Should not shepherds take care of the flock? You eat the curds, clothe yourselves with the wool and slaughter the choice animals, but you do not take care of the flock. You have not strengthened the weak or healed the sick or bound up the injured. You have not brought back the strays or searched for the lost. You have ruled them harshly and brutally... My sheep wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill. They were scattered over the whole earth, and no one searched or looked for them... because my shepherds did not search for my flock but cared for themselves rather than for my flock... I am against the*

shepherds and will hold them accountable for my flock. I will remove them from tending the flock... I will rescue my flock from their mouths...” (34:1-10).

- *“...It is not for your sake, people of Israel, that I am going to do these things, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone. I will show the holiness of my great name... Then the nations will know that I am the Lord... I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land... I will cleanse you from all your impurities... I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees... Then you will live in the land I gave your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God... On the day I cleanse you from all your sins, I will resettle your towns, and the ruins will be rebuilt... I the Lord have spoken, and I will do it.’* (36:16-36)
- *The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” I said, “Sovereign Lord, you alone know.” Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! ...I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life... Then you will know that I am the Lord.’ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it... breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.’ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.* (37:1-10)
- New order for Israel (chaps. 40–48)
 - Prophecies about the restored Temple (chaps. 40–43)
 - Prophecies about the restored priesthood and worship (chaps. 44–46)
 - Prophecies about a restored land (chaps. 47–48)