

WSC26

Q: How does Christ execute the office of a king?

A: Christ executes the office of a king, in subduing us to himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all his and our enemies.

# Ezekiel: Judgment and Redemption

NCPC Sunday School

2/6/2022

## I. Background

- a. Author: Ezekiel
  - i. “God makes strong”
  - ii. Deported by Nebuchadnezzar (597 BC)
  - iii. Called “son of man”
- b. Genre – Prophecy
  - i. Visions
  - ii. Oracles
  - iii. Sign-acts

DQ: Should the Israelites have found it odd that Ezekiel would rely so much on visual depictions of God’s message? Should we?

## II. Setting

- a. Israel’s trust of other nations
- b. Deportation
- c. Destruction of Jerusalem

## III. Outline<sup>3</sup>

### I. Ezekiel's Call and Commissioning (1:1-3:27)

- A. Preface: The Prophets Social and Physical Location (1:1-3)
- B. The Vision of the Divine Throne-Chariot (1:4-28)
- C. The Prophet's Call (2:1-3:15)
- D. Commissioned as a Watchman (3:16-27)

### II. Oracles of Doom (4:1-24:27) A. Prophecies Against Jerusalem and Her Land (4:1-7:27)

- 1. Sign-Act #1: The Besieged Brick (4:1-3)
- 2. Sign-Act #2: The Prone Prophet (4:4-8)
- 3. Sign-Act #3: The Siege Diet (4:9-17)
- 4. Sign-Act #4: The Shaved Head (5:1-4)
- 5. Interpretation of the Sign-Acts (5:5-17)
- 6. Judgment on the Mountains of Israel (6:1-14)
- 7. The End Is Nigh (7:1-27)

- B. The Vision of the Temple (8:1-11:25)
  - 1. Four Scenes of Abomination (8:1-18)
  - 2. The Visionary Destruction of Jerusalem (9:1-11)
  - 3. The Departure of the Divine Throne-Chariot From

Temple (10:1-22)

4. Judgment on Israel's Leaders (11:1-15)

5. Hope for the Exiles (11:16-25)

C. Further Oracles of Judgment (12:1-24:27) DQ: Why does God use such shocking language to explain the sinfulness of Israel? Is this necessary or appropriate?

1. A Sign-Act of Preparing For Exile (12:1-20)

2. Prophecy Will No Longer Be Delayed (12:21-28)

3. False Prophets and Prophetesses Will No Longer Be Tolerated (13:1-23)

4. Internal Idolatry Condemned (14:1-11)

5. Divine Judgment Unavoidable (14:12-23)

6. The Parable of the Worthless Vine (15:1-8)

7. The Parable of the Unfaithful Wife (16:1-63)

8. The Parable of the Vine and Two Eagles (17:1-24)

9. The Proverb of Sour Grapes Answered (18:1-32) 10. The Parable of the Two Lion Cubs (19:1-9)

11. The Parable of the Uprooted Vine (19:10-14)

12. Israel's History of Rebellion (20:1-44)

13. The Song of the Sword (20:45-21-32)

14. The Indictment of Jerusalem (22:1-31)

15. The Parable of the Two Adulterous Sisters (23:1-49)

16. The Parable of the Cooking Pot (24:1-14)

17. The Death of Ezekiel's Wife; The End of Jerusalem Is Nigh (24:15-27)

III. Oracles Against the Nations (25:1-32:32)

DQ: How is it fair for God to use foreign nations for his righteous purpose of judging Israel, then judge very nation that he just used?

A. An Oracle Against Ammon (25:1-7)

B. An Oracle Against Moab (25:8-11)

C. An Oracle Against Edom (25:12-14)

D. An Oracle Against Philistia (25:15-17)

E. An Oracle Against Tyre and Her Ruler (26:1-28:19)

F. An Oracle Against Sidon (28:20-23)

G. Judgment for the Nations Means Salvation for Israel (28:24-26)

H. An Oracle Against Egypt and Her Ruler (29:1-32:32)

IV. Oracles of Good News (33:1-48:35)

A. The Turning Point (33:1-33)

1. The Prophet's Commission and the Call to Repentance (33:1-20)

2. The News of Jerusalem's Fall Received (33:21-22)

3. Challenge to Those Remaining in the Land and to Those in Exile (33:23-33)

B. Oracles of Restoration (34:1-37:28)

1. A New Shepherd (34:1-31)
2. A Renewed Land (35:1-36:15)
3. A Renewed Covenant (36:16-38)
4. A Renewed People (37:1-14)
5. A Renewed Unity (37:15-28)
- C. The New Order Put to the Final Test (38:1-39:29)
  1. The Raising Up and Defeat of Gog (38:1-23)
  2. The Final Disposal of Gog (39:1-29)
- D. The Renewed Temple (40:1-48:35)
  1. The Formation of the Sacred Space (40:1-42:20)
  2. The Filling of the Sacred Space (43:1-46:24)
  3. The Sacred Life-Giving River (47:1-12)
  4. The Redivision of the Renewed Land and City (47:13-48:35)

## IV. Key Themes

- a. God's glory, holiness, and sovereignty
  - i. The chariot-throne
  - ii. Destruction of high places
  - iii. The new temple
- b. The sinfulness of man
  - i. Son of man
  - ii. Judgment of the covenant
  - iii. Egypt
  - iv. The valley of dry bones
- c. Restoration and redemption
  - i. Exile before restoration
  - ii. The remnant
  - iii. The stream of the temple

## V. Christ in Ezekiel

- a. Ezekiel
  - i. Starts his ministry at age 30
  - ii. Consumes the word of God
  - iii. Son of man
  - iv. Word become flesh
- b. The suffering exiles

1. Dillard, Raymond B., and Tremper Longman. *An introduction to the Old Testament*. Zondervan, 1994.
2. Sproul, R.C. *The Reformation Study Bible: English Standard Version*. Reformation Trust, 2015.
3. Duguid, Iain M. *Ezekiel*. Zondervan Academic, 2011.