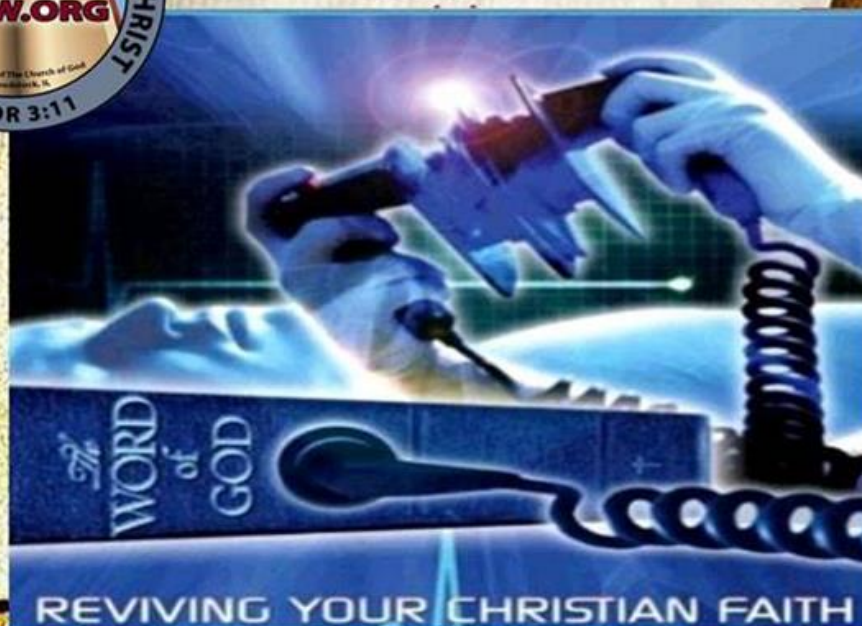
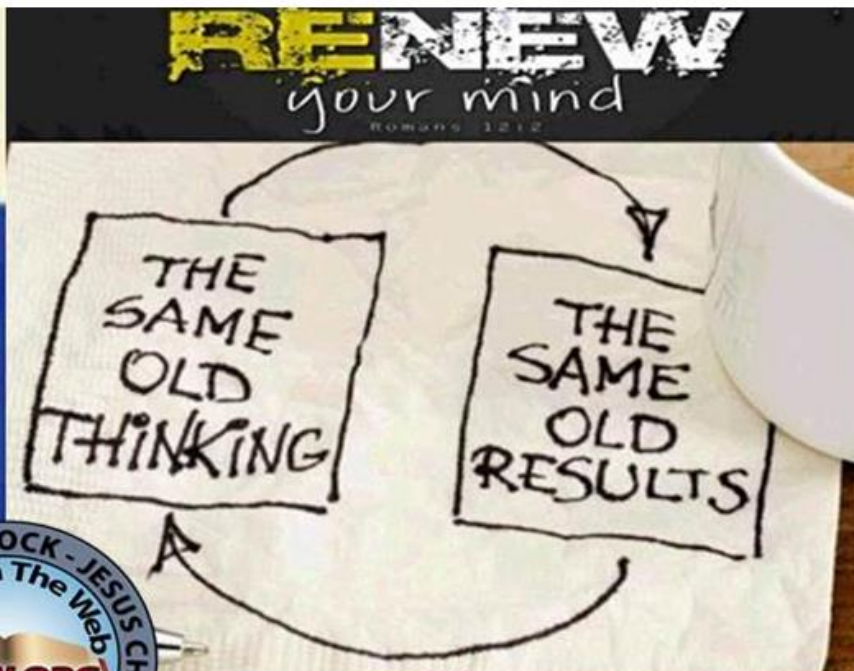


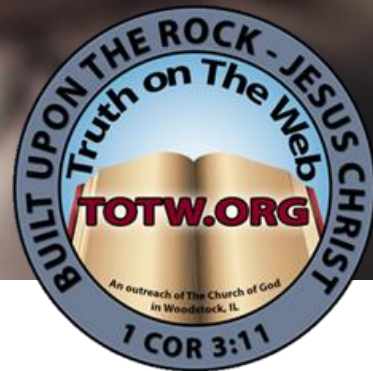
Think BIBLICALLY



REVIVING YOUR CHRISTIAN FAITH

Understanding the Bible: **Ezekiel**

part 1



Ezekiel

ca 593 - 571 BC

The Watchman

Ezekiel (593-571 BC) was a contemporary of:

- Jeremiah (627-587 BC)
- Daniel (606 – 534 BC)
- Obadiah (ca 586 BC)

Ezekiel:

- was a priest living in Jerusalem
- was taken captive to Babylon in 1st wave

The book picks up 5 years after this captivity began

KEY VERSES:

Ezekiel 2:3-5 And He said unto me, Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against Me: they and their fathers have transgressed against Me, *even* unto this very day. For *they are* impudent children and stiffhearted. I do send thee unto them; and thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD. And they, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear, (for they *are* a rebellious house,) yet shall know that there hath been a prophet among them.

Ezekiel 18:20-24 The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him. But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all My statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die. All his transgressions that he hath committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him: in his righteousness that he hath done he shall live. Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: *and* not that he should return from his ways, and live? But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, *and* doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked *man* doeth, shall he live? All his righteousness that he hath done shall not be mentioned: in his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die.

KEY VERSES:

Ezekiel 33:11 Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

Ezekiel 36:24-28 For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put My spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments, and do *them*. And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be My people, and I will be your God.

Ezekiel 48:35 ...and the name of the city from *that day shall be*, The LORD is there.

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4:1-5:17 Four Symbolic Actions

6:1-7:27 The Day Of The Lord

6:1-14 Prophecy Against Israel's Mountains

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8:1-11:25 God's Glory Departs

8:1-18 Idolatry In The Temple

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10:1-22 God's Glory Leaves The Temple

11:1-15 Punishment For Israel's Leaders

11:16-25 A Renewed Israel Will Return

12:1-24:27 Judgment Against Jerusalem

12:1-28 Pictures Of The Exile

13:1-23 False Prophets Are Condemned

14:1-11 Idolaters Are Condemned

14:12-23 Judgment Cannot Be Avoided

15:1-8 Jerusalem Is Like An Useless Vine

16:1-63 Jerusalem Is Like A Prostitute

17:1-24 A Parable Of Two Eagles And A Vine

18:1-32 Individual Responsibility For Sin

19:1-14 A Lament For Israel's Princes

20:1-29 Israel's Rebellious Past

20:30-44 God's Judgment And Restoration

20:45-21:32 Judgment By Fire And Sword

22:1-31 Three Oracles

23:1-49 Israel & Judah Are Adulterous Sisters

24:1-14 Jerusalem Is Like A Rusty Cooking Pot

24:15-27 Ezekiel's Wife Dies

25:1-32:32 Oracles Against The Nations

25:1-7 Against Ammon

25:8-11 Against Moab

25:12-14 Against Edom

25:15-17 Against Philistia

26:1-28:19 Against Tyre

28:20-26 Against Sidon

29:1-32:32 Against Egypt

33:1-39:29 Israel's Restoration

33:1-33 Call To Repentance

34:1-31 The Good Shepherd Replacing Bad Shepherds

35:1-15 Edom's Treachery Will Be Repaid

36:1-38 New Hope For Israel's Mountains

37:1-14 New Life For Dry Bones

37:15-28 A Renewed Nation With A New King

38:1-39:20 A Prophecy Against Gog

39:21-29 God's Purposes For Israel

40:1-48:35 Plans For The New Jerusalem

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Ezekiel 1:1-3 Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth *month*, in the fifth *day* of the month, as I *was* among the captives by the river of Chebar, *that* the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God. In the fifth *day* of the month, which *was* the fifth year of king Jehoiachin's captivity, The word of the LORD came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was there upon him.

Ezekiel 1:4-24 And I looked, and, behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness *was* about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire. Also *out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance; they had the likeness of a man. And every one had four faces, and every one had four wings. And their feet were straight feet; and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot: and they sparkled like the colour of burnished brass. And they had the hands of a man under their wings on their four sides; and they four had their faces and their wings. Their wings were joined one to another; they turned not when they went; they went every one straight forward. As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a lion, on the right side: and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle. Thus were their faces: and their wings were stretched upward; two wings of every one were joined one to another, and two covered their bodies. And they went every one straight forward: whither the spirit was to go, they went; and they turned not when they went. As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, and like the appearance of lamps: it went up and down among the living creatures; and the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning. And the living creatures ran and returned as the appearance of a flash of lightning. Now as I beheld the living creatures, behold one wheel upon the earth by the living creatures, with his four faces. The appearance of the wheels and their work was like unto the colour of a beryl: and they four had one likeness: and their appearance and their work was as it were a wheel in the middle of a wheel. When they went, they went upon their four sides: and they turned not when they went. As for their rings, they were so high that they were dreadful; and their rings were full of eyes round about them four. And when the living creatures went, the wheels went by them: and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up. Whithersoever the spirit was to go, they went, thither was *their* spirit to go; and the wheels were lifted up over against them: for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels. When those went, these went; and when those stood, these stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up over against them: for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels. And the likeness of the firmament upon the heads of the living creature was as the colour of the terrible crystal, stretched forth over their heads above. And under the firmament were their wings straight, the one toward the other: every one had two, which covered on this side, and every one had two, which covered on that side, their bodies. And when they went, I heard the noise of their wings, like the noise of great waters, as the voice of the Almighty, the voice of speech, as the noise of an host: when they stood, they let down their wings.*

Ezekiel 1:25-28 And there was a voice from the firmament that *was* over their heads, when they stood, *and* had let down their wings. And above the firmament that *was* over their heads *was* the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire stone: and upon the likeness of the throne *was* the likeness as the appearance of a man above upon it. And I saw as the colour of amber, as the appearance of fire round about within it, from the appearance of His loins even upward, and from the appearance of His loins even downward, I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and it had brightness round about. As the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud in the day of rain, so *was* the appearance of the brightness round about. This *was* the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw *it*, I fell upon my face, and I heard a voice of one that spake.

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Ezekiel 2:1-10 And He said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee. And the spirit entered into me when He spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard Him that spake unto me. And He said unto me, *Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against Me: they and their fathers have transgressed against Me, even unto this very day. For they are* impudent children and stiffhearted. I do send thee unto them; and thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD. And they, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear, (for they *are* a rebellious house,) yet shall know that there hath been a prophet among them. And thou, son of man, be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns *be* with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions: be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they *be* a rebellious house. And thou shalt speak My words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear: for they *are* most rebellious. But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee. And when I looked, behold, an hand *was* sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book *was* therein; And He spread it before me; and it *was* written within and without: and *there was* written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe.

Ezekiel 3:1-9 Moreover He said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel. So I opened my mouth, and He caused me to eat that roll. And He said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat *it*; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness. And He said unto me, *Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Israel, and speak with My words unto them. For thou art* not sent to a people of a strange speech and of an hard language, *but* to the house of Israel; Not to many people of a strange speech and of an hard language, whose words thou canst not understand. Surely, had I sent thee to them, they would have hearkened unto thee. But the house of Israel will not hearken unto thee; for they will not hearken unto Me: for all the house of Israel *are* impudent and hardhearted. Behold, I have made thy face strong against their faces, and thy forehead strong against their foreheads. As an adamant harder than flint have I made thy forehead: fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they *be* a rebellious house.

Revelation 10:1-10 And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow *was* upon his head, and his face *was* as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: And **he had in his hand a little book open**: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and *his* left *foot* on the earth, And cried with a loud voice, as *when* a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not. And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer: But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets. **And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go *and* take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth. And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take *it*, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter.**

Ezekiel 2:1-10 And He said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee. And the spirit entered into me when He spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard Him that spake unto me. And He said unto me, *Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against Me: they and their fathers have transgressed against Me, even unto this very day. For they are* impudent children and stiffhearted. I do send thee unto them; and thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD. And they, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear, (for they *are* a rebellious house,) yet shall know that there hath been a prophet among them. And thou, son of man, be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns *be* with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions: be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they *be* a rebellious house. And thou shalt speak My words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear: for they *are* most rebellious. But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: *open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee. And when I looked, behold, an hand was sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book was therein; And He spread it before me; and it was written within and without: and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe.* **Ezekiel 3:1-9** Moreover He said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel. So I opened my mouth, and He caused me to eat that roll. And He said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat *it*; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness. And He said unto me, *Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Israel, and speak with My words unto them. For thou art* not sent to a people of a strange speech and of an hard language, *but* to the house of Israel; Not to many people of a strange speech and of an hard language, whose words thou canst not understand. Surely, had I sent thee to them, they would have hearkened unto thee. But the house of Israel will not hearken unto thee; for they will not hearken unto Me: for all the house of Israel *are* impudent and hardhearted. Behold, I have made thy face strong against their faces, and thy forehead strong against their foreheads. As an adamant harder than flint have I made thy forehead: fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they *be* a rebellious house.

Ezekiel 3:10-27 Moreover He said unto me, Son of man, all my words that I shall speak unto thee receive in thine heart, and hear with thine ears. And go, get thee to them of the captivity, unto the children of thy people, and speak unto them, and tell them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear. Then the spirit took me up, and I heard behind me a voice of a great rushing, *saying*, Blessed *be* the glory of the LORD from His place. *I heard* also the noise of the wings of the living creatures that touched one another, and the noise of the wheels over against them, and a noise of a great rushing. So the spirit lifted me up, and took me away, and I went in bitterness, in the heat of my spirit; but the hand of the LORD was strong upon me. Then I came to them of the captivity at Telabib, that dwelt by the river of Chebar, and I sat where they sat, and remained there astonished among them seven days. And it came to pass at the end of seven days, that **the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at My mouth, and give them warning from Me. When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul. Again, When a righteous *man* doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous *man*, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.** And the hand of the LORD was there upon me; and He said unto me, Arise, go forth into the plain, and I will there talk with thee. Then I arose, and went forth into the plain: and, behold, the glory of the LORD stood there, as the glory which I saw by the river of Chebar: and I fell on my face. Then the spirit entered into me, and set me upon my feet, and spake with me, and said unto me, Go, shut thyself within thine house. But thou, O son of man, behold, they shall put bands upon thee, and shall bind thee with them, and thou shalt not go out among them: And I will make thy tongue cleave to the roof of thy mouth, that thou shalt be dumb, and shalt not be to them a reprover: for they *are* a rebellious house. But when I speak with thee, I will open thy mouth, and thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; He that heareth, let him hear; and he that forbeareth, let him forbear: for they *are* a rebellious house.

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1 - Ezekiel took a brick and wrote "Jerusalem" on it, then laid siege to it (4:1-3)

2 – Ezekiel laid on his left side for 390 days for the iniquity of Israel, then on his right side for 40 days for the iniquity of Judah (4:4-8)

3 – God told Ezekiel to cook small rations of bread over dung

4 – God told Ezekiel to divide his hair into three parts (5:1-17):

- a third of it, he burned in fire
- a third of it, he chopped into bits with a sword
- a third of it, he tossed into the wind and let it be carried away

He was also told to take a few pieces and bind them into his garment. He was then to cast them into fire

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23:1-49 Israel & Judah Are Adulterous Sisters

24:1-14 Jerusalem Is Like A Rusty Cooking Pot

24:15-27 Ezekiel's Wife Dies

25:1-32:32 Oracles Against The Nations

25:1-7 Against Ammon

25:8-11 Against Moab

25:12-14 Against Edom

25:15-17 Against Philistia

26:1-28:19 Against Tyre

28:20-26 Against Sidon

29:1-32:32 Against Egypt

33:1-39:29 Israel's Restoration

33:1-33 Call To Repentance

34:1-31 The Good Shepherd Replacing Bad Shepherds

35:1-15 Edom's Treachery Will Be Repaid

36:1-38 New Hope For Israel's Mountains

37:1-14 New Life For Dry Bones

37:15-28 A Renewed Nation With A New King

38:1-39:20 A Prophecy Against Gog

39:21-29 God's Purposes For Israel

40:1-48:35 Plans For The New Jerusalem

40:1-42:20 The New Temple

43:1-12 God's Glory Returns To The Temple

43:13-46:24 Arrangements For Worship

47:1-12 The Life-Giving River

47:13-48:35 The Division Of The Land

Ezekiel 6:1-14 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, set thy face toward the mountains of Israel, and prophesy against them, And say, Ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord GOD; Thus saith the Lord GOD to the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys; Behold, I, *even* I, will bring a sword upon you, and I will destroy your high places. And your altars shall be desolate, and your images shall be broken: and I will cast down your slain *men* before your idols. And I will lay the dead carcasses of the children of Israel before their idols; and I will scatter your bones round about your altars. In all your dwellingplaces the cities shall be laid waste, and the high places shall be desolate; that your altars may be laid waste and made desolate, and your idols may be broken and cease, and your images may be cut down, and your works may be abolished. **And the slain shall fall in the midst of you, and ye shall know that I *am* the LORD**. Yet will I leave a remnant, that ye may have *some* that shall escape the sword among the nations, when ye shall be scattered through the countries. And they that escape of you shall remember Me among the nations whither they shall be carried captives, because I am broken with their whorish heart, which hath departed from Me, and with their eyes, which go a whoring after their idols: and they shall lothe themselves for the evils which they have committed in all their abominations. **And they shall know that I *am* the LORD, and that I have not said in vain that I would do this evil unto them**. Thus saith the Lord GOD; Smite with thine hand, and stamp with thy foot, and say, Alas for all the evil abominations of the house of Israel! for they shall fall by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence. He that is far off shall die of the pestilence; and he that is near shall fall by the sword; and he that remaineth and is besieged shall die by the famine: thus will I accomplish My fury upon them. **Then shall ye know that I *am* the LORD**, when their slain *men* shall be among their idols round about their altars, upon every high hill, in all the tops of the mountains, and under every green tree, and under every thick oak, the place where they did offer sweet savour to all their idols. So will I stretch out My hand upon them, and make the land desolate, yea, more desolate than the wilderness toward Diblath, in all their habitations: **and they shall know that I *am* the LORD**.

Ezekiel

1:1-5:17 Oracles And Events Related To Ezekiel's Call

1:1-3 The Setting

1:4-28 God's Glory Appears

2:1-3:27 Ezekiel Receives His Commission

4:1-5:17 Four Symbolic Actions

6:1-7:27 The Day Of The Lord

6:1-14 Prophecy Against Israel's Mountains

7:1-27 The End

8:1-11:25 God's Glory Departs

8:1-18 Idolatry In The Temple

9:1-11 Vision Of Slaughter In Jerusalem

10:1-22 God's Glory Leaves The Temple

11:1-15 Punishment For Israel's Leaders

11:16-25 A Renewed Israel Will Return

12:1-24:27 Judgment Against Jerusalem

12:1-28 Pictures Of The Exile

13:1-23 False Prophets Are Condemned

14:1-11 Idolaters Are Condemned

14:12-23 Judgment Cannot Be Avoided

15:1-8 Jerusalem Is Like An Useless Vine

16:1-63 Jerusalem Is Like A Prostitute

17:1-24 A Parable Of Two Eagles And A Vine

18:1-32 Individual Responsibility For Sin

19:1-14 A Lament For Israel's Princes

20:1-29 Israel's Rebellious Past

20:30-44 God's Judgment And Restoration

20:45-21:32 Judgment By Fire And Sword

22:1-31 Three Oracles

23:1-49 Israel & Judah Are Adulterous Sisters

24:1-14 Jerusalem Is Like A Rusty Cooking Pot

24:15-27 Ezekiel's Wife Dies

25:1-32:32 Oracles Against The Nations

25:1-7 Against Ammon

25:8-11 Against Moab

25:12-14 Against Edom

25:15-17 Against Philistia

26:1-28:19 Against Tyre

28:20-26 Against Sidon

29:1-32:32 Against Egypt

33:1-39:29 Israel's Restoration

33:1-33 Call To Repentance

34:1-31 The Good Shepherd Replacing Bad Shepherds

35:1-15 Edom's Treachery Will Be Repaid

36:1-38 New Hope For Israel's Mountains

37:1-14 New Life For Dry Bones

37:15-28 A Renewed Nation With A New King

38:1-39:20 A Prophecy Against Gog

39:21-29 God's Purposes For Israel

40:1-48:35 Plans For The New Jerusalem

40:1-42:20 The New Temple

43:1-12 God's Glory Returns To The Temple

43:13-46:24 Arrangements For Worship

47:1-12 The Life-Giving River

47:13-48:35 The Division Of The Land

Ezekiel 7:1-9 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Also, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD unto the land of Israel; An end, the end is come upon the four corners of the land. Now *is* the end *come* upon thee, and I will send Mine anger upon thee, and will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense upon thee all thine abominations. And Mine eye shall not spare thee, neither will I have pity: but I will recompense thy ways upon thee, and thine abominations shall be in the midst of thee: and ye shall know that I *am* the LORD. Thus saith the Lord GOD; An evil, an only evil, behold, is come. An end is come, the end is come: it watcheth for thee; behold, it is come. The morning is come unto thee, O thou that dwellest in the land: the time is come, the day of trouble *is* near, and not the sounding again of the mountains. Now will I shortly pour out My fury upon thee, and accomplish Mine anger upon thee: and I will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense thee for all thine abominations. And Mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: I will recompense thee according to thy ways and thine abominations *that* are in the midst of thee; and ye shall know that I *am* the LORD that smiteth.

Ezekiel

1:1-5:17 Oracles And Events Related To Ezekiel's Call

1:1-3 The Setting

1:4-28 God's Glory Appears

2:1-3:27 Ezekiel Receives His Commission

4:1-5:17 Four Symbolic Actions

6:1-7:27 The Day Of The Lord

6:1-14 Prophecy Against Israel's Mountains

7:1-27 The End

8:1-11:25 God's Glory Departs

8:1-18 Idolatry In The Temple

9:1-11 Vision Of Slaughter In Jerusalem

10:1-22 God's Glory Leaves The Temple

11:1-15 Punishment For Israel's Leaders

11:16-25 A Renewed Israel Will Return

12:1-24:27 Judgment Against Jerusalem

12:1-28 Pictures Of The Exile

13:1-23 False Prophets Are Condemned

14:1-11 Idolaters Are Condemned

14:12-23 Judgment Cannot Be Avoided

15:1-8 Jerusalem Is Like An Useless Vine

16:1-63 Jerusalem Is Like A Prostitute

17:1-24 A Parable Of Two Eagles And A Vine

18:1-32 Individual Responsibility For Sin

19:1-14 A Lament For Israel's Princes

20:1-29 Israel's Rebellious Past

20:30-44 God's Judgment And Restoration

20:45-21:32 Judgment By Fire And Sword

22:1-31 Three Oracles

23:1-49 Israel & Judah Are Adulterous Sisters

24:1-14 Jerusalem Is Like A Rusty Cooking Pot

24:15-27 Ezekiel's Wife Dies

25:1-32:32 Oracles Against The Nations

25:1-7 Against Ammon

25:8-11 Against Moab

25:12-14 Against Edom

25:15-17 Against Philistia

26:1-28:19 Against Tyre

28:20-26 Against Sidon

29:1-32:32 Against Egypt

33:1-39:29 Israel's Restoration

33:1-33 Call To Repentance

34:1-31 The Good Shepherd Replacing Bad Shepherds

35:1-15 Edom's Treachery Will Be Repaid

36:1-38 New Hope For Israel's Mountains

37:1-14 New Life For Dry Bones

37:15-28 A Renewed Nation With A New King

38:1-39:20 A Prophecy Against Gog

39:21-29 God's Purposes For Israel

40:1-48:35 Plans For The New Jerusalem

40:1-42:20 The New Temple

43:1-12 God's Glory Returns To The Temple

43:13-46:24 Arrangements For Worship

47:1-12 The Life-Giving River

47:13-48:35 The Division Of The Land

Ezekiel 8:1-13 And it came to pass in the sixth year, in the sixth *month*, in the fifth *day* of the month, *as* I sat in mine house, and the elders of Judah sat before me, that the hand of the Lord GOD fell there upon me. Then I beheld, and lo a likeness as the appearance of fire: from the appearance of His loins even downward, fire; and from His loins even upward, as the appearance of brightness, as the colour of amber. And He put forth the form of an hand, and took me by a lock of mine head; and the spirit lifted me up between the earth and the heaven, and brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem, *to the door of the inner gate that looketh toward the north; where was the seat of the image of jealousy, which provoketh to jealousy. And, behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there, according to the vision that I saw in the plain.* Then said He unto me, Son of man, lift up thine eyes now the way toward the north. So I lifted up mine eyes the way toward the north, and behold northward at the gate of the altar this image of jealousy in the entry. He said furthermore unto me, Son of man, seest thou what they do? *even the great abominations that the house of Israel committeth here, that I should go far off from My sanctuary? but turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations.* And He brought me to the door of the court; and when I looked, behold a hole in the wall. Then said He unto me, Son of man, dig now in the wall: and when I had digged in the wall, behold a door. And He said unto me, Go in, and behold the wicked abominations that they do here. So *I went in and saw; and behold every form of creeping things, and abominable beasts, and all the idols of the house of Israel, pourtrayed upon the wall round about. And there stood before them seventy men of the ancients of the house of Israel, and in the midst of them stood Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan, with every man his censer in his hand; and a thick cloud of incense went up.* Then said He unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen what the ancients of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the chambers of his imagery? for they say, The LORD seeth us not; the LORD hath forsaken the earth. He said also unto me, Turn thee yet again, *and thou shalt see greater abominations that they do.*

Ezekiel 8:14-18 Then He brought me to the door of the gate of the LORD'S house which *was* toward the north; and, behold, there sat women weeping for Tammuz. Then said He unto me, Hast thou seen *this*, O son of man? *turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations than these.* And He brought me into the inner court of the LORD'S house, and, behold, at the door of the temple of the LORD, between the porch and the altar, *were* about five and twenty men, with their backs toward the temple of the LORD, and their faces toward the east; and they worshipped *the sun toward the east.* Then He said unto me, Hast thou seen *this*, O son of man? Is it a light thing to the house of Judah that they commit the abominations which they commit here? for they have filled the land with violence, and have returned to provoke Me to anger: and, lo, they put the branch to their nose. Therefore will I also deal in fury: Mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: and though they cry in Mine ears with a loud voice, *yet* will I not hear them.

Ezekiel

1:1-5:17 Oracles And Events Related To Ezekiel's Call

1:1-3 The Setting

1:4-28 God's Glory Appears

2:1-3:27 Ezekiel Receives His Commission

4:1-5:17 Four Symbolic Actions

6:1-7:27 The Day Of The Lord

6:1-14 Prophecy Against Israel's Mountains

7:1-27 The End

8:1-11:25 God's Glory Departs

8:1-18 Idolatry In The Temple

9:1-11 Vision Of Slaughter In Jerusalem

10:1-22 God's Glory Leaves The Temple

11:1-15 Punishment For Israel's Leaders

11:16-25 A Renewed Israel Will Return

12:1-24:27 Judgment Against Jerusalem

12:1-28 Pictures Of The Exile

13:1-23 False Prophets Are Condemned

14:1-11 Idolaters Are Condemned

14:12-23 Judgment Cannot Be Avoided

15:1-8 Jerusalem Is Like An Useless Vine

16:1-63 Jerusalem Is Like A Prostitute

17:1-24 A Parable Of Two Eagles And A Vine

18:1-32 Individual Responsibility For Sin

19:1-14 A Lament For Israel's Princes

20:1-29 Israel's Rebellious Past

20:30-44 God's Judgment And Restoration

20:45-21:32 Judgment By Fire And Sword

22:1-31 Three Oracles

23:1-49 Israel & Judah Are Adulterous Sisters

24:1-14 Jerusalem Is Like A Rusty Cooking Pot

24:15-27 Ezekiel's Wife Dies

25:1-32:32 Oracles Against The Nations

25:1-7 Against Ammon

25:8-11 Against Moab

25:12-14 Against Edom

25:15-17 Against Philistia

26:1-28:19 Against Tyre

28:20-26 Against Sidon

29:1-32:32 Against Egypt

33:1-39:29 Israel's Restoration

33:1-33 Call To Repentance

34:1-31 The Good Shepherd Replacing Bad Shepherds

35:1-15 Edom's Treachery Will Be Repaid

36:1-38 New Hope For Israel's Mountains

37:1-14 New Life For Dry Bones

37:15-28 A Renewed Nation With A New King

38:1-39:20 A Prophecy Against Gog

39:21-29 God's Purposes For Israel

40:1-48:35 Plans For The New Jerusalem

40:1-42:20 The New Temple

43:1-12 God's Glory Returns To The Temple

43:13-46:24 Arrangements For Worship

47:1-12 The Life-Giving River

47:13-48:35 The Division Of The Land

Ezekiel 9:1-11 He cried also in mine ears with a loud voice, saying, Cause them that have charge over the city to draw near, even every man *with* his destroying weapon in his hand. And, behold, six men came from the way of the higher gate, which lieth toward the north, and every man a slaughter weapon in his hand; and one man among them *was* clothed with linen, with a writer's inkhorn by his side: and they went in, and stood beside the brasen altar. And the glory of the God of Israel was gone up from the cherub, whereupon He was, to the threshold of the house. **And He called to the man clothed with linen, which *had* the writer's inkhorn by his side; And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof. And to the others He said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: Slay utterly old *and* young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom *is* the mark; and begin at My sanctuary.** Then they began at the ancient men which *were* before the house. And He said unto them, Defile the house, and fill the courts with the slain: go ye forth. And they went forth, and slew in the city. And it came to pass, while they were slaying them, and I was left, that I fell upon my face, and cried, and said, Ah Lord GOD! wilt Thou destroy all the residue of Israel in Thy pouring out of thy fury upon Jerusalem? Then said He unto me, The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah *is* exceeding great, and the land is full of blood, and the city full of perverseness: for they say, The LORD hath forsaken the earth, and the LORD seeth not. And as for Me also, Mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity, *but* I will recompense their way upon their head. And, behold, the man clothed with linen, which *had* the inkhorn by his side, reported the matter, saying, I have done as Thou hast commanded me.

Ezekiel

1:1-5:17 Oracles And Events Related To Ezekiel's Call

1:1-3 The Setting

1:4-28 God's Glory Appears

2:1-3:27 Ezekiel Receives His Commission

4:1-5:17 Four Symbolic Actions

6:1-7:27 The Day Of The Lord

6:1-14 Prophecy Against Israel's Mountains

7:1-27 The End

8:1-11:25 God's Glory Departs

8:1-18 Idolatry In The Temple

9:1-11 Vision Of Slaughter In Jerusalem

10:1-22 God's Glory Leaves The Temple

11:1-15 Punishment For Israel's Leaders

11:16-25 A Renewed Israel Will Return

12:1-24:27 Judgment Against Jerusalem

12:1-28 Pictures Of The Exile

13:1-23 False Prophets Are Condemned

14:1-11 Idolaters Are Condemned

14:12-23 Judgment Cannot Be Avoided

15:1-8 Jerusalem Is Like An Useless Vine

16:1-63 Jerusalem Is Like A Prostitute

17:1-24 A Parable Of Two Eagles And A Vine

18:1-32 Individual Responsibility For Sin

19:1-14 A Lament For Israel's Princes

20:1-29 Israel's Rebellious Past

20:30-44 God's Judgment And Restoration

20:45-21:32 Judgment By Fire And Sword

22:1-31 Three Oracles

23:1-49 Israel & Judah Are Adulterous Sisters

24:1-14 Jerusalem Is Like A Rusty Cooking Pot

24:15-27 Ezekiel's Wife Dies

25:1-32:32 Oracles Against The Nations

25:1-7 Against Ammon

25:8-11 Against Moab

25:12-14 Against Edom

25:15-17 Against Philistia

26:1-28:19 Against Tyre

28:20-26 Against Sidon

29:1-32:32 Against Egypt

33:1-39:29 Israel's Restoration

33:1-33 Call To Repentance

34:1-31 The Good Shepherd Replacing Bad Shepherds

35:1-15 Edom's Treachery Will Be Repaid

36:1-38 New Hope For Israel's Mountains

37:1-14 New Life For Dry Bones

37:15-28 A Renewed Nation With A New King

38:1-39:20 A Prophecy Against Gog

39:21-29 God's Purposes For Israel

40:1-48:35 Plans For The New Jerusalem

40:1-42:20 The New Temple

43:1-12 God's Glory Returns To The Temple

43:13-46:24 Arrangements For Worship

47:1-12 The Life-Giving River

47:13-48:35 The Division Of The Land

Ezekiel 10:1-4 Then I looked, and, behold, in the firmament that was above the head of the cherubims there appeared over them as it were a sapphire stone, as the appearance of the likeness of a throne. And he spake unto the man clothed with linen, and said, Go in between the wheels, *even* under the cherub, and fill thine hand with coals of fire from between the cherubims, and scatter *them* over the city. And he went in in my sight. Now the cherubims stood on the right side of the house, when the man went in; and the cloud filled the inner court. Then the glory of the LORD went up from the cherub, *and stood* over the threshold of the house; and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of the LORD'S glory.

Ezekiel 10:15-22 And the cherubims were lifted up. This *is* the living creature that I saw by the river of Chebar. And when the cherubims went, the wheels went by them: and when the cherubims lifted up their wings to mount up from the earth, the same wheels also turned not from beside them. When they stood, *these* stood; and when they were lifted up, *these* lifted up themselves *also*: for the spirit of the living creature *was* in them. Then the glory of the LORD departed from off the threshold of the house, and stood over the cherubims. And the cherubims lifted up their wings, and mounted up from the earth in my sight: when they went out, the wheels also *were* beside them, and *every one* stood at the door of the east gate of the LORD'S house; and the glory of the God of Israel *was* over them above. This *is* the living creature that I saw under the God of Israel by the river of Chebar; and I knew that they *were* the cherubims. Every one had four faces apiece, and every one four wings; and the likeness of the hands of a man *was* under their wings. And the likeness of their faces *was* the same faces which I saw by the river of Chebar, their appearances and themselves: they went every one straight forward.

Ezekiel

1:1-5:17 Oracles And Events Related To Ezekiel's Call

1:1-3 The Setting

1:4-28 God's Glory Appears

2:1-3:27 Ezekiel Receives His Commission

4:1-5:17 Four Symbolic Actions

6:1-7:27 The Day Of The Lord

6:1-14 Prophecy Against Israel's Mountains

7:1-27 The End

8:1-11:25 God's Glory Departs

8:1-18 Idolatry In The Temple

9:1-11 Vision Of Slaughter In Jerusalem

10:1-22 God's Glory Leaves The Temple

11:1-15 Punishment For Israel's Leaders

11:16-25 A Renewed Israel Will Return

12:1-24:27 Judgment Against Jerusalem

12:1-28 Pictures Of The Exile

13:1-23 False Prophets Are Condemned

14:1-11 Idolaters Are Condemned

14:12-23 Judgment Cannot Be Avoided

15:1-8 Jerusalem Is Like An Useless Vine

16:1-63 Jerusalem Is Like A Prostitute

17:1-24 A Parable Of Two Eagles And A Vine

18:1-32 Individual Responsibility For Sin

19:1-14 A Lament For Israel's Princes

20:1-29 Israel's Rebellious Past

20:30-44 God's Judgment And Restoration

20:45-21:32 Judgment By Fire And Sword

22:1-31 Three Oracles

23:1-49 Israel & Judah Are Adulterous Sisters

24:1-14 Jerusalem Is Like A Rusty Cooking Pot

24:15-27 Ezekiel's Wife Dies

25:1-32:32 Oracles Against The Nations

25:1-7 Against Ammon

25:8-11 Against Moab

25:12-14 Against Edom

25:15-17 Against Philistia

26:1-28:19 Against Tyre

28:20-26 Against Sidon

29:1-32:32 Against Egypt

33:1-39:29 Israel's Restoration

33:1-33 Call To Repentance

34:1-31 The Good Shepherd Replacing Bad Shepherds

35:1-15 Edom's Treachery Will Be Repaid

36:1-38 New Hope For Israel's Mountains

37:1-14 New Life For Dry Bones

37:15-28 A Renewed Nation With A New King

38:1-39:20 A Prophecy Against Gog

39:21-29 God's Purposes For Israel

40:1-48:35 Plans For The New Jerusalem

40:1-42:20 The New Temple

43:1-12 God's Glory Returns To The Temple

43:13-46:24 Arrangements For Worship

47:1-12 The Life-Giving River

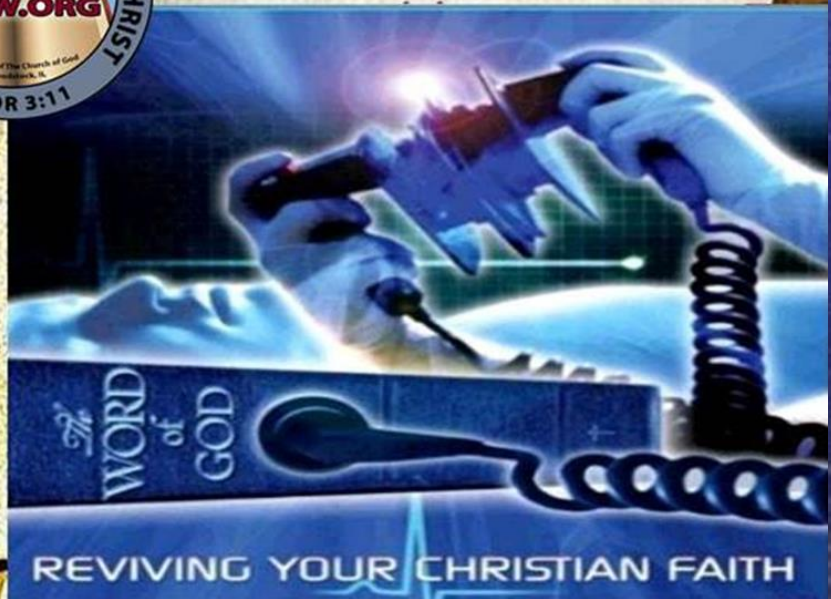
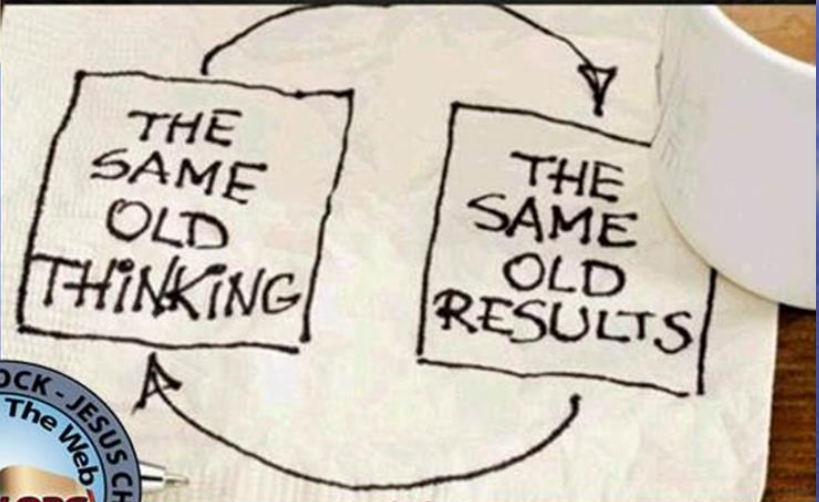
47:13-48:35 The Division Of The Land

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ROMANS 12:2



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