

Session 22: Ezekiel

Videos:

- Overview: Ezekiel 1-33
- Overview: Ezekiel 34-48

Recommended Readings from the ESV Study Bible:

- Introduction to Ezekiel (pp. 1495-1499)

Handouts from The Bible Project:

- Ezekiel Overview Poster

Handouts from Dr. Parke:

- Book of Ezekiel - Slides from Dr. Parke's Teaching

Handouts from ESV Study Bible:

- Chart: Dates in Ezekiel
- Diagram & Table: Ezekiel's Temple Vision
- Map: Ezekiel's vision of Israel's new boundaries

WHAT IS GOD'S GLORY DOING IN BABYLON?!

5 YEARS AFTER EXILE...

EZEKIEL

12-24
USE OF PARABLE & ALLEG

1-11 ACCUSATIONS AGAINST ISRAEL

SON OF MAN! ACCUSE ISRAEL OF BREAKING THE COVENANT AND WARN THEM OF IMMINENT DESTRUCTION.

EZEKIEL COMMISSIONED

• WORSHIP OF OTHER GODS
• SOCIAL INJUSTICE

6-11 THE TEMPLE VISION

11 ISRAEL'S IDOLATRY HAS DRIVEN GOD AWAY... BUT HE HASN'T ABANDONED HIS PEOPLE. A REMNANT WILL RETURN WITH NEW, TRANSFORMED HEARTS.

ISRAEL'S NEW HEART

JUDGMENT
HOPE

34-37
MESSIANIC KING
A NEW DAVID

RECALLS GENESIS 2
HUMANS - DIRTY + DIVINE IMAGE

created by the Bible Project

KIEL



JUDGMENT ON ISRAEL

19, 20 EZEKIEL AS LAWYER

GOD, HAVE MERCY!

GOD

THEY'RE LATE!

ISRAEL'S JUDGMENT IS REVERSED - GOD'S GOODNESS DEMANDS HE BRING JUSTICE - THEY'VE REACHED A POINT & NOW RETURN

25-32 JUDGMENT ON THE NATIONS

PHILISTIA AMMON EGYPT TYRE MOAB EDOM

VIEWING THEMSELVES AS GODS

BABYLON'S COMING FOR YOU TOO!

ALL BROUGHT DOWN BY BABYLON...

33

JERUSALEM HAS FALLEN!

HOPE FOR ISRAEL

36 A NEW ISRAEL WITH A NEW HEART!

GOD'S SPIRIT

IN SPIRIT OF ISRAEL'S EXILE & DEATH

37 VALLEY OF DRY BONES

THE ONLY HOPE IS FOR GOD TO REMAKE HUMANS TO LOVE GOD & OTHERS.

38-39 HOPE FOR THE NATIONS

GOD DEFEATS EVIL AMONG THE NATIONS

GOG

ANCIENT KINGDOM FROM GENESIS 10

DESCRIPTION OF GOG - DESCRIPTION OF KING OF TYRE & EGYPT

ARCHETYPE OF HUMAN REBELLION

THESE SCENES ARE FULL OF SYMBOLS & IMAGERY ABOUT GOD'S FINAL DEFEAT OF EVIL

40-48 HOPE FOR ALL CREATION

40-46 VISION OF A NEW TEMPLE

THE MEANING OF THE VISIONS?

- 1) LITERAL BLUEPRINTS OF NEW TEMPLE IN THE FUTURE MESSIANIC KINGDOM.
- 2) SYMBOLIC DEPICTION OF GOD'S PRESENCE WITH HIS PEOPLE IN THE MESSIANIC KINGDOM.

DEAD SEA VALLEY

47-48 NEW GARDEN OF EDEN - "THE LORD IS THERE"

Book of Ezekiel

Slides from Dr. Parke's Teachings

SLIDE 4

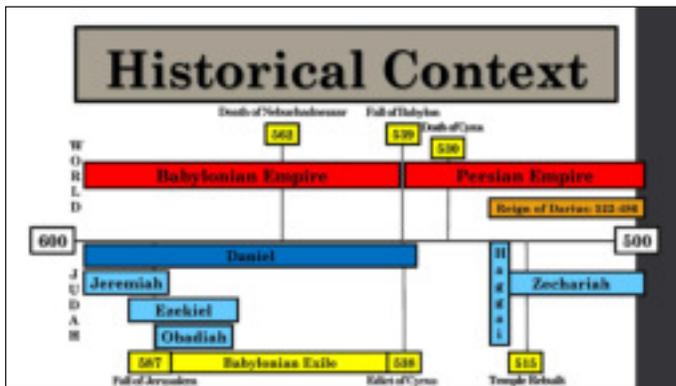
Overview of Ezekiel

- one of the three "major" prophets
 - Isiah
 - Ezekiel
- one of four sixth-century prophets
 - Obadiah
 - Zechariah
 - Haggai
- one of two prophets of priestly descent
 - Jeremiah



SLIDE 5

Historical Context



Timeline of Historical Context:

- 600 BC: Fall of Jerusalem, Start of Babylonian Exile.
- 587 BC: Fall of Jerusalem.
- 586 BC: Start of Babylonian Exile.
- 539 BC: Edict of Cyrus, End of Babylonian Exile.
- 538 BC: Start of Persian Exile.
- 520 BC: Temple Begins.
- 515 BC: Temple Dedication.

Key Historical Events:

- Death of Nebuchadnezzar: 562 BC
- Fall of Babylon: 539 BC
- Death of Cyrus: 530 BC
- Reign of Darius: 522-486 BC

Prophets and Their Ministries:

- Jeremiah: 600-580 BC
- Ezekiel: 593-541 BC
- Obadiah: 587 BC
- Daniel: 600-562 BC
- Zechariah: 520-518 BC

SLIDE 6

Biographical Data

Family of Orientation

Father: Buzi (1:3)
priestly lineage (Tribe of Levi)



Ministry

TIME

593 BC First Message
"On the fifth of the month in the fifth year of King Jehoiachin's exile" (1:2)

573 BC Last Message
"In the twenty-fifth year of our exile, at the beginning of the year, on the tenth of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was taken" (40:1)

Book of Ezekiel

Slides from Dr. Parke's Teachings

SLIDE 7

Biographical Data

Ministry

PLACE

"among the exiles" (1:1)
"In the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar" (1:3)

"This is the nar Kabari,"
"at the location of Tel-abih"
"semicircular canal constructed so water from the Euphrates would flow through the city and then back into the river"
John T. Haas
The Broadman Bible Commentary



SLIDE 8

Biographical Data

Family of Procreation

✔ Married
Widower

"And the word of the Lord came to me saying, 'Son of man, behold, I am about to take from you the desire of your eyes with a blow; but you shall not mourn, and you shall not weep, and your tears shall not come. Grieve silently; make no mourning for the dead. Bind on your turban, and put your shoes on your feet, and do not cover your mantles, and do not eat the bread of men.' So I spoke to the people in the morning, and in the evening my wife died. And in the morning I did as I was commanded." (24:15-18)

? Children

SLIDE 9

Was a Prophet Weird?

according to the general Ancient Near Eastern public, YES!

* READ 2 Kings 5:11.
* READ 2 Kings 9:1-13.

WHY?

- Their Appearance
EXAMPLE: Elijah
"He was a hairy man with a leather girdle bound about his loins."
(2 Kg. 1:8)
- Their Actions
* READ 1 Kings 18:35-43.
Prophets used music to induce an "ecstatic" state (1 Sam. 10:5; 2 Kg. 3:13-15; 2 Chr. 29:1). In that condition, they sometimes violated social norms. King Saul, for instance, prophesied after disrobing and while lying motionless (catatonic) on the ground (1 Sam. 19:18-24).

Book of Ezekiel

Slides from Dr. Parke's Teachings

SLIDE 16

Highlights of the Book

Focus: Individual
18:1-22
SEE also Deuteronomy 24:16; Jeremiah 31:27-30.
Balances the "Corporate" emphasis (Ex. 34:5-7; Lev. 16:1-34 [Day of Atonement]; Dt. 21:18-21 [Capital Punishment])

Fall of Satan?
28:11-19
Taunt against the King of Tyre [Fall of Satan?]
SEE Isaiah 14:11-14.

Vision: Dry Bones
37:1-14



SLIDE 17

Highlights of the Book

Gog and Magog
38:1-39:29
SEE also Revelation 20:7-8.

New Temple
40:1-48:35
different than Solomon's Temple
yet-to-be built



Dates in Ezekiel

From the ESV Study Bible

Reference	Year/month/day following exile of Jehoiachin	Modern equivalent*/ year B.C.	Situation
1:2	5th year / 4th month / 5th day	July 593***	inaugural vision
8:1	6th year / 6th month / 5th day	September 592	first temple vision
20:1	7th year / 5th month / 10th day	August 591	elders come to inquire
24:1	9th year / 10th month / 10th day**	January 588 or 587	siege of Jerusalem begins
26:1	11th year / month (?) / 1st day	c. 587–586	oracle against Tyre, before Babylon besieged it
29:1	10th year / 10th month / 12th day	January 587	oracle against Egypt
29:17	27th year / 1st month / 1st day	April 571****	Egypt assigned to Babylon; after end of Babylon's siege of Tyre
30:20	11th year / 1st month / 7th day	April 587	oracle against Egypt
31:1	11th year / 3rd month / 1st day	June 587	oracle against Egypt
32:1	12th year / 12th month / 1st day	March 585	oracle against Egypt
32:17	12th year / 12th month / 15th day	April 585	oracle against Egypt
33:21	12th year / 10th month / 5th day	January 585	fugitive arrives in Babylon
40:1	25th year / 1st month (?) / 10th day (?)	April 573	second temple vision

*For simplicity, here and in the notes that follow, only the second month of the modern equivalent is given (cf. Months in the Hebrew Calendar)

**Unique dating formula in Hebrew; see notes

***earliest recorded oracle

****latest recorded oracle

Ezekiel's Temple Vision

From the ESV Study Bible

Ezekiel's final vision of an ideal temple (and city, and land; chs. 40–48) forms a counterpart to the vision of chs. 8–11. In each case he is taken on a tour of the structure, but whereas in the earlier vision he discovers abominations and perverted worship, in this final vision all is in readiness for the perpetual dwelling of the glory of the God of Israel. In chs. 8–10 most of the movement centers on the gate structures to the north and finally focuses on the main sacrificial altar, from which central point the slaughtering angels begin their work (9:6b). In this final vision Ezekiel's tour begins and ends at the East Gate, but passes by the same areas as those he saw in the earlier vision. With the "tour" completed, he is again outside the main East Gate as he senses the approach of the glory of God returning the same way as Ezekiel had seen him go.

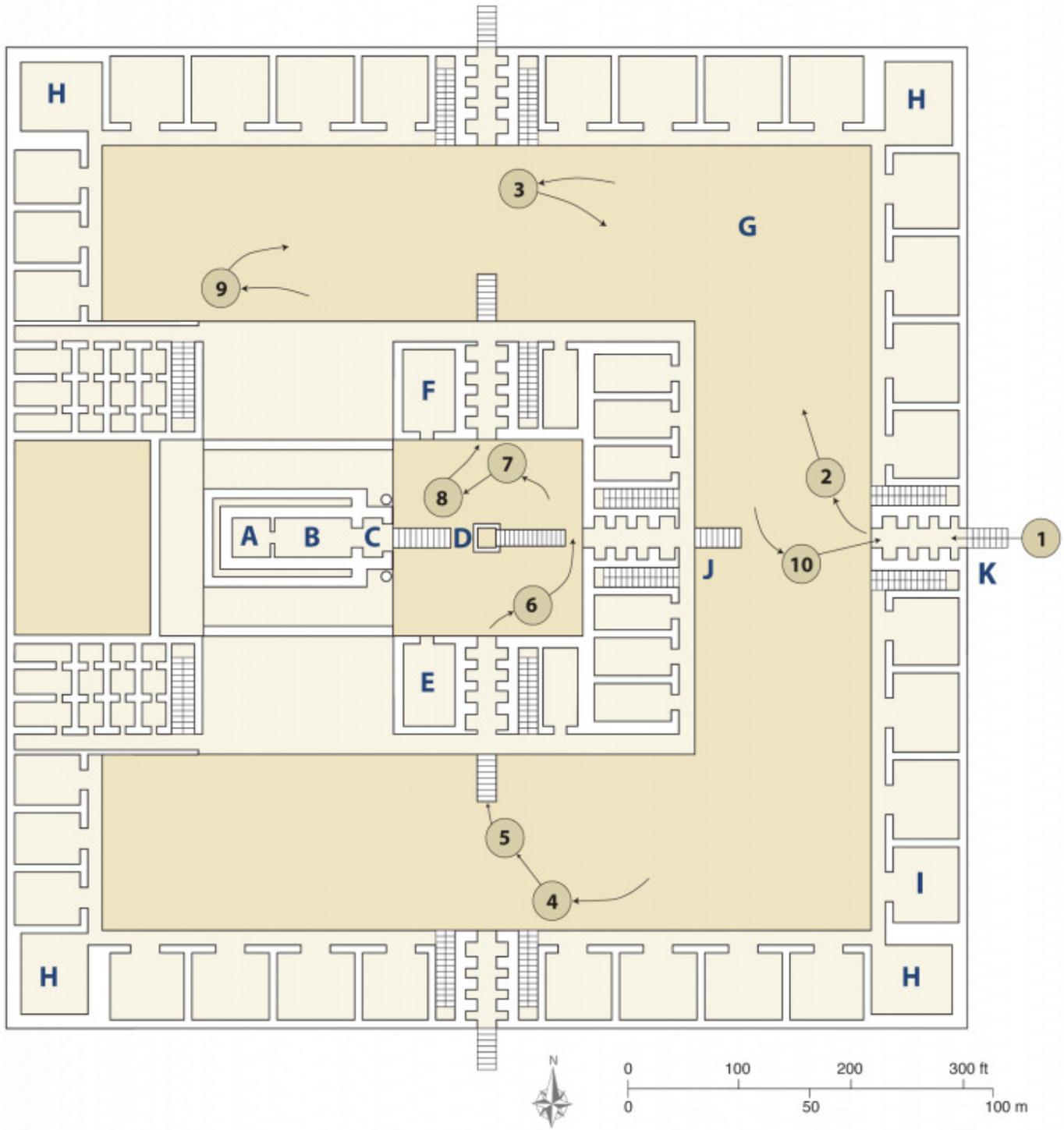
Temple Plan

The labels are arranged from the innermost, and most sacred, area and moving outward. It must be borne in mind that "temple" can have two quite distinct references: it can refer generally to the entire "temple" complex, including the outer gates and court; in its more "strict" reference the "temple" is the innermost structure itself, which has a single (eastern) entrance and contains the Most Holy Place.

	Reference	Explanation
A	41:4	The "Most Holy Place."
B	41:3	The inner room of the temple.
C	41:2	The entrance to the temple.
D	43:13–17	The imposing altar; although the number of stairs is not given, the entire altar structure is about 16 feet (4.9 m) tall, so many steps would have been required. This area of the inner court was accessible only by priests—not even the prince was permitted entry.
E	40:46	Chamber for Zadokite priests.
F	40:45	Chamber for "priests who have charge of the temple."
G	40:17–19	The outer court, with its 30 chambers in the outer wall (40:17).
H	46:21–24	The temple "kitchens," one in each corner of the outer court.
I	40:17	The 30 outer chambers.
J	46:2	The "prince's gate": from its threshold he worships on each Sabbath while the priests bring the offerings into the inner court.
K	43:1	The main east gate, through which "the glory of the God of Israel" returns to his temple (cf. 10:19; 11:22–23).

Temple Tour

	Reference	Explanation
1	40:6	The eastern (main) gate begins the tour; the E–W axis of the temple should be noted; if a line is drawn from the east gate to the Most Holy Place, there is a sequence of three elevations, as the space in the inner temple becomes increasingly constricted.
2	40:17	From this vantage point in the outer court, Ezekiel is shown the main features of this “plaza” area.
3	40:20	The northern-facing gate.
4	40:24	En route to the southern-facing gate, no details are given of the outer facade of the inner court; the architectural details of this area must remain speculative.
5	40:28	Ezekiel’s entry to the inner court is by way of its south gate...
6	40:32	... then to the east gate (past the imposing altar, not yet described)...
7	40:35	... and on to the north gate, which includes areas for handling sacrificial animals.
8	40:48; 41:1	Ezekiel approaches the inner temple structure itself, first describing its entrance; he is then stationed outside the entrance while his guide first measures its interior, then the exterior.
9	42:1	They exit the inner court through its north gate to explore the northwestern quadrant of the outer court.
10	42:15	Ezekiel and his guide leave the temple from the east gate by which they first entered. From this vantage point, Ezekiel was able to watch the return of “the glory of the God of Israel” moments later (43:1–5).



Letters in diagram represent locations within the temple complex; numbers indicate the stages in Ezekiel's temple tour (see chart on previous pages).

Ezekiel's Vision of Israel's New Boundaries

From the ESV Study Bible

c. 571 B.C.

Ezekiel's final vision describes the boundaries of a restored Israel, including the allotment to each tribe and the temple. Rather than following the boundaries traditionally occupied by the Israelites, which included Gilead east of the Jordan River and excluded land north of Tyre, Ezekiel's new boundaries generally follow those described by Moses in Numbers 34. Ezekiel's vision also departs from the traditional allotment of the land among the 12 tribes and reassigns the land in horizontal bands from north to south.

