

PRECEPT
UPON
PRECEPT®

Ezekiel

PART 2

WHEN MY SANCTUARY
IS IN THEIR
MIDST FOREVER
(CHAPTERS 33-48)

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EZEKIEL
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WHEN MY SANCTUARY IS IN THEIR MIDST FOREVER
(CHAPTERS 33-48)

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STUDY TOOLS

ARTHUR, KAY; ARTHUR, DAVID; DE LACY, PETE

The New How to Study Your Bible

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2010

The New Inductive Study Bible

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2000

Hebrew Word Study Tools

(The following is a list of helpful Hebrew Word Study Tools:)

HARRIS, R. LAIRD; ARCHER, GLEASON L. JR.; WALTKE, BRUCE K.

Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament

Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1980

RICHARDS, LAWRENCE O.

Expository Dictionary of Bible Words

Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1985

RECOMMENDED COMMENTARIES

GAEBELEIN, FRANK E.

The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 6, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel

Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1986

WALVOORD, JOHN F., ZUCK, ROY B., EDS.

The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures

Wheaton, Illinois: Victor Books, 1983-c1985

CARSON, D. A.

The New Bible Commentary

Downers Grove, Illinois: Inter-Varsity Press, 1994

KEIL, C. F., DELITZSCH, F.

Commentary on the Old Testament

Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., 2002

RECOMMENDED SOFTWARE

Logos Bible Software

Powerful search engines and up to 4,000 electronic Bible study resources (commentaries, lexicons, Bible dictionaries etc.) make it fast and easy to do simple and complex searches of multiple sources, then pull materials together for orderly presentation—excellent for word and topical studies based on English or original Hebrew and Greek. Available at www.logos.com.

LESSON ONE

Chapters Thirty-three and Thirty-four

THIS LESSON INCORPORATES The following located in the Appendix:
Observation Worksheets of Ezekiel 33–34
“The Rulers and Prophets of Ezekiel”
“Ezekiel at a Glance”
“Then ‘You’ Will Know That I Am the LORD”
Cross-references

A COVENANT OF PEACE FOR A NATION IN TURMOIL

When the word of the Lord came to Ezekiel as recorded in chapter 24, it was so significant that he was to record “the name of the day, this very day. The king of Babylon has laid siege to Jerusalem this very day” (24:2). God told Ezekiel that on the day when the Lord took away their stronghold, “the joy of their pride, the desire of their eyes and their heart’s delight, their sons and their daughters,” someone would escape and bring the news to Ezekiel’s ears—and his mouth would be opened (24:25-27). God sends His message first to Israel, His covenant people; then in Ezekiel 25–32 He tells them how He will deal with the nations.

However, though all this sounded so astoundingly bad, so fatal, so final for His people, God was not finished speaking as we will see. He had more to say through Ezekiel to the exiles in Babylon, more that would bring hope. It was the future that Jeremiah, Ezekiel’s contemporary, had spoken of—plans that would conquer despair. This is what we will study, beloved of God, in the final segment of Ezekiel’s message.

Ezekiel Part 2 will amaze you, so much so that you’ll probably find yourself shaking your head and saying . . .

“I didn’t know that!!”
“You mean this is yet to happen?”
“But I thought . . . I heard . . . I . . .”
“I just didn’t know . . . ”

But know you will, as you study this final segment of the book of Ezekiel! We're excited about what you are about to learn for yourself—straight from the mouth of God! Remember, Deuteronomy 8:3 says we are to live by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord, and these are the very words of God Almighty, Creator of the heavens and the earth.

DAY ONE

For those of you joining our Ezekiel course for the first time (Welcome!), we believe it will help to put you into context—bring you up to date a little more on what's transpired up to this point so you'll understand and better appreciate chapters 33–48. For you “Old Timers,” it will be a good review.

As you begin, why don't you take a few minutes to talk to the Lord and ask Him by His Spirit to give you wisdom and understanding as you, a person who desires to handle His Word accurately as 2 Timothy 2:15 says, “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God . . . accurately handling the word of truth.”

1. Read Ezekiel 1:1-3 and note below
 - a. The timing of Ezekiel 1

 - b. Where Ezekiel is

2. In the Appendix, you'll find “The Rulers and Prophets of Ezekiel.” (If you are new to our study of Ezekiel, take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with the chart by noting the bold heading to the left of each line.) To put the Book of Ezekiel in context, find the 70-year Jewish Captivity under the line for Judah's Last Kings.
 - a. In what year was Jehoiachin taken captive?

 - b. Who was also taken in the same captivity?

 - c. Compare this with the timing of Ezekiel 1:2. Approximately how much time has passed since these were taken captive?

8. And what's your prayer as we bring today's study to a close? Write it out. It's always good to go back and see what you've asked the Lord for and how He has answered.

DAY
TWO

After prayer, asking the Lord to be your teacher—"For You Yourself have taught me" (Psalm 119:102b)—spend the day observing Ezekiel 33:1-20.

1. As you read the text, you will find it helpful to mark the following words/phrases each in a distinctive way (using colors and/or symbols), including synonyms and pronouns. In doing so you can see how often a key word or phrase is used and thus observe with greater accuracy what God is saying. Remember, when Jesus was tempted by the devil, He reminded the father of all lies that we live not by bread alone but "on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). Thank you for wanting to do so!

You will want to make a **Key Word Bookmark**. The bookmark is a list of the words you want to mark throughout this segment of Ezekiel with the marking styles/colors you are going to use. You can use a large index card or the inside back cover of your Precept book. By the way, suggested markings for words used frequently in the Bible are listed on a bookmark on the back cover of your workbook.

Add the following and mark them as you observe Ezekiel 33:1-20:

- a. *the word of the LORD*
- b. all references to *Ezekiel*. Choose a color.
- c. *sword*
- d. *wicked, iniquity, transgression, sin(s)* (ESV, also *injustice*)
- e. *righteous, righteousness*
- f. *blood*
- g. *turn(s)* (You don't need to put this on your bookmark.)
- h. all references to time. You might use a green circle.

DAY
THREE

1. Today we are going to observe the rest of Ezekiel 33. As you do, you'll see why we divided the observations this way. Beginning at verse 21, read through the remainder of the chapter to familiarize yourself with its content. Then, keeping in mind what you learned on Day One, record the timing of this segment below. Don't forget to seek the Spirit's help in understanding God's Word.

2. Now observe Ezekiel 33:21-33. As you do, continue to mark key words that were in the beginning of the chapter. Add to the list:
 - a. All references to *the land* when it refers to the land God gave Jacob (Israel) and his sons in covenant as an everlasting possession. Many of us double underline it in green as a geographical location and then color it blue since Israel's flag is blue and white.
 - b. *mountains of Israel*
 - c. *heart*. If you studied Ezekiel Part 1 with us, you know the importance of this word. Our heart is our command center, control center. While it is not used a lot, you'll see how key it is in this segment.
 - d. There are many references to the *people* throughout the book. If you haven't marked them, you may want to in this segment of the chapter, since what is said is quite significant. You might want to choose a color rather than a symbol since you are going to mark this in the next chapter and too many symbols can keep you from readily seeing what you marked.
 - e. *know that I am the LORD*

3. Summarize the paragraphs below or on your Observation Worksheet.
 - a. 33:21-22

 - b. 33:23-29

 - c. 33:30-33

6. Compare Ezekiel 33:21-22 with Ezekiel 24:25-27. Write down what you see about Ezekiel.

7. Finally, analyze what you observed today. How does it apply to life today? To the times? Give it some thought—and write it out!

8. Record the theme(s) of Ezekiel 33 on the “Ezekiel at a Glance” chart.

DAY
FOUR

1. As you pray before beginning today’s study, ask God to show you personally what He wants you to learn about “shepherds.” Then observe chapter 34 which has a lot to say about sheep and shepherds. In addition to your key word list, mark the following:

- a. *shepherd(s)* Don’t add shepherds to your bookmark since it’s used only in Ezekiel 34.
- b. references to the *flock* (ESV, also *sheep*) as you marked the “people” in Ezekiel 33.
- c. *the Lord*. Color-code the references in this chapter.
- d. *nations*
- e. *living securely* (ESV, *dwell securely*)

- f. *covenant*. Since all that God does is based on Covenant (a solemn binding agreement made by passing through pieces of flesh) and since the Bible is divided into two segments: the Old Testament (Covenant) and the New Testament (Covenant), the Precept team makes a habit of marking references to covenant throughout their Bibles. By the way, some students do their observations in the text of the *New Inductive Study Bible*. Among its many inductive study helps, you’ll find suggested markings for key words that you can use consistently throughout the Bible.
 - g. Watch the varied references to *the land*, for example “a renowned planting place.” (ESV, *renowned plantations*) Don’t miss a one!
 - h. *David*. He is mentioned in Ezekiel 34 and 37 and in the book of Jeremiah with respect to future prophetic events.
 - i. Be sure to watch and mark indicators of time such as *then* so you can follow the sequence of events.
2. Now do your paragraph summaries below or on your Observation Worksheet.
 - a. 34:1-6
 - b. 34:7-10
 - c. 34:11-16
 - d. 34:17-19
 - e. 34:20-22
 - f. 34:23-24
 - g. 34:25-31
 3. Record on your “Then ‘You’ Will Know That I Am the LORD” list in the Appendix what you learned from marking the phrase.

- d. Jeremiah 50:6-7—As you read this, think of how significant, how critical leaders are to a country, a nation, a people. If you live in a nation that chooses its leaders, how well have you carried out your privilege and responsibility when voting? What should you consider when choosing leaders—what criteria are most important?
- e. Jeremiah 3:12-18—Before God says all you just observed about shepherds in Jeremiah, He says this. What does this kind of message—this sure word from God—bring to the heart of an individual? By the way, you'll want to keep this in mind as you progress in your study of Ezekiel.

3. Now go back to Ezekiel 34. Review what you learned from marking the references to the Lord. Summarize your insights below.

4. Now let's move to the New Testament.

a. Matthew 2:4-6. What does God tell you about the Messiah, the Christ, in this passage as He quotes Micah 5:2, and how does this relate to what you observed in Ezekiel 34?

b. Read Jesus' words in John 10:11-18.

1) What do you learn about the shepherd from this passage?

2) What is Jesus saying in verse 16?

-
- 3) Does it have any significance for you as an individual? If so, what?
- c. Now carefully read John 10:24-30. What do you learn? List your insights.
- d. Let's go back to Matthew for a minute. Read Matthew 26:31-33. How does Jesus fulfill the prophecy of Zechariah 13:7? *You must study the Precept course on Zechariah, who details Israel's salvation as no other prophet does. It really is incredible!*
- e. Now take a look at Hebrews 13:20-21 and record what you learn that ties in with John 10.

- f. How do the passages you just studied in the New Testament relate chronologically to Ezekiel 34:23-31?

Don't you absolutely stand in awe at how God's Word unfolds and fits together! Aren't we privileged and blessed as we discover truth for ourselves, becoming established in His Word so we can live lives of reverence for Him (Psalm 119:38)? We are thankful to God, Beloved, that you esteem His words more precious than your necessary food. You will never regret it . . . never! Rather when you see your Great Shepherd face-to-face, you will be so thankful you did.

5. Now, before you see what your commentaries say about Ezekiel 33–34, let's think "application."
- a. Do you see yourself as a "watchman" as Ezekiel was commanded to be for the house of Israel in Ezekiel 33:1-16? What would that look like in your life—or, better still, how does it look?
- b. What did it look like in the Apostle Paul's life? Read Acts 20:17-32.
- c. What do you think "innocent of the blood of all men" (ESV "all of you") means?

- d. How do you stand as a watchman?
6. Feel free to consult your commentaries and compare the insights and scholarship of others with what you've learned.

You are going to be awed at what you learn next week! Blessings from the Precept family here and around the world in nearly 150 countries and 70 languages—they pray for you.

EZEKIEL 33
Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

AND the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

- 2 “Son of man, speak to the sons of your people and say to them, ‘If I bring a sword upon a land, and the people of the land take one man from among them and make him their watchman,
- 3 and he sees the sword coming upon the land and blows on the trumpet and warns the people,
- 4 then he who hears the sound of the trumpet and does not take warning, and a sword comes and takes him away, his blood will be on his *own* head.
- 5 ‘He heard the sound of the trumpet but did not take warning; his blood will be on himself. But had he taken warning, he would have delivered his life.
- 6 ‘But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet and the people are not warned, and a sword comes and takes a person from them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood I will require from the watchman’s hand.’
- 7 “Now as for you, son of man, I have appointed you a watchman for the house of Israel; so you will hear a message from My mouth and give them warning from Me.
- 8 “When I say to the wicked, ‘O wicked man, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require from your hand.
- 9 “But if you on your part warn a wicked man to turn from his way and he does not turn from his way, he will die in his iniquity, but you have delivered your life.

- 10 “Now as for you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, ‘Thus you have spoken, saying, “Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we are rotting away in them; how then can we survive?”’
- 11 “Say to them, ‘As I live!’ declares the Lord GOD, ‘I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways! Why then will you die, O house of Israel?’
- 12 “And you, son of man, say to your fellow citizens, ‘The righteousness of a righteous man will not deliver him in the day of his transgression, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he will not stumble because of it in the day when he turns from his wickedness; whereas a righteous man will not be able to live by his righteousness on the day when he commits sin.’
- 13 “When I say to the righteous he will surely live, and he *so* trusts in his righteousness that he commits iniquity, none of his righteous deeds will be remembered; but in that same iniquity of his which he has committed he will die.
- 14 “But when I say to the wicked, ‘You will surely die,’ and he turns from his sin and practices justice and righteousness,
- 15 *if a* wicked man restores a pledge, pays back what he has taken by robbery, walks by the statutes which ensure life without committing iniquity, he shall surely live; he shall not die.
- 16 “None of his sins that he has committed will be remembered against him. He has practiced justice and righteousness; he shall surely live.
- 17 “Yet your fellow citizens say, ‘The way of the Lord is not right,’ when it is their own way that is not right.
- 18 “When the righteous turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, then he shall die in it.
- 19 “But when the wicked turns from his wickedness and practices justice and righteousness, he will live by them.
- 20 “Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not right.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”

- 21 Now in the twelfth year of our exile, on the fifth of the tenth month, the refugees from Jerusalem came to me, saying, “The city has been taken.”
- 22 Now the hand of the LORD had been upon me in the evening, before the refugees came. And He opened my mouth at the time *they* came to me in the morning; so my mouth was opened and I was no longer speechless.
- 23 Then the word of the LORD came to me saying,
- 24 “Son of man, they who live in these waste places in the land of Israel are saying, ‘Abraham was *only* one, yet he possessed the land; so to us who are many the land has been given as a possession.’
- 25 “Therefore say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “You eat *meat* with the blood *in it*, lift up your eyes to your idols as you shed blood. Should you then possess the land?
- 26 “You rely on your sword, you commit abominations and each of you defiles his neighbor’s wife. Should you then possess the land?” ’
- 27 “Thus you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “As I live, surely those who are in the waste places will fall by the sword, and whoever is in the open field I will give to the beasts to be devoured, and those who are in the strongholds and in the caves will die of pestilence.
- 28 “I will make the land a desolation and a waste, and the pride of her power will cease; and the mountains of Israel will be desolate so that no one will pass through.
- 29 “Then they will know that I am the LORD, when I make the land a desolation and a waste because of all their abominations which they have committed.” ’
- 30 “But as for you, son of man, your fellow citizens who talk about you by the walls and in the doorways of the houses, speak to one another, each to his brother, saying, ‘Come now and hear what the message is which comes forth from the LORD.’
- 31 “They come to you as people come, and sit before you *as* My people and hear your words, but they do not do them, for they do the lustful desires *expressed* by their mouth, *and* their heart goes after their gain.

- 32 “Behold, you are to them like a sensual song by one who has a beautiful voice and plays well on an instrument; for they hear your words but they do not practice them.
- 33 “So when it comes to pass—as surely it will—then they will know that a prophet has been in their midst.”

EZEKIEL 34
Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

THEN the word of the LORD came to me saying,

- 2 “Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel. Prophesy and say to those shepherds, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Woe, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flock?
- 3 “You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat *sheep* without feeding the flock.
- 4 “Those who are sickly you have not strengthened, the diseased you have not healed, the broken you have not bound up, the scattered you have not brought back, nor have you sought for the lost; but with force and with severity you have dominated them.
- 5 “They were scattered for lack of a shepherd, and they became food for every beast of the field and were scattered.
- 6 “My flock wandered through all the mountains and on every high hill; My flock was scattered over all the surface of the earth, and there was no one to search or seek *for them*.” ’ ”
- 7 Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD:
- 8 “As I live,” declares the Lord GOD, “surely because My flock has become a prey, My flock has even become food for all the beasts of the field for lack of a shepherd, and My shepherds did not search for My flock, but *rather* the shepherds fed themselves and did not feed My flock;
- 9 therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD:
- 10 ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will demand My sheep from them and make them cease from feeding sheep. So the shepherds will not feed themselves anymore, but I will

deliver My flock from their mouth, so that they will not be food for them.” ’ ”

- 11** For thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out.
- 12** “As a shepherd cares for his herd in the day when he is among his scattered sheep, so I will care for My sheep and will deliver them from all the places to which they were scattered on a cloudy and gloomy day.
- 13** “I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them to their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the streams, and in all the inhabited places of the land.
- 14** “I will feed them in a good pasture, and their grazing ground will be on the mountain heights of Israel. There they will lie down on good grazing ground and feed in rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.
- 15** “I will feed My flock and I will lead them to rest,” declares the Lord GOD.
- 16** “I will seek the lost, bring back the scattered, bind up the broken and strengthen the sick; but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with judgment.
- 17** “As for you, My flock, thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Behold, I will judge between one sheep and another, between the rams and the male goats.
- 18** ‘Is it too slight a thing for you that you should feed in the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pastures? Or that you should drink of the clear waters, that you must foul the rest with your feet?
- 19** ‘As for My flock, they must eat what you tread down with your feet and drink what you foul with your feet!’ ”
- 20** Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them, “Behold, I, even I, will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep.
- 21** “Because you push with side and with shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns until you have scattered them abroad,

- 22 therefore, I will deliver My flock, and they will no longer be a prey; and I will judge between one sheep and another.
- 23 “Then I will set over them one shepherd, My servant David, and he will feed them; he will feed them himself and be their shepherd.
- 24 “And I, the LORD, will be their God, and My servant David will be prince among them; I the LORD have spoken.
- 25 “I will make a covenant of peace with them and eliminate harmful beasts from the land so that they may live securely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods.
- 26 “I will make them and the places around My hill a blessing. And I will cause showers to come down in their season; they will be showers of blessing.
- 27 “Also the tree of the field will yield its fruit and the earth will yield its increase, and they will be secure on their land. Then they will know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bars of their yoke and have delivered them from the hand of those who enslaved them.
- 28 “They will no longer be a prey to the nations, and the beasts of the earth will not devour them; but they will live securely, and no one will make *them* afraid.
- 29 “I will establish for them a renowned planting place, and they will not again be victims of famine in the land, and they will not endure the insults of the nations anymore.
- 30 “Then they will know that I, the LORD their God, am with them, and that they, the house of Israel, are My people,” declares the Lord GOD.
- 31 “As for you, My sheep, the sheep of My pasture, you are men, and I am your God,” declares the Lord GOD.

EZEKIEL AT A GLANCE

Book

Theme:

Segment Divisions

Author:

Date:

Purpose:

Key Words:

| Judgment | | Dates | Chapter Themes |
|-----------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| | Vision of God's glory | 5 th year | 1 Ezekiel's vision of living beings and Lord's glory |
| | Ezekiel sent & appointed watchman | | 2 Ezekiel sent to rebellious house of Israel |
| Jerusalem | Signs to exiles: siege, judgment, scattered | | 3 Ate the scroll/ Watchman |
| | | | 4 Sign of Jerusalem's siege |
| | | | 5 Judgment on Jerusalem—1/3, 1/3, 1/3 |
| | To Israel's mountains, lands: end is coming | | 6 To mountains of Israel: desolation for idolatry |
| | | | 7 To land of Israel: judge acc. to your ways |
| Judgment on Jerusalem | Vision: Jerusalem's abominations & God's glory | 6 th year | 8 Vision of abominations in temple |
| | | | 9 Man with writing case—no mark, death |
| | | | 10 Cherubim and Lord's glory to east gate |
| | Judgment on Jerusalem | | 11 Sword against leaders/ Heart of flesh/ Glory departed |
| | | | 12 Baggage—sign of exile/ God's Word no longer delayed |
| | | | 13 Woe to false prophets |
| | | | 14 Elders & idols / If a country sins |
| | | | 15 Jerusalem given to fire |
| | | | 16 Jerusalem's harlotry/ Restoration |

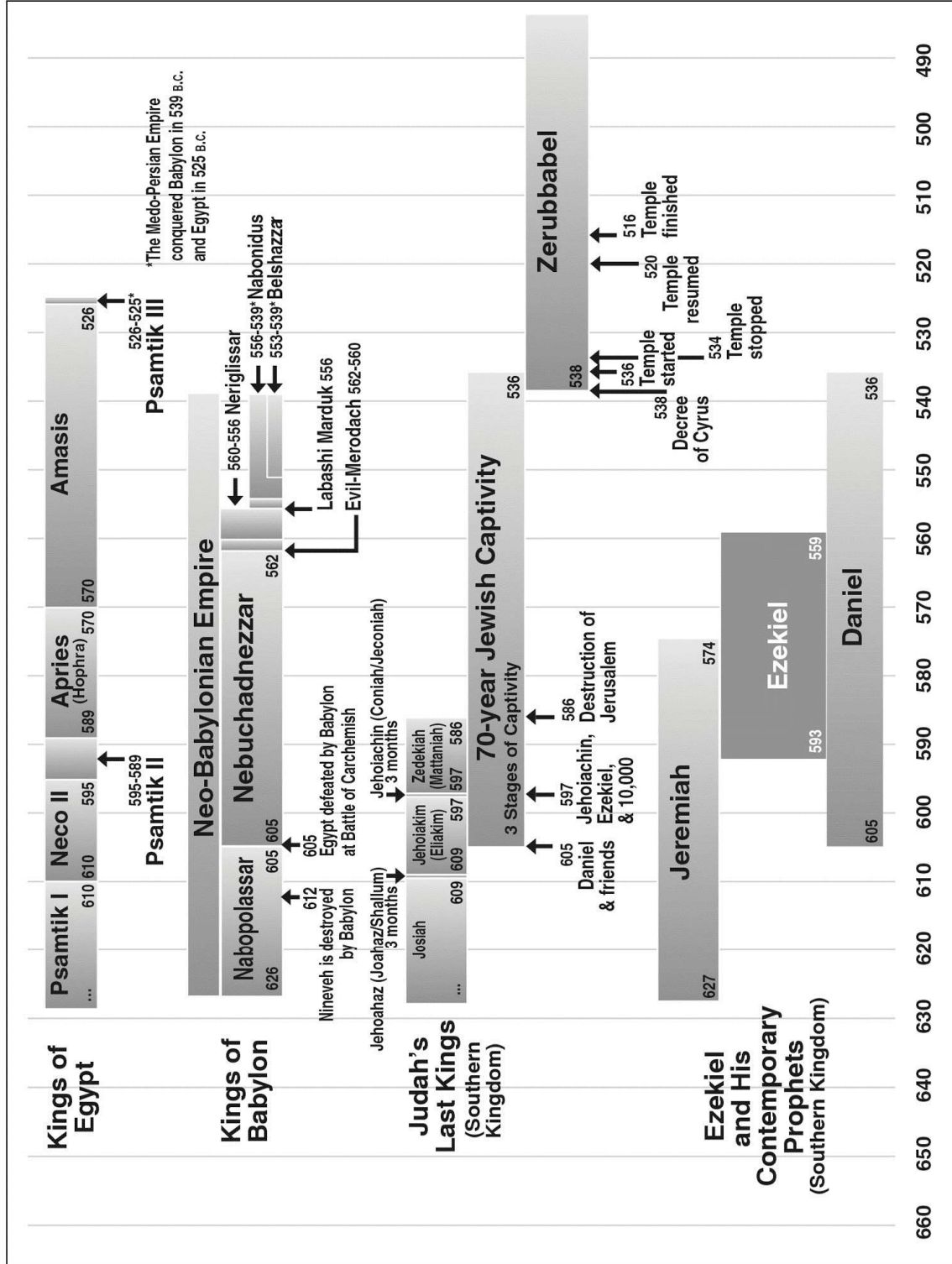
Segment Divisions

| Judgment | | Dates | Chapter Themes | |
|-----------|---------------------------|----------------------|---|---|
| Jerusalem | Judgment on Jerusalem | | 17 Parable of eagles/ King Zedekiah to Babylon | |
| | | | 18 Righteous live, wicked die | |
| | | | 19 Lamentation for princes of Israel | |
| | Sword against bloody city | 7 th year | | 20 To the elders—abominations of the fathers |
| | | | | 21 Lord’s sword against Jerusalem & Ammon |
| | | | | 22 Judge the bloody city |
| | | | | 23 Harlots—Oholah & Oholibah |
| | | 9 th year | | 24 Siege on Jerusalem this day—parable of pot |
| | Nations | Judgment on nations | | 25 Prophecy against Ammon, Moab, Edom, Philistines |
| | Tyre | | 11 th year | |
| | | | | 27 Lamentation over Tyre |
| | | | | 28 Leader, King of Tyre/ Sidon |
| Egypt | 10 th year | | | 29 Prophecy against Pharaoh & Egypt |
| | 11 th year | | | 30 Sword against Egypt |
| | | | | 31 Egypt brought down like Assyria |
| | 12 th year | | | 32 Babylon’s sword will destroy Egypt |

EZEKIEL AT A GLANCE

| Segment Divisions | | |
|-------------------|-------|----------------|
| | Dates | Chapter Themes |
| | | 33 |
| | | 34 |
| | | 35 |
| | | 36 |
| | | 37 |
| | | 38 |
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| | | 47 |
| | | 48 |

THE RULERS AND PROPHETS OF EZEKIEL



THEN "YOU" WILL KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD

THEN "YOU" WILL KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD