

**Bible Study Guide**  
**April 7, 2021**  
**Ezekiel: Introduction**

1. What comes to mind when you hear of the book of Ezekiel? Do you have any general impressions or images, etc. that you connect with this book?
  
2. What do you know about the content of the book of Ezekiel? For example, you know a lot about what's in Genesis – creation, Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. You know a lot about Exodus – Moses, the 10 plagues, the Red Sea crossing, Mount Sinai, the 10 Commandments. You know the story of Ruth. You know stories of some of the kings of Israel in the books of Samuel through Chronicles. There are famous passages you are familiar with from Isaiah and Jeremiah. What do you know about Ezekiel?

Outline:

Chapters 1-3 God called Ezekiel – gave him a job to do

Chapters 4-24 By using special stories and actions Ezekiel taught the people why God would destroy Jerusalem. Judgment on Judah.

Chapters 25-32 Other nations who did not listen to God would also be destroyed. (The nations are addressed in a clockwise circle around Israel – Egypt, the last, would continue to exist but never with its former glory, 29:15)

Chapters 33-48 Ezekiel gave the people God's good news. Someday they would return home and be made a nation again. The restoration of Israel.

3. What do you learn about Ezekiel's age in 1:1?
  
4. What do you learn about where he is in 1:1-3? How long has he been there?

1000 BC – Kings begin reigning in Israel – David, Solomon

722 BC Assyria conquers the Northern Kingdom of Israel

612 BC Nineveh, Assyria's greatest city, falls to the Babylonians

605 BC Battle of Carchemish – Babylon defeats an alliance of Assyrian and Egyptian forces.

597 BC – King of Judah rebelled against Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar squashed the revolt and took 10,000 Jews as exiles to Babylon. Ezekiel was among them.

593 BC – Ezekiel's first vision

5. What might have been some of the things Ezekiel and his fellow exiles were feeling as they were taken to Babylon and settled there?

6. What was Ezekiel's family history/occupation according to Ezekiel 1:3?

7. What phrase(s) in Ezekiel 1:3 point to the source of the contents of the book? According to John 1:1, 14, who would we conclude is the source of the contents of Ezekiel?

8. Read Mark 1:9-11. Where was Jesus when he began his ministry (he saw the heavens being torn open and heard the voice of the Father)?

9. Read Ezekiel 36:22-23. What statement toward the end of those verses gives us a glimpse into God's ultimate purpose in his actions toward the people of Israel in Ezekiel's time? Compare Ezekiel 5:13.