



Prophets in Exile: Ezekiel II.

Michelangelo's Ezekiel, Sistine Chapel

Oracles of judgment against the nations; oracles of consolation for Israel; Ezekiel again a watchman; the restoration of Israel and chapter 37—exegesis, exposition, or both? Future temple and land of Israel.

Ezekiel 23–24, 33–34, 36–43, 47–48.

More Signs, Messages, and Parables about Judgment (from 12:1–24:27)

- **The Parable of the Two Sisters (23:1–49)**
 - Aholah (Samaria) and Aholibah (Jerusalem) (23:1–4)
 - Their infidelities (23:5–21)
 - **Their punishment (23:22–49)**
- **The parable of the boiling pot: Babylon launches her final attack (24:1–14)**
- **The sign of the death of Ezekiel's wife (24:15–27)**

Prophecies of Israel's Restoration (33:1–39:29)

- **Ezekiel's Appointment as a Watchman (33:1–33)**
 - Ezekiel Israel's Sentry (33:1–9)
 - God's justice and mercy (33:10–20)
 - **Wickedness destroyed Jerusalem (33:21–29)**
 - **Exiles, too, are wicked (33:30–33)**
- **Israel's Shepherds (34:1–31; cf. John 10)**
 - False shepherds (34:1–10)
 - **God, the true Shepherd (34:11–31)**
 - "For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, *even* I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out . . . I will feed my flock, and I will cause them to lie down, saith the Lord GOD." (34:11–15)
 - Messianic prophecy: "And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, *even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd.* And I the LORD will be their God, and *my servant David a prince among them;* I the LORD have spoken *it.*" (34:23–24)

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Israel Restored The Rebirth of the Nation (35:1–37:28)

- [The Destruction of Edom: Judgment on Mt. Seir (Edom; 35:1–15)]
- **The New Covenant with Israel (36:1–38)**
 - Blessing on Israel (36:1–15)
 - Renewal of Israel (36:16–38)
 - "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.*" (36:26–27)
- **The Resuscitation of the Nation: the Valley of Dry Bones (37:1–14; *more below*)**
- **The Reuniting of the Nation: Two Sticks (37:15–28; *more below*)**

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The Resuscitation of the Nation

The Valley of Dry Bones (37:1–14)

- “. . . as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone. And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: . . . and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.” (37:7–10)
- **Exegesis: Corporate revival of Israel**
 - Image of the fallen army → “the whole house of Israel,” her fallen political power
 - “And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land . . .” (37:14)
- **Exposition: Individual resurrection**

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The Reuniting of the Nation

Two Sticks (37:15–28)

- “Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and *for* all the house of Israel his companions: And join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand.” (37:16–17)
- **Exegesis: the reuniting of Judah and Israel under a single king**
 - Sticks = scepters or ruling power
- **Exposition: two sets of scriptures used to “gather” Israel**
 - Sticks ≈ writing tablets, posts of scrolls
 - See 1 Nephi 13:38–41; D&C 27:5b

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One Nation, One King, One Temple

- “And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and **one king shall be king to them all**; and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all . . . And **David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd**: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them . . . **my servant David shall be their prince for ever** . . . I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and **will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore. My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people.**” (37:22–27)
- Note how often here, and in other chapters in the second half of Ezekiel is repeated the refrain: **“Israel (or the heathen)” shall know that I am the LORD**”

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The Victory of the Nation over Gog and Magog (38:1–39:29)

- An early “apocalyptic” vision of invasion that symbolizes repeated invasions generally and an eschatological invasion in particular
 - Remember that Assyrians, Babylonians, and most other enemies came “from the north”
- **The invasion by Gog (38:1–16)**
 - The “prince” of a nation “to the north”
- **The victory over Gog (38:17–39:29)**
 - Judgment on Gog (38:17–23)
 - Gog’s armies destroyed (39:1–10)
 - The burial of Gog (39:11–20)
 - Israel restored to the land (39:21–29)

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A New Temple (40:1–43:27)

Prophecies Concerning Israel in the Millennial Kingdom (40:1–48:35)

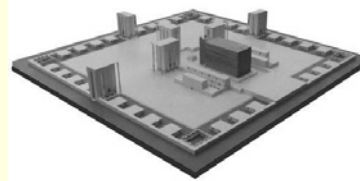
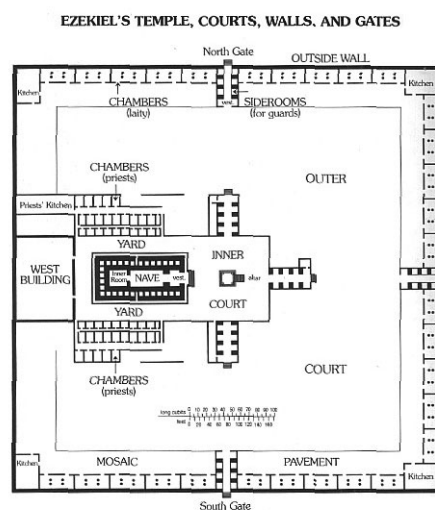
- Introduction (40:1–4)
- The outer court and its three gates (40:5–27)
- The inner court and its three gates (40:28–47)
- **The Temple itself (40:48–41:26)**
- The chambers in the inner court (42:1–20)
- **The return of the glory of the Lord (43:1–12)**
- **The altar of burnt offering (43:13–27)**

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Ezekiel's Temple



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A New Service of Worship (44:1–46:24)

Prophecies Concerning Israel in the Millennial Kingdom (40:1–48:35)

- Those who may minister (44:1–31)
 - The closed gate (44:1–3)
 - Admission to the Temple (44:4–14)
- The Levitical priests (44:15–31)
- Support for those who minister (45:1–17)
 - The holy district (45:1–9)
 - Weights and measure (45:10–12)
 - Offerings (45:13–17)
- Offerings (45:18–46:24)
 - Offerings at the feasts (45:18–25)
 - Offerings on Sabbaths, new moons, and daily sacrifices (46:1–15)
 - Regulations for the prince (46:16–18)
 - Places for preparing the offerings (46:19–24)

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A New Holy Land (47:1–48:35)

- **The river from the Temple giving life to the land (47:1–12; cf. John 4, 1 Nephi 11)**
- The boundaries of the land (47:13–23)
- **The division of the land (48:1–35)**
 - *Seven tribes to the north, five to the south, and “a holy portion” for the sanctuary, priests, Levites, and prince*



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