

A Tour Through the Divine Library
(Ezekiel)

I. General Introduction to Ezekiel

-Title: Ezekiel, the son of Buzi (1:3)

-Author/Date: Ezekiel, between 593 BC (1:1-3) and sometime after 571 BC (29:17); autobiographical (1:4, 15, 24, 27, etc.); of the aristocracy? (2 Kings 24:14); contemporary of Jeremiah and Daniel (Dan. 1:1-6)

-Purpose: show the exiles the reason for their misery; announce God's coming judgment on the nations; declare the glorious future in store for God's people

-Structure:

I. Ezekiel's Commission (chs. 1-3)

II. Judgments Against Judah (chs. 4-24)

III. Judgments Against the Surrounding Nations (chs. 25-32)

IV. Restoration of Israel (chs. 33-48)

II. General Overview of Ezekiel

-Dates: 5th year of Jehoiachin's exile (1:2); 6th year (8:1); 7th year (20:1); 9th year (24:1); 10th year (29:1); 11th year (26:1 30:20 31:1); 12th year (32:1, 17; 33:21); 25th year (40:1); 27th year (29:17)

-Ezekiel's Commission (chs. 1-3)

-Visions: Lord (ch. 1); Scroll (chs. 2, 3); Abominations in the Temple (ch. 8); Slaughter (ch. 9); Glory of the Lord Departing from the Temple (ch. 10); Valley of the Dry Bones (ch. 37); New Temple (chs. 40-48)

-Symbolic Actions: Brick (ch. 4); Prophet's Posture (ch. 4); Famine (ch. 4); Sword and Razor (ch. 5); Prophet Moving (ch. 12); Sharpened Sword (ch. 21); Prophet's Wife's Death (ch. 24); Two Sticks (ch. 37)

- Judgments Against Surrounding Nations: Ammon (ch. 25); Moab (ch. 25); Edom (ch. 25); Philistia (ch. 25); Tyre (chs. 26-28); Sidon (ch. 28); Egypt (chs. 29-32)

-Future Restoration of Israel (chs. 33-48)

III. Prominent Themes in Ezekiel

-God's Character: Glory (1:28; 3:12, 23; 9:3; 10:4, 18, 19; 11:23; 43:4, 5; 44:4) Holiness (1:26-28; chs. 8-11; 43:1-7) Justice (18:25, 29; 33:17, 20) Patience (20:17) Wrath (7:19) Love and Grace (ch. 16); Israel's Sinfulness (2:3-7; 5:6; 8:9, 10; 9:9; 16:15-59); Godly Leadership (chs. 13, 34); Son of Man (90+ times); New Covenant (16:60, 62; 34:25; 37:26); New Birth (36:26-28 with Rev. 21:3; 37:1-14); New Creation (chs. 40-48; 47:1, 12 with Gen. 2:9, 10, Rev. 22:1, 2)

IV. Christ in Ezekiel

-In the Prophet ("Son of Man")

-In the Prophecy (17:22, 23; 34:23; 37:24)

V. Practical Lessons in Ezekiel

1) Hearing the Word of God (Ezek. 33:30-32)

2) Personal Responsibility (Ezek. 18:20, 21, 31, 32; 33:11; Luke 13:24)

3) Christian Hope