
BOOK OVERVIEW

Ezekiel

Author: Ezekiel

Date: 593-571 B.C.

Recipients: Israeli exiles and some Gentile nations

Key words: “Ye (they, thou) shall know that I am the LORD” (70 times), “Son of man” (91 times, used by Jesus of Himself 79 times)

Summary: The first half of the book reviews the sins of Israel and God’s accompanying judgement, especially upon Jerusalem. This is followed by God’s impending judgment on several Gentile nations. The book concludes with prophecies of a renewed Jerusalem and temple.

Key verses: Ezekiel 36:17-19, 24-28

Notes:

Ezekiel, who was a priest, ministered in Babylon where he had been taken as a captive with Judah’s king Jehoaichin. (597 B.C.) He arrived about 8 years after Daniel and about 12 years before Jerusalem was finally destroyed. (586 B.C.)

The “30 years” in verse 1 is thought by some to be Ezekiel’s age, the age at which the priests began their duties. (Numbers 4:3)

Several times God used Ezekiel as a provocative visual aid to communicate His truths to the Israelites in captivity.

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