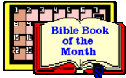


# EZEKIEL – Part 1



Text: Ezekiel 1 - 24

## TEACHER'S NOTES

The book of Ezekiel ranks second in actual word count among the prophetic books (39,407 words as compared to Jeremiah's 42, 659) and stand third in size in the entire Bible (behind Psalms and Jeremiah).

In spite of its size, this book may well be the most neglected of the prophets. For some reason Bible students today think they cannot possibly understand the book of Ezekiel. Often the book is regarded as having little spiritual value or relevance to us.

While Ezekiel virtually has been neglected by the church at large, it has come to be the happy hunting ground of cultists. Ezekiel is cited by self-styled "students of prophecy" for what ever purpose they want to use the book for. It is considered as the "proof" for the modern Zionist movement and of an imminent Russian invasion of Israel and of plans to soon reinstitute animal sacrifice in Israel and of their plans to rebuilt the Temple (before 1988 this was the latest exciting prophecy).

Others see in Ezekiel spaceships and extra-terrestrial beings.

The book is fascinating also because of the way the material is presented. It is replete with visions, allegories, and action parables. Ezekiel has been dubbed the "audio-visual aids prophet." If a picture is worth a thousand words then Ezekiel is artfully verbose.

Our plan is to survey Ezekiel in two lessons, and then survey Daniel in two lessons to complete this month of studies in the Major Prophets of the O.T.

**Pg 2:** Ezekiel had been in captivity 5 years when he was called in 592 BC (Num. 4:3) Thirty yrs was the age priests began their work. Ezekiel saw four living beings, said to be Cherubs or angels. These are the same that John saw in Revelation.

2:9 - 3:3 reminds us of Rev. 10:9-11 where John at a book or roll.

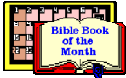
**Pg. 3:** The faithful are often called "the remnant" in the prophets.

In the temple visions Ezekiel saw all kinds of idolatry being practiced by the people in Jerusalem.

**Pg. 4.** This date corresponds to Jan. 15, 587 BC.

(We can know the precise date on the grave marker of the death of the wife of this prophet.)

# EZEKIEL – Part 2



## Text: Ezekiel 25 - 48 TEACHER'S NOTES

[Be sure you obtain the “Teacher’s Notes” on Ezekiel - 1.]

There are seven nations total that Ezekiel addresses in his book, the four in ch. 25 are: Ammon, Moab, Edom, Philistia, others are Tyre, Sidon, and Egypt.

All the nations geographically *surrounded* Judah.

**Tyre or Satan.** There is much confusion about the “fall” of Satan because many get their theology about Satan from Milton’s “Paradise Lost” instead of from the Bible. There is no real evidence, for example, that Lucifer is Satan’s name, but rather a description of the king of Babylon and his haughty attitude (Isa. 14:12ff, and v. 4), it may be? (Luke 10:18 for similar description.)

**Valley of Dry Bones.** Some may remember the old spiritual “The ankle bone connected to the leg bone, the leg bone connected to the thigh bone” etc. It comes from this chapter.

Ezekiel sees the bones come together, form skeletons, stand up, flesh and muscle and skin cover them and they go off marching like a mighty army back to Israel.

It is a type of resurrection; a promise of a return to their homeland after the seventy years of captivity.

**Ezekiel 37:16-19** is used by the Mormons to “prove” their book of Mormon is to be added to the Bible. They said the stick of Joseph is the Book of Mormon and the stick of Judah is the Bible, and that they are both needed and are ONE before the Lord. BUT a study of the passage in context helps us to understand God is talking about the northern tribes and the southern tribes all being One Nation again after the captivity.

**Ezekiel 38.** Some passages in Ezekiel have been made to apply to visitors from outer space (the cherubim and appear to Ezekiel in ch. 1 and ch. 10). This chapter is also given some fanciful interpretations about a great war with Russia at the end of time, etc.

The Lesson #2 about the Life-giving stream comes from Ezekiel 47:1-12 which we didn’t mention in the lesson sheet itself. This chapter deals with a river of life emerging from the Temple and flowing through the land.

### QUESTIONS:

1. See the outline of the book, on page 1.
2. Only GOD can reveal to man the future in such accurate precise details. Predictive prophecy stands as one of the **greatest** proofs that the Bible is the inspired Word of God, ONLY God could have given it to man.
3. Satan himself, or both the king and Satan.
4. Israel will return to their land after the captivity.
5. In this Christian age or dispensation.