

# EXILIC & POST-EXILIC PROPHETS OF THE BIBLE

Senior Adults & Friends Bible Study — Summit View Church of Christ  
Summer 2022

## PART THREE, SECTION 2

### Ezekiel's Prophecies of Jerusalem's Fall

- **Ezekiel 3:16 to 5:17**

*Ezekiel lived among Jewish exiles in Babylonia near the Kebar River who had been taken into exile with King Jehoiachin in March 597 BC (see 1:2). He had been taken along with them (hence the phrase "our exile" in 33:21 and 40:1).*

*These readings all come from one continuous message that Ezekiel received from God on **August 7, 593 BC**, seven days after his first message from God. Ezekiel was apparently 30 years old at this time (1:1 to 3:16).*

#### **Ezekiel 3:16-21**

3:17 — God made Ezekiel a \_\_\_\_\_ for the people of Israel, to hear God's message and give the people a \_\_\_\_\_ from him.

3:18-19 — If God declared punishment for a wicked person, what was Ezekiel's responsibility?

- What would happen if he didn't do it?
- What would happen to Ezekiel if he did it, but the wicked person didn't listen?

3:20-21 — What responsibility did Ezekiel have toward a righteous person who turned from righteousness and did evil?

- What would happen if Ezekiel did not do it?
- What would happen to the righteous person and to Ezekiel if Ezekiel fulfilled his responsibility *and* the righteous person took warning?
- *What does this teaching for Ezekiel imply for teachers, ministers, and shepherds in the church today? What responsibility do they have to people who sin?*
  - *Do you think the responsibility of teachers/ministers/shepherds in the church is the same as Ezekiel's responsibility as a prophet to Israel or different? Why?*

#### **Ezekiel 3:22-27**

3:23 — *The "glory of the Lord" is the Lord's presence in a visible form, as in chapter 1 (especially verses 26-28), where the Lord appears with a mighty angelic entourage that guide his mobile throne in the visions of chapters 1, 3, 9-11, and 43.*

3:25 — What would the people (Ezekiel's fellow Jewish exiles in Babylonia) do to him?

3:26 — What would God himself do to Ezekiel?

3:27 — When would Ezekiel be able to speak?

3:27 — The Lord tells Ezekiel, “Whoever will \_\_\_\_\_ let them \_\_\_\_\_, and whoever will \_\_\_\_\_ let them \_\_\_\_\_; for they are a rebellious people.”

#### **Ezekiel 4**

4:1-3 — What did the Lord command Ezekiel to do with a block of clay?

- What would this “sign to the people of Israel” mean?

4:4-5 — God commanded Ezekiel to lie on his \_\_\_\_\_ side and “put the sin of the people of Israel upon” himself for \_\_\_\_\_ days, a day for each year of their sin.

4:6-8 — God commanded Ezekiel to lie on his \_\_\_\_\_ side and “bear the sin of the people of Judah” for \_\_\_\_\_ days, a day for each year of their sin.

4:9-17 — What would the limits set on Ezekiel’s food supply during all this time mean for the people of Jerusalem during the Babylonian siege? (See verses 16-17.)

#### **Ezekiel 5**

5:1-4 — List the 5 things Ezekiel was to do with his hair, which represented what God would do with the people of Jerusalem:

- verse 2: \_\_\_\_\_ a third of the hair inside the “city”
- verse 2: take a third and strike it with the \_\_\_\_\_ all around the “city”
- verse 2: scatter a third to the \_\_\_\_\_
- verse 3: tuck a few hairs away in the folds of your \_\_\_\_\_
- verse 4: take a few of the tucked-away hairs and throw them into the \_\_\_\_\_

5:5-11 — List two or three of the sins for which God would punish Jerusalem:

5:12 — God foretold that the people of Jerusalem would die of the \_\_\_\_\_, perish by \_\_\_\_\_, fall by the \_\_\_\_\_, or be \_\_\_\_\_ to the winds and pursued with drawn \_\_\_\_\_.

#### ***food for thought...***

5:13-17 — *Is the God of Israel a vengeful, spiteful God? If not, why would he treat his people this way? What do you think?*

- *Does God still punish people or nations like this today? Will he ever do so in the future? What do you think, based on this part of Ezekiel and your knowledge of other Scripture texts?*