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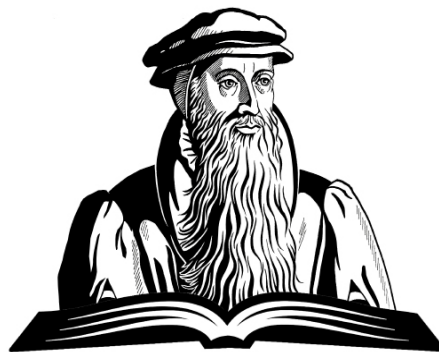
**BIBLE FOR
6TH GRADE STUDENTS**

Old Testament

Lesson 83

Ezekiel, the Captive Prophet

Lecture Presenter: Dr. Daniel Sweetman



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

John Knox Institute of Higher Education

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Module

BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

Old Testament

113 LESSONS

77 Lessons presented by Mr. Daniel Van Brugge

36 Lessons presented by Dr. Daniel Sweetman

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|--|---|
| 01. The Bible: The Word of God | 26. Joseph and His Brethren |
| 02. Creation: The Work of an Almighty God | 27. Jacob Comes to Joseph |
| 03. Man: A Special Place in God's Creation | 28. God Heard Their Cry |
| 04. A Gracious Promise | 29. Moses and the Burning Bush |
| 05. Cain and Abel | 30. Let My People God |
| 06. Only Noah Found Grace | 31. Deliverance |
| 07. The Coming Judgment –A Way of Escape | 32. God's Patience with a Complaining People |
| 08. The Noahic Covenant | 33. Keeping the Law: Not to Merit /Thankfulness |
| 09. The Tower of Babel | 34. The Lord Dwells Among His People |
| 10. Abram: Called by God | 35. A Priest for the People |
| 11. Abram Intercedes for Lot | 36. Moses Intercedes for a Rebellious People |
| 12. Melchizadek | 37. Worshiping God Rightly |
| 13. Righteous by Faith | 38. Walk Not According to the World |
| 14. Two Sons | 39. Hearts of Ingratitude |
| 15. Lessons from Lot's Life | 40. Aaron's Rod Blossoming |
| 16. Faithless Abraham – Faithful God | 41. The Serpent of Brass Lifted Up |
| 17. Abraham Tested – God's Provision | 42. Phinehas Turning Away God's Wrath |
| 18. Isaac and Rebekah | 43. Cities of Refuge |
| 19. Jacob: A Better Desire than Esau | 44. A New Generation |
| 20. Jacob the Deceiver | 45. Moses' Last Days |
| 21. God Preserves Jacob | 46. Joshua—God's Promise Fulfilled |
| 22. Jacob Returns to Beth-el | 47. A Promise to Rahab |
| 23. Joseph Loved – Joseph Hated | 48. The Rise of Judges |
| 24. An Eye upon God | 49. Gideon—God with Him |
| 25. Joseph Raised Out of Prison | 50. Samson |

51. Ruth the Moabitess
52. Samuel Judges Israel
53. Israel's First King
54. The Kingdom Established
55. David Anointed the Next King
56. David Hunted by Saul
57. The Last Days of Saul
58. David, the Next King
59. Fetching the Ark
60. Thou Art the Man
61. David's Return to Jerusalem
62. Seven Sons of Saul Killed
63. Genealogies of Israel
64. David Appointed King
65. David's Kingdom Established
66. David Prepares for the Temple
67. David's Departing Instructions
68. Solomon Becomes King
69. Solomon Builds the House of God
70. The Kingdom is Rent
71. A Wicked Divided Kingdom
72. Ahab's Reign and Death
73. Elisha Begins his Work
74. Elisha's Voice is Heard
75. A Succession of Kings
76. Ahaz and Hezekiah
77. The Captivity of Judah
78. Introduction to the Prophets
79. Isaiah's Vision & Song
80. Isaiah Prophecies about Christ
81. The Prophet Jeremiah Called and Sent
82. Jeremiah Opposed and Comforted
- 83. Ezekiel, the Captive Prophet**
84. Ezekiel's Comforting Visions
85. Daniel and His Three Friends
86. Nebuchadnezzar's Forgotten Dream
87. Three Friends in the Fiery Furnace
88. Nebuchadnezzar's Madness
89. The Writing on the Wall
90. Daniel in the Lions' Den
91. Daniel's Visions and Dreams
92. Ezra—Return from Captivity
93. Ezra—Rebuilding the Temple
94. Ezra—The Scribe
95. Nehemiah—Rebuilding the Walls
96. Nehemiah—The Task Completed
97. Esther the Queen
98. Esther—Haman's Plot
99. Esther—The Jews Saved
100. Hosea—The Minor Prophets
101. Joel and the Day of the LORD
102. Amos the Fearless Herdsman
103. Obadiah Prophecies Edom's Fall
104. Jonah's Flight
105. Jonah's Mission
106. Micah Preaches Judgment & Mercy
107. Nahum—A Message for Nineveh
108. Habakkuk's Questions, God's Replies
109. Zephaniah—Threatenings & Promises
110. Haggai Urges Building the Temple
111. Zechariah—The Night Visions
112. Zechariah Prophecies of Christ
113. Malachi—Last Old Testament Prophet

Lesson 83

Ezekiel, the Captive Prophet, Called to Startle Unbelievers

The Book of the Prophet Ezekiel, chapters 1 through 16

Memory Verse

“And I will establish my covenant with thee; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD: that thou mayest remember, and be confounded, and never open thy mouth anymore because of thy shame, when I am pacified toward thee for all that thou hast done, saith the Lord GOD.” —Ezekiel 16:62–63

The Prophet Ezekiel

One of the captives taken to Babylon by King Nebuchadnezzar was a young man named Ezekiel. He was the son of a priest. He was taken captive with King Jehoiachin, eleven years before the destruction of Jerusalem. Many of the captive people of Judah were settled in colonies near the river Chebar. This is where we find him, in Ezekiel chapter 1. There, Ezekiel suddenly saw a startling vision. He saw a whirlwind, a great cloud, and a fire. Out of it came four living creatures with wings, moving very rapidly. Ezekiel also saw turning wheels, large ones and small ones. Then, the Lord showed Jeremiah a glimpse of His divine glory upon the throne in heaven.

Ezekiel was so overwhelmed that he fell on his face to the ground. But then the Lord said, “Son of man, stand up on thy feet, and I will speak unto thee.” With deep reverence, Ezekiel listened to the voice of the Lord calling him to the office of prophet. He had to go to the captives and proclaim God’s word to them. The Lord warned Ezekiel that, just as in Jerusalem, so also here, the people would not want to listen to him. They would be as “briers and thorns” to him, but he must continue to warn them in the name of the Lord and, the Lord said, “They shall know that I am the LORD.” Ezekiel was astonished and frightened by the commission he received, and for seven days he was speechless. But then the Lord filled him with courage and strength for his task.

Ezekiel 4

Why was God dealing so harshly with them? Many of the captives murmured. In the book of Ezekiel we can read how time and again, in many different ways, that Ezekiel had to convince the people of the reality of their sins. The Lord gave Ezekiel unusual visions, and told him to use graphic images to startle the people out of their deep-rooted pride and unbelief. In Ezekiel chapter 4, he had to take a tile, like a clay tablet. On it, the Lord told Ezekiel to draw a picture of the city of Jerusalem, with homes, streets and walls. Then Ezekiel drew soldiers around the city with battering rams. Next, Ezekiel put an iron pan between himself and the tile. He stretched out his arm over the tile as if to push it down. Then Ezekiel explained his actions to the people watching him. False prophets were reassuring the people that Jerusalem would not be destroyed, but the Lord said that the city and Temple would be destroyed. The suffering of those still living

in the city would become very great, and finally they too would be led into captivity.

Ezekiel 16

In Ezekiel chapter 16, the Lord describes how he took his people from bondage in Egypt and raised them up to great favour. The people of Israel are compared to a small abandoned infant, whom the Lord rescued, loved, and cared for. The infant grew up and became a beautiful woman. In the same way, the people of Israel, blessed by the Lord, prospered. The Lord's covenant with his people is compared to a marriage covenant. Then in a graphic way, Ezekiel described the awful unfaithfulness of the people of Israel, and the great wickedness they fell into, becoming even worse than the heathens. After reading Ezekiel 16:15–34, who could still accuse God of injustice for punishing the people of Israel?

What a shock it must have been to those listening to Ezekiel and beginning to realize their great guilt, when unexpectedly, in verse 60, God promised mercy! God would not forget his covenant with Israel. He would teach them to repent, and renew his covenant of love and favor towards them. In verse 63, we read that God would be “pacified” toward his people. This means that God would provide an atonement, a sacrifice for their sin. God will send his own Son to be the “offering, and the sacrifice to God, for a sweet smelling savour” (Ephesians 5:2). Have you come to realize that only because of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, your sins can be forgiven? If you have, how very precious Jesus Christ will be to you.

Review Questions

1. Ezekiel 1:1 says, “*Now it came to pass, in the thirtieth year.*” This probably refers to: (circle)
 - a. How long Ezekiel had been in Babylon
 - b. The anniversary of the destruction of the Temple
 - c. Ezekiel's age

2. In Ezekiel 3:15, we read that Ezekiel prophesied in:
 - a. Babylon
 - b. Tel Abib
 - c. Jerusalem

3. In Ezekiel 2 and 3, Ezekiel saw a hand giving him a scroll, and heard a voice telling him to:
 - a. Eat it
 - b. Read it
 - c. Copy it

4. The Lord would make Ezekiel a “Watchman unto the house of Israel” (Ezekiel 3:17), and tells Ezekiel that his main task would be to:

5. Copy the phrase which is repeated more than fifty times in the book of Ezekiel (Ezekiel 6:7b).

“*And ye* _____”

6. Find this phrase in four more places in Ezekiel—fill in the verse numbers:
Ezekiel 7: _____, Ezekiel 12: _____, Ezekiel 13: _____, Ezekiel 14: _____

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think the phrase you copied in question 5 is repeated so many times in the book of Ezekiel? _____

2. What you think it would take, to convince today’s leaders and people that God is the LORD?

3. In Ezekiel 16:60, and in the Memory Verse, Ezekiel 16:62, we read three times of God remembering and establishing his covenant. Which covenant does the Lord mean?

4. In Ezekiel 16:61, we read, *“When thou shalt receive thy sisters, thine elder and thy younger: and I will give them unto thee for daughters...”*

Who is meant by the elder and younger sisters? (See verse 53 and 55)

5. If you have Matthew Henry’s commentary, look up what Matthew Henry says about these sisters. Who does he say they point to?
