

THE KING IS COMING

Survey of Judah Alone, Captivity, Return, and Years of Silence

LESSON 10: THE PROPHECY OF DANIEL (PART 1: DAN 1-4)
... *PROPHECY*

CONNECTION. During the reign of which world empire did God promise to establish his kingdom, and how does Jesus fulfill this prophecy?

Optional: Why is the prophecy of Dan 2 a real problem for those who believe that we are still waiting for an earthly kingdom?

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APPLICATION. Daniel 1 and 3 emphasize the faithfulness of Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. They could go along with aspects of Babylonian culture such as taking on new names and learning the language and literature of their captors. But there were lines that they would not cross. They would not break the law of God. As American culture continues to change, decide what lines you will not cross and prepare yourself through prayer and meditation to meet the challenges that may lie ahead for Christians.

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LESSON 11: THE PROPHECY OF EZEKIEL (PART 1: EZEK 1-32) . . . *PROPHECY*

MEMORY. Memorize Ezek 18:32.

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READING. Read Ezek 1-32. (If time does not permit, read Ezek 1-3, 8-11.) After doing your reading, in the space below write down something that you found to be interesting/important. It can be something that you have never noticed before or something that you want to remember/apply.

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DISCUSSION.

1. *Commission* (Ezek 1-3). When did Ezekiel see the vision of the glory of God, and where was Ezekiel when he saw it? (1:1-3) Briefly describe what Ezekiel saw? (vv. 4-28) How does God describe the people of Judah, and what was Ezekiel to preach to them? (2:3-7)

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DISCUSSION.

2. *Indictment* (Ezek 4-11). God made Ezekiel use the following items/activities as signs against Judah: a brick (4:1-3), posture (vv. 4-8), bread (vv. 9-17), and shaving (5:1-17). What did these items/activities symbolize? After various oracles, the prophet sees visions of what in Ezek 8-11? Which of these visions is the most significant to you, and why?

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DISCUSSION.

3. *Judah* (Ezek 12-24). Ezekiel 12-24 records signs, oracles, parables, proverbs, and laments to describe the divine judgment of Judah. If you do not have time to read Ezek 12-24, scan the headings and summarize why God was certainly going to judge his people. What punishment was coming against Judah?

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DISCUSSION.

4. *Nations* (Ezek 25-32). Ezekiel 25-32 predicts the judgment of the surrounding nations. What nations are mentioned? (Ezek 25:2, 8, 12, 15; 26:2; 28:21; 29:2) What nation did God use to overthrow these nations? (25:4, 10; 26:7; 29:19; 30:10; cf. 26:3) Label the overthrown and the overthrowing nations on the map below. Why did God punish these nations?

Assyrian Districts in the Land of Israel



The Babylonian Empire (609-539 BC)



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CONNECTION. How does Ezek 17:22-24 find its ultimate fulfillment in Jesus Christ?

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APPLICATION. Read Ezek 18:20. Ezekiel 18:20 was not written primarily to combat the false doctrine of total inherited depravity. It highlights our personal responsibility toward God. Is there any sin for which you are blaming others? Take responsibility for it today! “Turn back and live” (v. 32b).