

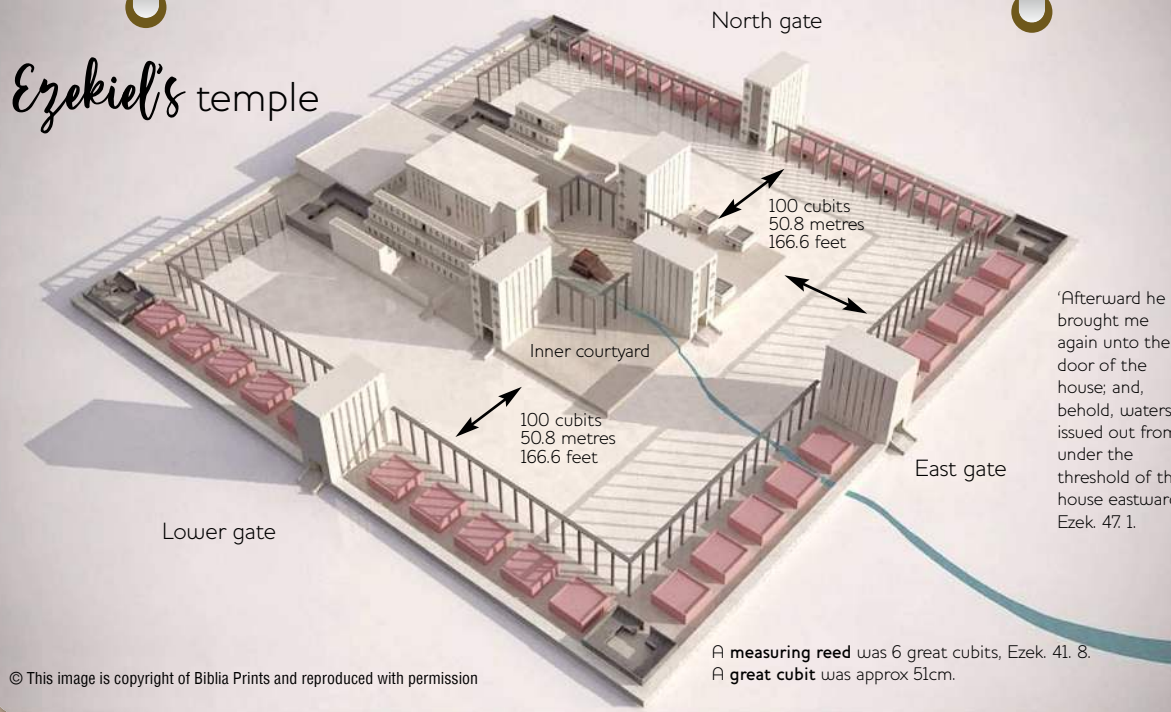
## Ezekiel's message ...can these bones live?

**A priest and a prophet**  
 Ezekiel means, 'God strengthens', but this young priest taken captive to Babylon in the prime of his service must have felt his great weakness and that of his people. He would see God's glory while in Babylon by the river Chebar! Why is God's glory in Babylon? The first eleven chapters answer that, as Ezekiel's judgements upon the nation tell us why, while in chapter 11 God gives him a vision of the temple back in Jerusalem in his absence. It is a sorry state of things as Ezekiel watches the glory of God driven away. The book will close with the glory returning, but first Ezekiel must be faithful as a prophet in his condemnation of the nation, the city, and the nations. He will do this with dramatic prophecies, parables, signs, and symbols. The phrase 'know that I am the Lord' is found more times in this book than the rest of the Bible, as God through Ezekiel wants both the nation and the nations to know who He is and how accountable they all are to Him. Ezekiel was called to go to a 'rebellious nation', and whether the people listen or not they will know that 'there hath been a prophet among them', 2. 5, and they are without excuse before a God who is no respecter of persons.

**A Son of Man**  
 This 'title' is used 94 times in the book. While the Lord Jesus called himself 'the Son of man', Ezekiel is just 'a' son of man, a frail human being who was bereaved, 24. 18, but prepared to stand in the gap for God to reveal Him to the nations, and a type of Christ as prophet. He is also called a 'watchman', and he gives us a glimpse of the glorious future and regathering of the nation in chapters 38 and 39, followed by a vision of the millennial temple when 'the Son of man' will come in glory and reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.

## { Great failure | Glorious future }

### Ezekiel's temple



### Ezekiel's questions.

**Who is the Prince of Tyre, Ezek. 28. 11-19?**  
 The accuracy with which the fall of Tyre was prophesied is remarkable and closely linked with its demise is the King/Prince of Tyre. On the face of it, he seems to be another evil, proud king who falls, but the detail points beyond the human for this is someone who was 'created perfect', 28. 15, and was in Eden's garden. Ezekiel presents a dual prophecy, revealing, firstly, the King of Tyre's fall, but, secondly, how it followed the pattern of his master, Satan himself, who fell through pride. Gog and Magog's future destruction by Babylon is typical of Satan's final destruction.

**Who is the shepherd, Ezek. 34?**  
 The leadership and shepherds of Israel are held accountable in chapter 34 but God promises to gather the nation under 'my servant David', v. 23. Some think this is David himself (resurrected with the Old Testament saints). But, according to John chapter 10 verse 16, there is only 'one shepherd', Jesus Christ, who can meet the nation's needs. The 'showers of blessing' can come alone through the root and offspring of David and in that day 'the house of David shall be as God', Zech. 12. 8. David will be a prince 'among them', but not 'over' them and since the prince will offer sacrifices in the millennial temple the prince there certainly cannot be the Lord Jesus.

**Who is Gog of Magog, Ezek. 38. 1-3; 39. 1-29?**  
 Gog and Magog both appear in Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39, see also Rev. 20. 8, 9. In Ezekiel, it refers to a leader of an ancient northern people from modern day Armenia/ Crimea who will form a confederacy against Israel in 'latter years', when they are regathered in their land in the first half of the tribulation, 39. 27. They will not succeed as God will preserve Israel, but all the nations shall see God's power, 38. 23. In Revelation, Gog and Magog are part of the final rebellion of Satan after the 1000 year reign of Christ, referring to all the world's evil nations. They too will fail and Satan will be cast into the lake of fire. This places northern nations like Russia firmly in Bible prophecy.

### Ezekiel's diaries.

'Son of man, write thee the name of the day, even of this same day: the king of Babylon set himself against Jerusalem this same day', Ezek. 24. 2

Key dates in Ezekiel's ministry following Jehoiachin's exile, Ezek. 1. 2

Ch 1. 2.	5th day   4th month   5th year	Opening vision
Ch 8. 1.	5th day   6th month   6th year	Temple vision in his absence
Ch 20. 1.	10th day   5th month   7th year	Elders' enquiry
Ch 24. 1.	10th day   10th month   9th year	Jerusalem attacked
Ch 26. 1.	1st day   ? month   11th year	Lament against Tyre
Ch 29. 1.	12th day   10th month   10th year	Lament against Egypt
Ch 29. 17.	1st day   1st month   27th year	Egypt's captivity in Babylon
Ch 30. 20.	7th day   1st month   11th year	Lament against Egypt
Ch 31. 1.	1st day   3rd month   11th year	Lament against Egypt
Ch 32. 1.	1st day   12th month   12th year	Lament against Pharaoh
Ch 32. 17.	15th day   12th month   12th year	Lament against Egypt
Ch 33. 21.	5th day   10th month   12th year	Lament against Israel
Ch 40. 1.	10th day   1st month   25th year	Temple vision 2

Chh. 1-24 – Prophecies accusing the nation and the city. **The glory of God has departed.** | Chh. 25-32 – Prophecies concerning the nations and coming judgement. **The judgement of God is deserved** | Chh. 33-48 – Plans for a future temple. **The people of God restored**

#### The glory of God has departed from the nation.

**God's voice by Chebar - Ezekiel is called**  
 Ch. 1 – The vision of the throne of God  
 Ch. 2 – The voice from the throne of God  
 Ch. 3 – The voice of the watchman of God

**God's view of the city - Ezekiel condemns it**  
 Ch. 4 – Sign of the tablet, a coming siege of the city  
 Ch. 5 – Sign of the shaven head of the nation  
 Ch. 6 – The sign of stamping feet, destruction coming  
 Ch. 7 – The Babylonian victory, the day draweth nigh

**God's view of the sanctuary - Ezekiel cries for it**  
 Ch. 8 – The glory defiled in the temple  
 Ch. 9 – The glory departs from the sanctuary  
 Ch. 10 – The glory departs from the threshold  
 Ch. 11 – The glory departs from the city

**God view of Israel - Ezekiel condemns them**  
 Ch. 12 – The rebellious house, time to move house  
 Ch. 13 – The foolish prophets, false and flimsy  
 Ch. 14 – Too late for Noah, Daniel or Job to plead.  
 Ch. 15 – The useless vine, only fit for the fire  
 Ch. 16 – An unfaithful wife, Israel wicked and wayward  
 Ch. 17 – Parable of two eagles and tree brought down

Ch. 18 – The soul that sinneth it shall die  
 Ch. 19 – The lion's lament, princes of Israel

**Judgement on Jerusalem**  
 Ch. 20 – The elders enquire again - judgement  
 Ch. 21 – The sword is sharpened - judgement  
 Ch. 22 – Mind the gap for judgement is coming  
 Ch. 23 – Two adulteresses, Samaria and Jerusalem  
 Ch. 24 – The rebellious city - Ezekiel's wife dies.

**The judgement of God deserved on the nations. Canaanites**  
 Ch. 25 – Against Ammonites, Moab, Edom and Philistia  
**Tyre and Sidon**  
 Ch. 26 – Tyre's downfall under Nebuchadnezzar  
 Ch. 27 – Lamenting Tyre's industry and beauty  
 Ch. 28 – Fall of Prince of Tyre, a Satanic power  
**Egypt**  
 Ch. 29 – Pharaoh and Babylon's wages  
 Ch. 30 – Egypt's idols destroyed  
 Ch. 31 – Egypt cut down like Assyria  
 Ch. 32 – Judgement against Pharaoh and all Egypt

**The people of God restored**  
 Ch. 33 – Ezekiel appointed as the watchman  
 Ch. 34 – Israel regathered under the good shepherd  
 Ch. 35 – Prophecy against Edom and Mount Seir  
 Ch. 36 – Prophecy against the mountains of Israel  
 Ch. 37 – The valley of dry bones, they may live  
 Ch. 38 – Gog and Magog will not prevail  
 Ch. 39 – All nations shall know God's power

**The Temple**  
 Ch. 40 – Measuring the house and the court  
 Ch. 41 – The holy place, the posts and the altar  
 Ch. 42 – Measuring the chambers and outer court  
 Ch. 43 – The glory of God fills the house  
**The worship**  
 Ch. 44 – The priestly ministry, clothed and cleansed  
 Ch. 45 – The holy portion of land and passover eaten  
 Ch. 46 – The offerings in the house  
**The land**  
 Ch. 47 – The division of the land  
 Ch. 48 – The city called 'The Lord is there'.