

# **Our God is YHWH**

*A Study of Ezekiel's Prophecy*

## **The Vision of the Temple**

**Lesson 17**

**Ezekiel 40-46**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School*

*December 22, 2019*

# Ezekiel

Our God/Lord is YAHWEH/LORD/GOD													593-571 BC = 22 years of ministry																																		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
1 Ezek. called	the wrath of the Lord GOD																the goodness of the Lord GOD																														
	<u>judgment for Jerusalem</u>																<u>judgment for the nations</u>																<u>restoration of Israel</u>				<u>restoration of the LORD'S presence</u>										
2-3 Ezek. sent	4-7	① the coming judgment of Jerusalem														24	① the boiling pot · the sign of Ezekiel														34	① Israel's Shepherd				40-42	① the temple										
	8-11	② God's glory departs from Jerusalem														25	② Ammon, Moab, Edom, Philistia														35	② Mount Seir				43-46	② the service										
	12-14	③ imminent judgment without hope														26-28	③ Tyre & Sidon														36	③ a new covenant				47-48	③ the land										
	15-19	④ the unfaithfulness of Israel														29-32	④ Egypt														37	④ the dry bones				YHWH SHAMMAH "the LORD is there"											
	20-23	⑤ the unanswerable closing argument														33	⑤ the watchman · the fall of Jerusalem														38-39	⑤ Gog															
glory revealed				glory departed				Jerusalem siege begins				Jerusalem destroyed				glory restored																															
593 BC				588 BC				586 BC				571 BC																																			

# The Goodness of the Lord GOD

- ▶ The sovereign grace of Lord GOD (34-39)
  - A good Shepherd (34)
  - Removal of everlasting enmity (35)
  - Purification of the land and the people – the everlasting covenant of peace (36)
  - Restoration of the great nation by the preaching of the Gospel – a new birth (37)
  - Restoration of the Davidic monarchy (37)
  - A final defeat of the enemies of the Lord GOD – the last battle (38-39)
- ▶ A vision of the last days (40-48)
  - The temple (40-42)
  - The glory of the God of Israel (YHWH) (43:1-12)
  - The priestly service (43:13-44:31)
  - The prince (45-46)
  - The land (47)
  - The city where YHWH will dwell eternally with His people (48)

# The Day of the LORD

- ▶ A time of Divine wrath upon the world with focus upon Israel
- ▶ The nation Israel will be in the land prior to the Day of the LORD
- ▶ The temple will be rebuilt and functioning
- ▶ At the end of that time, the nation Israel will emerge as a saved nation
- ▶ The LORD will return to rule His kingdom of righteousness from Jerusalem
  - Phase 1: the righteous and the wicked are present
  - Phase 2: a kingdom of righteousness – new heaven and earth
- ▶ The judgment will last 7 years (Daniel 9) and peace for 1000 years (Revelation 20)

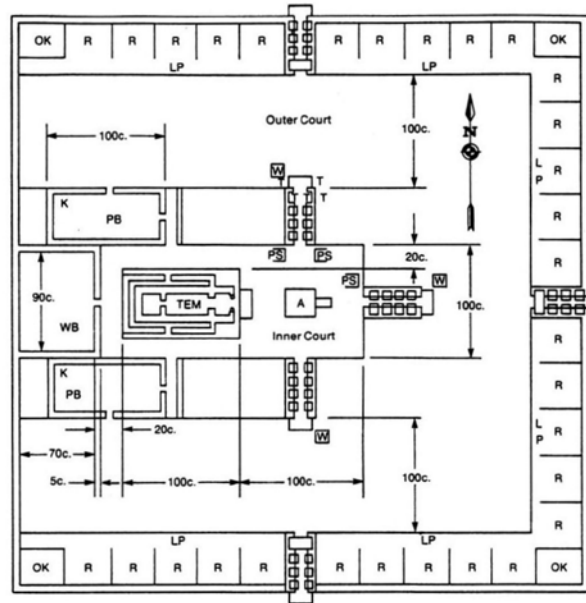
# The Temple in Jerusalem

- ▶ The Temple and the Law are distinguishing features of the nation Israel
  - The duty to be a holy nation and a kingdom of priests
  - The dwelling of God in their midst
- ▶ The tabernacle and the Law given after deliverance from Egypt
  - Temple service stopped twice in the history of Israel
- ▶ 1<sup>st</sup> Temple – Solomon to the fall of Jerusalem (586 BC)
- ▶ 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple – Zerubbabel to the fall of Jerusalem (AD 70)
  - Commanded by YHWH (Hag 1:7-9) – greater glory promised (Hag 2:9)
- ▶ 3<sup>rd</sup> Temple – revealed in Ezekiel
  - New Testament revelation of the temple: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4; Revelation 11
  - The temple identifies Israel, but not needed for the Church
  - The move from Old Covenant to New Covenant comes by preaching (Eze 37)
- ▶ Temple not mentioned after great tribulation
  - Isaiah 2:3; Micah 4:2 – “Let us go up . . . to the house of the God of Jacob”
  - The Lamb is the temple in the new heaven and earth (Revelation 21:22)

# The Vision of the Temple

1. The temple description (40-42)
2. The glory of God (43:1-12)
3. The temple regulations (43:13-46:24)

## Temple Complex



**Key:**

- A Altar (Ezek 40:47b)
- WB Building of the separation yard (Ezek 41:12, 13b, 15)
- K Kitchen for priests to boil sacrifices (Ezek 46:19-20)
- OK Kitchen for priests to boil people's sacrifices (Ezek 46:21-24)
- LP Pavement Strip (Ezek 40:17-18)
- PB Priests' chambers (Ezek 42:1-14)
- R Rooms in outer court for storage or priests' quarters (Ezek 40:17)
- PS Rooms for singers (priests) (Ezek 40:44-46)
- T Tables for slaughter of sacrifices (two at each point) (Ezek 40:39-43)
- TEM Temple proper (Ezek 40:48-41:11, 13a, 14, 16, 23-26)
- W Rooms for washing offerings (Ezek 40:38)
- Inner court (Ezek 40:44-47a)
- Outer court (Ezek 40:17-19, 23, 27, 39-43)
- Width from outer gates to inner gates (Ezek 40:19, 23, 27)

Alexander, R. H. (1996). Ezekiel. In F. E. Gaebelin (Ed.), *The Expositor's Bible Commentary: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel* (Vol. 6, p. 961). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

# The Temple Description (40-42)

- ▶ The bronze man with flax line and a rod (reed) (40:1-4)
- ▶ The temple courts (40:5-49)
  - Outer wall (40:5)
  - East gate (40:6-16)
  - Outer court (40:17-19)
  - North gate (40:20-23)
  - South gate (40:24-27)
  - Inner court - south gate (40:28-31)
  - Inner court - east gate (40:32-34)
  - Inner court - north gate (40:35-37)
  - Tables for sacrifice (40:38-43)
  - Chambers for singers and priests (40:44-47)
  - Porch in front of the temple (40:48-49)



# The Temple Description (40-42)

- ▶ Temple (41:1-26)
  - Inside the temple (41:1-4) – holy place (20cu x 40cu) and most holy place (20cu x 20cu)
  - Outside wall of the temple (41:5-11)
  - Separating courtyard (41:12-17)
  - Decorations and furnishings (41:18-26)
- ▶ Temple yard and wall (42:1-20)
  - Outer court (42:1-14)
  - Outside wall (42:15-20)

# The Glory of God (43:1-12)

- ▶ The glory of the God of Israel enters the temple by way of the east gate (43:1-5)
- ▶ The message to the people (43:6-9)
  - This is the place of my throne and the place of the soles of My feet
  - I will dwell among the sons of Israel forever
  - The house of Israel will never again defile My holy name
  - Defiled by setting their threshold and door posts by My threshold and door posts
  - The requirement for holiness affirmed
- ▶ The application to the people (43:10-12)
  - That they may be ashamed of their iniquities
  - Revealed in the law of the house – design, statutes, laws
- ▶ “My sanctuary” or “My dwelling place” in their midst forever (36:26-28)
  - Glory of God does not dwell in this temple forever
  - The glory of God comes in the days of this temple, similar to the 2<sup>nd</sup> temple

# Temple Regulations (43:13-46:24)

- ▶ The altar of sacrifice (43:13-17)
- ▶ Statutes for the altar (43:18-27) – Purification ceremony for 7 days followed by regular offerings
- ▶ Ministers in the temple (44:1-31)
  - East gate closed but prince may eat in the inner vestibule (44:1-3)
  - Rebuke to the rebels of Israel (44:4-8)
  - Levites demoted to servants in the temple because of sin in their families (44:9-14)
  - Sons of Zadok will make offerings (44:15-31) – priestly standards
- ▶ The holy section of the land (45:1-8) – five parts – city, temple, Levites, prince

# Temple Regulations (43:13-46:24)

- ▶ Instructions for the prince (45:9-17)
  - The prince: lesser of two titles of leadership in Ezekiel (king and prince)
  - Prince exercises priestly role
  - Must stop abusing the people and practice righteousness and justice for the people
- ▶ Identity of the prince
  - Prince is not YHWH or David
  - The “man of sin” or his predecessor
  - Priestly role – forbidden to all but the priests

# Temple Regulations (43:13-46:24)

- ▶ Festivals (45:18-25)
  - New Year feast
  - Passover
  - Feast of tabernacles
- ▶ The priestly service of the prince (46:1-18)
  - Public worship on the Sabbaths and new moons
  - Prince will lead nation in worship on these occasions
  - Orderly entry and exit from the outer court by the people
  - Voluntary and daily (morning) burnt offerings by the prince
  - Property rights
  - Kitchens (46:19-24)

# The Vision of the Temple

- ▶ A real temple in history with a form of Jewish religion
- ▶ The temple service is similar, but different from the Mosaic Law
- ▶ Prior to the return of Christ to reign, “all Israel will be saved”
- ▶ The description of the temple is consistent with a role prior to Christ’s return