



SURPRISE

Ezekiel

Who Made This Mess?

[Ezekiel 2:1-8]

A. Ezekiel Takes the Stage

- [1] Introduction of Ezekiel [Ezekiel 1:1-3]
- [2] God Reveals His Glory to Ezekiel [Ezekiel 1:4-28]
- [3] God Calls Ezekiel [Ezekiel 2:1-8]

B. How Did We Get Here? [Roadmap of the Covenants]

- [1] Adamic Covenant [Adamic/Edenic]
 - a] Edenic [Genesis 1:26-30; 2:16-17; Hosea 6:7]
 - b] Adamic [Genesis 3:16-19 [3:15 - provision for sin]]
- [2] Noahic Covenant [Genesis 9:8-17]
- [3] Abrahamic Covenant
[Genesis 12:1-3,6,7; 13:14-17,15; 17:1-14; 22:15-18]
- [4] Palestinian Covenant [Deuteronomy 30:1-10]
- [5] Mosaic Covenant [Deuteronomy 11, Exodus 20]
- [6] Davidic Covenant [2 Samuel 7:8-16]

C. What did God Do?

- [7] The New Covenant [Jeremiah 31:31-34]

Ezekiel 1:1-3 In the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I was among the exiles by the Chebar canal, the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God.

² On the fifth day of the month (it was the fifth year of the exile of King Jehoiachin), ³ the word of the Lord came to Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the Chebar canal, and the hand of the Lord was upon him there.

Ezekiel 1:28b This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. When I saw it, I fell facedown, and I heard the voice of one speaking.

Ezekiel 2:1-8 And he said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak with you." ² And as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me. ³ And he said to me, "Son of man, I send you to the people of Israel, to nations of rebels, who have rebelled against me. They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very day. ⁴ The descendants also are impudent and stubborn: I send you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God.' ⁵ And whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house) they will know that a prophet has been among them. ⁶ And you, son of man, be not afraid of them, nor be afraid of their words, though briars and thorns are with you and you sit on scorpions. Be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house. ⁷ And you shall speak my words to them, whether they hear or refuse to hear, for they are a rebellious house.

⁸ "But you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Be not rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you."

Luke 22:14-20 And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵ And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶ For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." ¹⁷ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. ¹⁸ For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." ¹⁹ And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰ And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

Discussion Questions/Prayer

- 1] Read Ezekiel 1:4-28. What are the key components of Ezekiel's vision?
- 2] Read Ezekiel 2:3-8a. What is Ezekiel's job description as a prophet? What was God's warning at the end of these verses?
- 3] Read Hebrews 3:7-14. How can we resist rebellion in our own lives?
- 4] Read Ezekiel 2:2 and Isaiah 11:1-3a. What is the significance of the Spirit entering Ezekiel? What do we learn about the Spirit's work in Isaiah 11:1-3a? How is the Spirit working in you and through you in this season?
- 5] As you pray through this passage, ask God to speak to you on a personal level. Then ask Him to show you what to share with friends and neighbors. Thank Him for making you one of Christ's ambassadors (2 Cor. 5:20). Pray that God will continue to raise up people with gifting to preach God's Word. [Abide]

What are the 7 Covenants in the Bible? [got questions]

The Bible speaks of seven different covenants, four of which (Abrahamic, Palestinian, Mosaic, Davidic) God made with the nation of Israel. Of those four, three are unconditional; that is, regardless of Israel's obedience or disobedience, God still will fulfill these covenants with Israel. One of the covenants, the Mosaic Covenant, is conditional. That is, this covenant will bring either blessing or a curse depending on Israel's obedience or disobedience. Three of the covenants (Adamic, Noahic, and the New) are made between God and mankind in general and are not limited to the nation of Israel.

The Adamic Covenant can be thought of in two parts: the Edenic Covenant (innocence) and the Adamic Covenant (grace) [[Genesis 3:16-19](#)]. The Edenic Covenant is found in [[Genesis 1:26-30](#); [2:16-17](#)]. The Edenic Covenant outlined man's responsibility toward creation and God's directive regarding the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The Adamic Covenant included the curses pronounced against mankind for the sin of Adam and Eve, as well as God's provision for that sin [[Genesis 3:15](#)].

The Noahic Covenant was an unconditional covenant between God and Noah (specifically) and humanity (generally). After the Flood, God promised humanity that He would never again destroy all life on earth with a Flood (see Genesis 9). God gave the rainbow as the sign of the covenant, a promise that the entire earth would never again flood and a reminder that God can and will judge sin [[2 Peter 2:5](#)].

Abrahamic Covenant [[Genesis 12:1-3](#), [6-7](#); [13:14-17](#), [15](#); [17:1-14](#); [22:15-18](#)]. In this covenant, God promised many things to Abraham. He personally promised that He would make Abraham's name great [[Genesis 12:2](#)], that Abraham would have numerous physical descendants [[Genesis 13:16](#)], and that he would be the father of a multitude of nations [[Genesis 17:4-5](#)]. God also made promises regarding a nation called Israel. In fact, the geographical boundaries of the Abrahamic Covenant are laid out on more than one occasion in the book of Genesis [[12:7](#); [13:14-15](#); [15:18-21](#)]. Another provision in the Abrahamic Covenant is that the families of the world will be blessed through the physical line of Abraham [[Genesis 12:3](#); [22:18](#)]. This is a reference to the Messiah, who would come from the line of Abraham.

Palestinian Covenant [[Deuteronomy 30:1-10](#)]. The Palestinian Covenant, or Land Covenant, amplifies the land aspect that was detailed in the Abrahamic Covenant. According to the terms of this covenant, if the people disobeyed, God would cause them to be scattered around the world [[Deuteronomy 30:3-4](#)], but He would eventually restore the nation [[Deuteronomy 30:5](#)]. When the nation is restored, then they will obey Him perfectly [[Deuteronomy 30:8](#)], and God will cause them to prosper [[Deuteronomy 30:9](#)].

Mosaic Covenant [[Deuteronomy 11. et all](#)]. The Mosaic Covenant was a conditional covenant that either brought God's direct blessing for obedience or God's direct cursing for disobedience upon the nation of Israel. Part of the Mosaic Covenant was the Ten Commandments [[Exodus 20](#)] and the rest of the Law, which contained over 600 commands—roughly 300 positive and 300 negative. The historybooks of the Old Testament (Joshua–Esther) detail how Israel succeeded at obeying the Law or how Israel failed miserably at obeying the Law. [[Deuteronomy 11:26-28](#)] details the blessing/cursing motif.

Davidic Covenant [[2 Samuel 7:8-16](#)]. The Davidic Covenant amplifies the "seed" aspect of the Abrahamic Covenant. The promises to David in this passage are significant. God promised that David's lineage would last forever and that his kingdom would never pass away permanently [[2 Samuel 7:16](#)]. Obviously, the Davidic throne has not been in place at all times. There will be a time, however, when someone from the line of David will again sit on the throne and rule as king. This future king is Jesus [[Luke 1:32-33](#)].

New Covenant [[Jeremiah 31:31-34](#)]. The New Covenant is a covenant made first with the nation of Israel and, ultimately, with all mankind. In the New Covenant, God promises to forgive sin, and there will be a universal knowledge of the Lord. Jesus Christ came to fulfill the Law of Moses [[Matthew 5:17](#)] and create a new covenant between God and His people. Now that we are under the New Covenant, both Jews and Gentiles can be free from the penalty of the Law. We are now allowed to receive salvation as a free gift [[Ephesians 2:8-9](#)].

Study Guide Help

Study Question #1: Read Ezekiel 1:4-28. What are the key components of Ezekiel's vision?

1. Stormy wind and a great cloud: Ezekiel sees a stormy wind coming out of the north, accompanied by a great cloud with brightness and fire flashing forth continually.
2. Four living creatures: In the midst of the fire, Ezekiel sees the likeness of four living creatures. Each creature has a human face, the face of a lion on the right side, the face of an ox on the left side, and the face of an eagle. They have four wings and their legs are straight with the soles of their feet like the sole of a calf's foot. They sparkle like burnished bronze.
3. Wheels: Ezekiel sees wheels beside the living creatures. Each wheel appears like the gleaming of beryl and they have rims full of eyes all around. The wheels can move in any direction without turning as they go.
4. Expanse and throne: Above the living creatures, Ezekiel sees the likeness of an expanse shining like awe-inspiring crystal. Under the expanse, their wings are stretched out straight, and each creature has two wings covering its body. Above the expanse, there is the likeness of a throne, appearing like sapphire. Seated on the throne is a likeness with a human appearance.
5. The glory of the Lord: The appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord is described as a bright and dazzling radiance, like the appearance of a rainbow in the cloud on a rainy day.

This vision of God and the angelic host is filled with vivid and symbolic imagery, emphasizing the transcendence, majesty, and holiness of God. It serves to impress upon Ezekiel the greatness of God and the importance of his prophetic calling.

Study Question #2: Read Ezekiel 2:3-8a. What is Ezekiel's job description as a prophet? What was God's warning at the end of these verses?

Ezekiel's job description can be found in Ezekiel 2:3-8a. Here are the key elements of his job description:

- 1] Commissioned by God: Ezekiel is commissioned by God to be a prophet and to deliver His messages to the people of Israel. He is called to be a spokesperson for God and to faithfully communicate His words.
- 2] Sent to rebellious Israel: Ezekiel is specifically sent to the people of Israel, who are described as rebellious and stubborn. His role is to confront them with their sins, warn them of the impending judgment, and call them to repentance.
- 3] Fearlessly deliver God's message: Despite the challenging nature of his task, Ezekiel is instructed not to be afraid of the people's response or their rebelliousness. He is to speak God's words boldly and fearlessly, regardless of the outcome.

Ezekiel is assured that the hand of the Lord is upon him, providing him with divine guidance, strength, and protection. This signifies that God will empower him and enable him to fulfill his prophetic calling.

5] Reassurance of God's presence: God assures Ezekiel that He will be with him and that He will speak to him. This reassurance emphasizes the intimate relationship between God and Ezekiel, highlighting the importance of divine guidance and communication in carrying out his prophetic duties.

In summary, Ezekiel's job description in Ezekiel 2 involves

- 1] being commissioned by God as a prophet,
- 2] delivering His messages to the rebellious people of Israel,
- 3] fearlessly speaking God's words,
- 4] internalizing and fully understanding the message,
- 5] and relying on God's guidance and presence throughout his prophetic ministry.

The expression 'house of insubordination' is used in Ezekiel 2:5-6 and 3:9 to describe the rebellious nature of the people of Israel. It signifies their defiance and disobedience towards God. The term "house" refers to the collective group or family, indicating that the entire nation of Israel is characterized by their insubordination. They consistently rebel against God's commands and have a hardened and stubborn attitude. This expression emphasizes the persistent and unrepentant nature of their disobedience. [NICOT]

Study Question #3: Read Hebrews 3:7-14. How can we resist rebellion in our own lives?

Note on Hebrews 3:7-11 Psalm 95 is quoted here, it speaks of Israel's period of forty years in the wilderness after departing Egypt. Numbers 13-14 recount how the Israelites refused to listen to God and enter the promised land of Canaan because they feared the inhabitants. As a result of that rebellion, God made them wander in the wilderness where they continued to rebel. God was angry because his chosen people did not know his ways (Heb 3:10).

The Bible teaches that God's ways with his people include three stages: deliverance, development, and destiny. First, Israel experienced deliverance when God set them free from Egyptian bondage. Similarly, when he saved you—caused you to be born again in Christ—he delivered you. But his involvement in your life doesn't end there. Second, the next stage is development, in which he brings you into a deeper relationship with him. This includes the trials and tests of life; there's no development without these experiences. Most of the Israelites in the wilderness failed in the development stage because they wouldn't trust God to provide for them.

Third, the developmental process leads to destiny. This is where God wants you to wind up. But you can't go from deliverance to destiny and skip development. God swore that the people would not enter [his] rest (3:11). The "rest" in view is a way of referring to their inheritance. Because of their continual rebellion, they forfeited living in the land of Canaan. [Tony Evans Study bible]

The Spirit of the LORD. Like David (1 Sam. 16:13), the Messiah is empowered by the Holy Spirit. The Spirit empowers Him with:

- 1) wisdom and understanding for leadership (Deut. 1:13; 1 Kings 3:9; see Isa. 10:13);
- 2) counsel and might to carry out his wise plans (36:5; see Job 12:13; note the connection to Isa. 9:6, "counselor" and "mighty");
- 3) knowledge and the fear of the LORD for holiness (Prov. 2:1-5). [Global Study Bible]

Study Question #4: Read Ezekiel 2:2 and Isaiah 11:1-3a . What is the significance of the Spirit entering Ezekiel? What do we learn about the Spirit's work in Isaiah 11:1-3a? How is the Spirit working in you and through you in this season?

The Spirit of the LORD. Like David (1 Sam. 16:13), the Messiah is empowered by the Holy Spirit.

He is also given:

- 1) wisdom and understanding for leadership (Deut. 1:13; 1 Kings 3:9; see Isa. 10:13);
- 2) counsel and might to carry out his wise plans (36:5; see Job 12:13; note the connection to Isa. 9:6, "counselor" and "mighty");
- 3) knowledge and the fear of the LORD for holiness (Prov. 2:1-5).

For Jesus' fulfillment of this prophetic word, see Matt. 3:16-17. [Global Study Bible]