

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

PERIOD EIGHT

JUDAH IN A STRANGE COUNTRY - EZEKIEL AND DANIEL

LESSON 35

In this lesson we want to learn about two prophets and their books, EZEKIEL AND DANIEL.

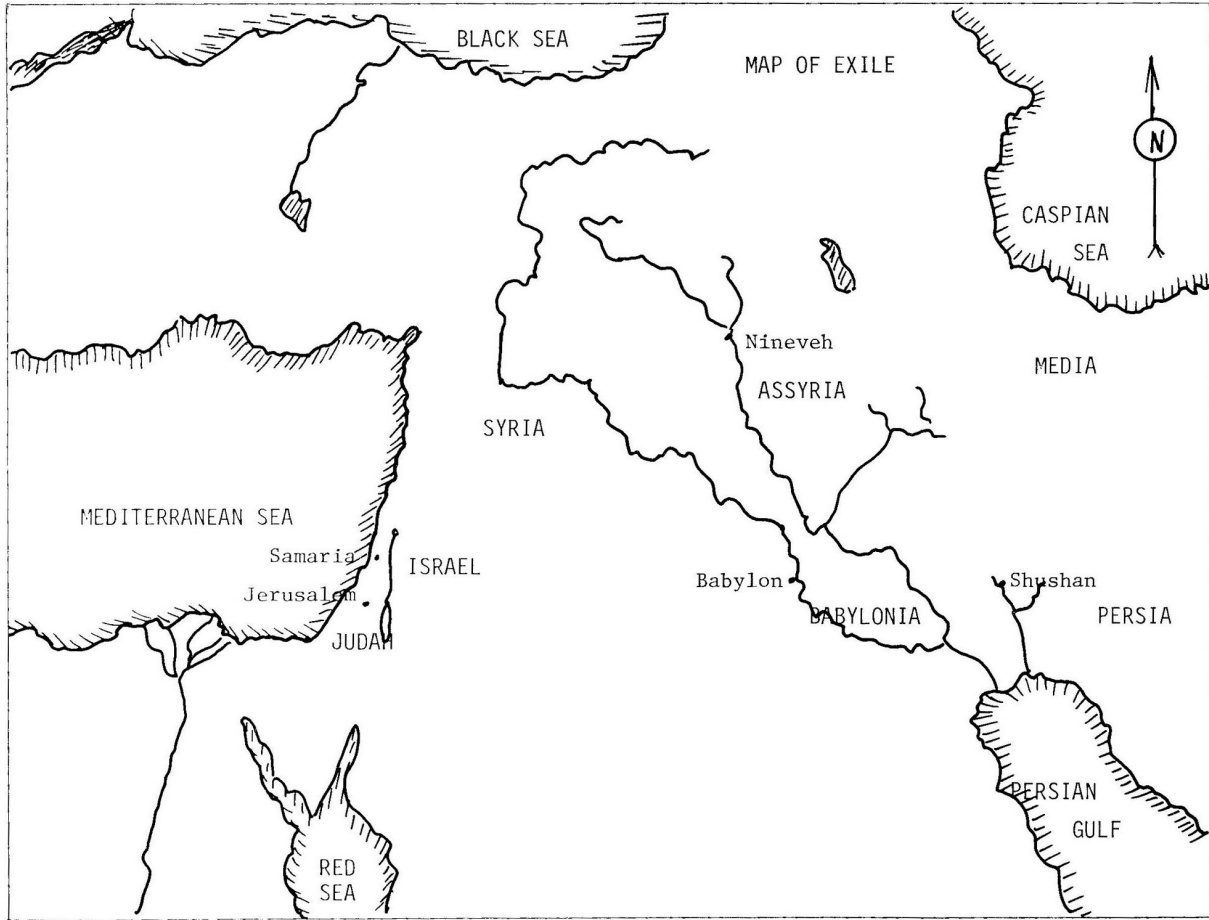
EZEKIEL -

- *Who he was.*
- *When he lived.*
- *Outline of his book.*
- *His message to the people about sin, and the only true God.*
- *His visions.*

DANIEL -

- *Who he was.*
- *When he lived.*
- *Outline of his book.*
- *His tests of faith.*
- *Visions of the future.*

Time	PERIOD EIGHT	TAKEN FROM THEIR COUNTRY
Main thought	TAKEN BY THE BABYLONIANS TO BABYLON	
Chapters that tell of this part	2 Kings 25:8-30 Ezekiel	2 Chronicles 36:17-21 Daniel
What this part tells about	607 BC - Daniel with some of the people taken from the land. 597 BC - 1,000 leading people taken from the land. 586 BC - All but a few poor people taken from the land. Language spoken at the time Aramaic.	



JUDAH	Jehoahaz Jehoiachin										
King	Josiah			Jehoiakim	Zedekiah	Judah in exile in Babylon					
Prophet	Nahum		Ezekiel								
Prophet		Habakkuk			Daniel						
Prophet		Jeremiah									
BC	630	620	610	600	590	580	570	560	550	540	530
Prophet											
Prophet											
King	Israel in exile in Assyria										
ISRAEL											

INTRODUCTION

The Lord let the people of Judah be taken to Babylon. Jeremiah was taken to Egypt by a small group of people. Ezekiel and Daniel were the only prophets who went to Babylon.

The work of Ezekiel and Daniel was to encourage the people to come back to the Lord. Both of these men were called major prophets. These men wrote about things that would happen in time to come.

Ezekiel, Daniel and Revelation should be studied together. Their prophecies are much the same.

Ezekiel called Judah "Israel".

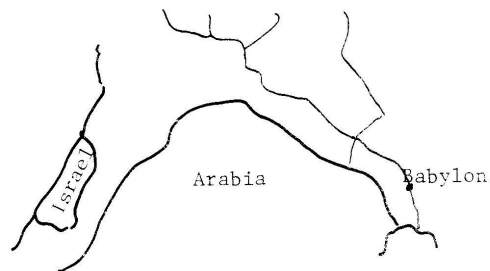
EZEKIEL

● THE MAN EZEKIEL

The name Ezekiel means "God is strong."

Ezekiel was a priest (Ezekiel 1:3). Ezekiel was taken to Babylon with the last group of people from Judah.

The people of Israel came to Ezekiel when they had troubles. The people did not always do what Ezekiel asked them to do (Ezekiel 2:3-7).



Ezekiel prophesied that the Lord would punish the people of Judah and Jerusalem. He warned them before Jerusalem came to an end (chapters 1 to 24). Ezekiel kept on prophesying to the people of Judah and Jerusalem after Jerusalem came to an end. Then he told them what would happen to Jerusalem and Judah in time to come (Chapters 33 to 48).

After Ezekiel was taken to Babylon, he lived by the river Chebar. A small settlement of people from Judah lived there.

What did the Lord call Ezekiel (Ezekiel 2:1,6)?

These words are used about 100 times in the book.

- **THE BOOK EZEKIEL**

A. Outline of the book.

1. Ezekiel called and sent to prophesy, Ezekiel 1:1 - 3:27.
2. Jerusalem will be punished, Ezekiel 4:1 - 7:27.
3. God left the temple, Ezekiel 8:1 - 11:25.
4. Leaders of Judah were condemned, Ezekiel 12:1 - 15:8.
5. The people of Judah were condemned, Ezekiel 16:1 - 19:14.
6. The last sins of the people of Judah were told, Ezekiel 20:1 - 24:27.
7. Other nations were condemned, Ezekiel 25:1 - 32:32.
8. Prophecy of Israel to be rebuilt, Ezekiel 33:1 - 39:29.
9. Temple seen as rebuilt, Ezekiel 40:1 - 46:24.
10. Israel seen as rebuilt, Ezekiel 47:1 - 48:35.

B. Lessons of the book.

- **The people of Israel and their sin.**

Ezekiel used many pictures to show the people of Israel their sin. He showed Jerusalem as a (Ezekiel 15:6)

Ezekiel also showed Jerusalem as a (Ezekiel 16:32).

READ EZEKIEL 23:1-49.

Ezekiel showed Samaria and Judah as two (Ezekiel 23:2).

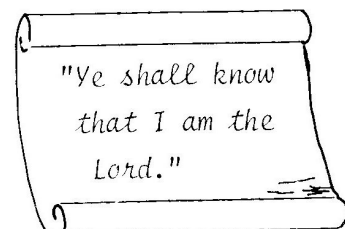
What did they do (Ezekiel 23:3)?

What would the Lord do to these cities because of this (Ezekiel 23:23,24)?

The sex sins done by these women were a picture of how God's people were acting. The people of Israel belonged to God, but they went to other gods.

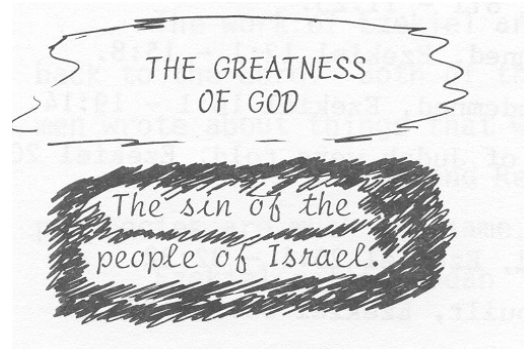
- **The only true God.**

Ezekiel tried to teach the people of Israel "The Lord is the only true God. The idols are not God." Ezekiel used the words, "Ye shall know that I am the Lord" more than 60 times in his book. Example: Ezekiel 6:7; 7:4; 11:10; 12:20; 20:38.



- **Visions.**

Ezekiel had many visions. These visions show how great the Lord is. They also show how sinful the people of Israel were. Some of these visions show what the Lord will do in time to come.

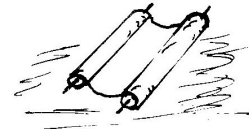


- **Vision of the cherubim.**

READ EZEKIEL 1:1 - 3:15.

The Lord showed Ezekiel His glory and power through the cherubim. Then the Lord asked Ezekiel to eat something. What was it (Ezekiel 3:1-3)?

The Word of the Lord had to be part of Ezekiel before he could preach it. We have to study the Word of God and make what the Bible says a part of our lives before we can preach it.



- **Vision of the glory of the Lord and the sinfulness of Israel.**

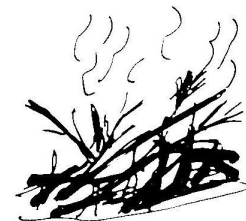
READ EZEKIEL CHAPTERS 8 and 9.

Tell in your own words what the people were doing in the temple.

- **Vision of a vine burning.**

READ EZEKIEL CHAPTER 15.

The people of Israel were so sinful that the Lord could not use them. What was He going to do to them (Ezekiel 15:6)?



- **Vision of the valley of dry bones.**

READ EZEKIEL CHAPTER 37.

This vision shows that the people of Israel will go back to their own land. Right after the

resurrection of Christ, other countries destroyed the country of Israel. The people were scattered all over the world. In 1948 the people of Israel became a nation again. When Israel became a nation, the vision of Ezekiel began to come true.

The Jews (Israelis) are going to their land by the thousand's today. The Jews are fighting to keep their country. The Lord will help the Jews keep their country.

- **Vision of God.**

READ EZEKIEL CHAPTERS 38 and 39.

Against whom was Ezekiel to prophesy?

Who was the Prince of Meshech, Tubal (Ezekiel 38:2)?

It is thought these are names of Russia, and countries near Russia today. The countries of Rosh (Magog), Meshech and Tubal will come to fight against Israel. They will gather in the valley of Hamon-gog (Ezekiel 39:11). There will be a great battle. This great battle will come before the Messiah comes as King of Israel.

- **The temple.**

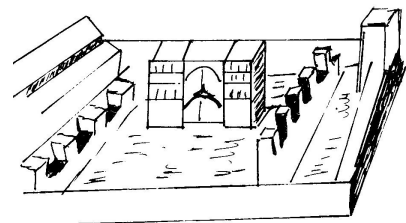
In the last part of the book, Ezekiel tells about a temple. The Lord will come to this temple and live in it. Ezekiel tells what the temple will look like.

Ezekiel chapter 48 tells how each of the twelve tribes will receive their own land. The chapter closes with "The Lord is there." The Lord will be with the people of Israel.

DANIEL

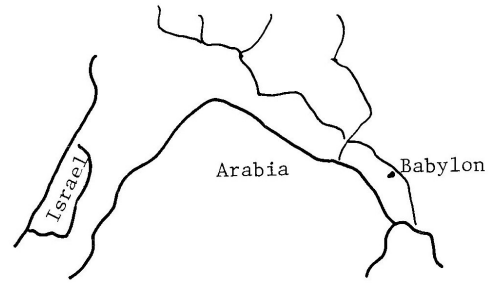
- **THE MAN DANIEL**

The name Daniel means "God is judge."



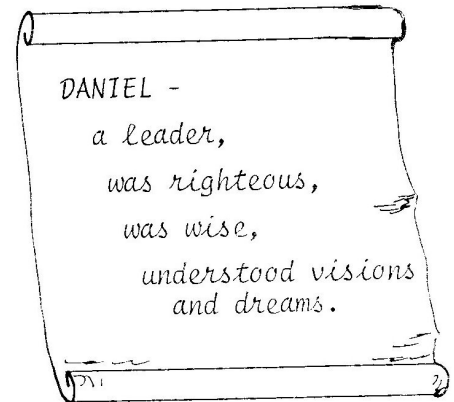
Daniel came from a family of kings (Daniel 1:3). He was taught the Word of God. Daniel lived by the Word of God.

Daniel was brought to Babylon when he was still in his teens. He spent most of his life in the city of Babylon. Daniel and his three friends were trained to be leaders of the country.



Daniel became a leader in Babylon. He obeyed the Word of the Lord. Ezekiel talked of Daniel as a righteous man (Ezekiel 14:14). He also said that Daniel was very wise (Ezekiel 28:3). Daniel was able to understand visions and dreams.

While Cyrus ruled Persia, the Medes and Persians joined. The Medes came from the land of Media and the Persians came from the land of Persia. See map at the beginning of this lesson. It is thought that Darius was the king of the Medes at this time. Cyrus let Darius stay king of the Medes. It was this Darius that took Babylon.



Daniel was living when Darius took Babylon (Daniel 5:29 - 31). Isaiah said that the Medes would take Babylon (Isaiah 13:17). Darius, the Mede, ruled Babylon for awhile. Only Daniel tells about this.

When Cyrus came back from his wars, he took the place Darius had. Daniel kept on working for the king to the end of the first year of the rule of Cyrus (Daniel 1:21).

● THE BOOK DANIEL

The books of Daniel and Revelation have the same message. Revelation was written about 700 years later than Daniel.

A. Outline of the book of Daniel

1. The rule of Nebuchadnezzar, Daniel 1:1 - 4:37.
 - Daniel and his three friends trained to be leaders, Daniel 1:1-21.
 - Daniel interpreted the king's dream, Daniel 2:1-49.
 - Daniel's three friends tested, Daniel 3:1-30.
 - Nebuchadnezzar made humble, Daniel 4:1-37.
2. The rule of Belshazzar, Daniel 5:1-30; 7:1 - 8:27.

- The night Babylon fell, Daniel 5:1-30.
- The sinfulness of the kingdom of Babylon, Daniel 7:1-28.
- Telling of the kingdoms to come, Daniel 8:1-27.

3. The rule of the Medes and Persians, Daniel 5:31 - 6:28; 9:1 - 12:13.

- Daniel tested for his religion, Daniel 5:31 - 6:28.
- Daniel feared for his people, Daniel 9:1-27.
- Daniel received more prophecies, Daniel 10:1 - 12:13.

B. Lessons of the book.

- **Tests of faith.**

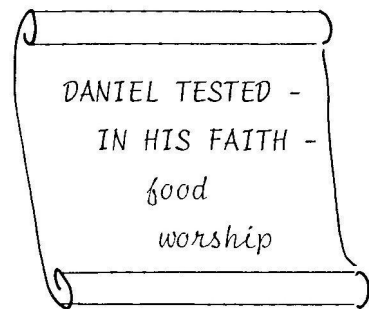
- **Food.**

READ DANIEL CHAPTER 1.

Daniel and his three friends (Shadrack, Meshach, Abed-nego) were taught to be leaders of the country.

Did Daniel and his friends eat the same foods as the other men (Daniel 1:8)?

What happened to Daniel and his friends (Daniel 1:15,19-21)?



- **Worship.**

READ DANIEL 3:1-30.

What did the king want everyone to do (Daniel 3:4,5)?

Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego would not obey the king. They were thrown into a fiery furnace (big stove). What did the king see when he looked into the furnace (Daniel 3:25)?

- **Faithfulness.**

READ DANIEL CHAPTER 6.

Daniel became a great leader in Babylon. Some men were jealous of him. They

wanted to get rid of Daniel. These men tricked Nebuchadnezzar. They got him to make a law. This law said, "Every person has to pray to Nebuchadnezzar. No one can pray to any other gods."

Daniel kept praying to the true and living God. What did the king have to do to Daniel (Daniel 6:16)?

Did the Lord watch over Daniel?

Whom did the Lord send to take care of Daniel and to keep him safe (Daniel 6:22)?

- **Visions and dreams.**

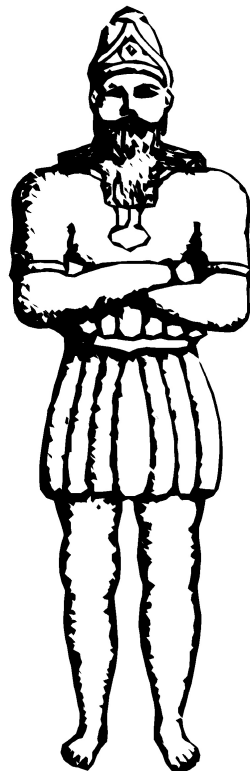
The book of Daniel has many visions and dreams in it. These visions and dreams tell of that which will happen to the world in time to come.

- **King Nebuchadnezzar's dream.**

READ DANIEL 2:1-49.

King Nebuchadnezzar saw an image (statue) in his dream. What did the image look like (Daniel 2:31-35)?

Each part of this image were a picture of a kingdom which was to come. The head of gold was a picture of Babylon. The chest and arms of silver were a picture of Persia. The belly and thighs of bronze were a picture of Greece. The legs of iron were a picture of Rome. The feet of clay and iron is a picture of the nations we know today. The stone that was to destroy the image is a picture of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ will come to rule as king. When He comes, He will destroy all the nations who fight against Israel.



Head - gold

Chest and arms - silver

Belly - bronze

Legs - iron

Feet - iron and clay

- **Daniel's vision.**

READ DANIEL 7:17-28 and REVELATION 20.

Much of this chapter tells about the years just before Jesus Christ comes back to earth as king. Who is the Ancient of Days, spoken of in Daniel 7:9 and Revelation 1:13,14?

Ancient means long, long ago.

What will happen to those who turn many people to righteousness (Daniel 12:3)?

* * *

Ezekiel and Daniel tell about many things that are happening today. They are good books to study.

WORDS TO LEARN

1. ancient - long, long ago; many years ago.
2. cherubim - one of the heavenly beings who work for God in heaven.
3. image - likeness, an idol. As used in Daniel - a likeness of the king, and/or kingdom.
4. Medes - people from the country of Media, see map at beginning of lesson.
5. Persians - people from the country of Persia, see map at beginning of lesson.
6. vision - that which is seen by a person's mind as if it is really happening.

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