

INTERACTIVE TRAVEL GUIDE

DESTINATION: *Ezekiel 1-48*

The book of Ezekiel was written by Ezekiel, a priest, the son of Buzi. Ezekiel was one of those deported during the second deportation. He would begin his prophetic ministry five years later. He lived in Tel Aviv beside the Kebar River, in Babylon. He was 30 when he was called into ministry in a dramatic vision by the Kebar River. His contemporaries were Daniel, Jeremiah, Habakkuk, and Obadiah. He was married to 'the delight of his eyes,' who died suddenly in Babylon.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 593 B.C.
Chariot Vision
- 593 B.C.
Call to be a Watchman
- 592 B.C.
Temple Vision
- 591 B.C.
Discourse with Elders
- 588 B.C.
Second Siege of Jerusalem
- 587 B.C.
Judgment on Tyre
- 585 B.C.
Lament over Pharaoh
- 585 B.C.
Fall of Jerusalem
- 573 B.C.
New Temple Vision

TRIP PLANNER:

Ezekiel can be divided into halves. The major units of the book follow the chronological flow of Ezekiel's life and naturally relate to the message of the books:

1. The Pronouncements: Chapters 1-33
2. The Promise of Restoraton and Blessing: Chapters 34-48

PLACES OF INTEREST:

Tel Aviv – Or Tel Abib; the name “Tel Abib” is a transliteration of an Akkadian term meaning “mound of the flood,” i.e., an ancient mound. It is not to be confused with the modern city of Tel Aviv in Israel.

River Chebar – Also known as Kebar, a canal of the Euphrates river near Nippur. Some say it could be the same as the river Habor, the Chaboras, or modern Khabour, which falls into the Euphrates at Circesium.

Babylon – The capital of the Babylonian empire and the location from which the book of Ezekiel was written.

Egypt – Much of Ezekiel's prophecy against Israel's enemies is directed at Egypt.

Jerusalem – The north door of the inner gate and of the court is at the entrance to the temple. This is the very entrance to the holy of holies where the leaders erected idols and “played the harlot” before the Lord, inciting His wrath and the withdrawal of His presence from the people.

Gog, of a land called Magog – A figure used in Ezekiel who leads a great horde of armies to attack and destroy Israel. There are two places in the Bible where the words Gog and Magog are cited: Ezekiel 38-39 and Revelation 20 (plus Gen.10:1-2, where Magog is mentioned as a son of Japeth).

“A very high mountain” – A place where God in a vision took Ezekiel in chapter 40 and showed him the structure of the city and the new temple. Possibly Mount Moriah.

FUN FACTS:

Phrases repeated in Ezekiel:

7 times - "The hand of the Lord came upon me"

121 times - "Thus says the Lord GOD"

94 times - "Son of man"

Tammuz - A corruption of Dumuzi, the Accadian sun-god (the Adonis of the Greeks), the husband of the goddess Ishtar. In the Chaldean calendar there was a month set apart in honor of this god, the month of June to July, the beginning of the summer solstice. At this festival, which lasted six days, the worshippers, with loud lamentations, bewailed the funeral of the god; they sat "weeping for Tammuz."

Definition of a Prophet - "'But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.' "And if you say in your heart, 'How shall we know the word which the LORD has not spoken?'--"when a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him." (Deut. 18:20-22)

NOTES:



BOOK OF

DATE

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