

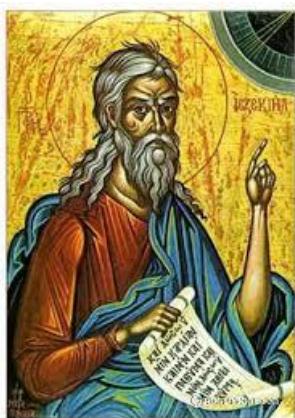
## Ezekiel - A Life That Bears Witness

Ezekiel 3:16-21

**16** At the end of seven days the word of the Lord came to me: **17** “Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. **18** When I say to a wicked person, ‘You will surely die,’ and you do not warn them or speak out to dissuade them from their evil ways in order to save their life, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. **19** But if you do warn the wicked person and they do not turn from their wickedness or from their evil ways, they will die for their sin; but you will have saved yourself.

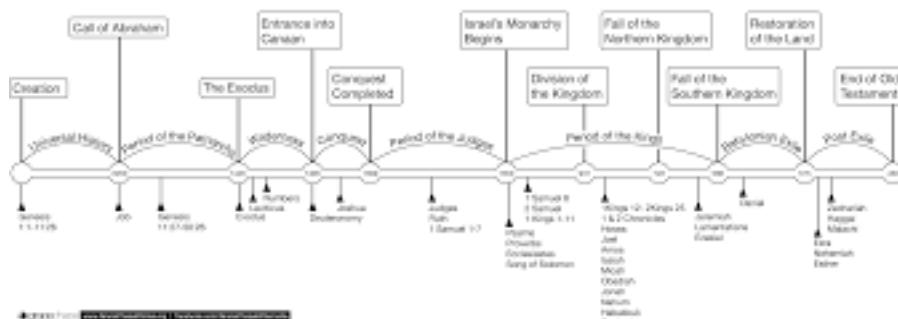
**20** “Again, when a righteous person turns from their righteousness and does evil, and I put a stumbling block before them, they will die. Since you did not warn them, they will die for their sin. The righteous things that person did will not be remembered, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. **21** But if you do warn the righteous person not to sin and they do not sin, they will surely live because they took warning, and you will have saved yourself.”

### Who is Ezekiel?

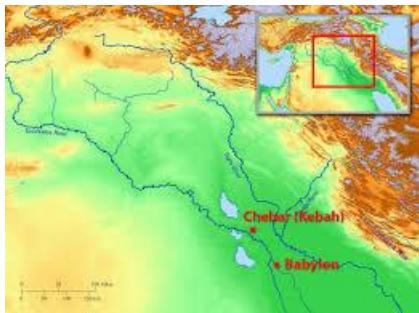


30 years old.

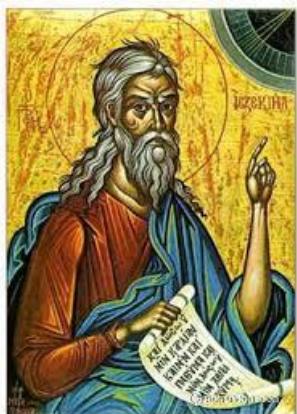
### OLD TESTAMENT TIMELINE



An exile of Judah before its full destruction.



Settled in a refugee camp in Babylonia (Chaldeans) by the Kebar River.



### The Book of Ezekiel

Collection of 7 visions

Judgment on Judah (1-24)

Judgment on the Surrounding Nations (25-32)

Consolation (33-48)

### Vision at Kebar (Chapter 1)



*1 In my thirtieth year, in the fourth month on the fifth day, while I was among the exiles by the Kebar River, the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God.*

*2 On the fifth 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, by the Kebar River in the land of the Babylonians. There the hand of*

*the Lord was on him.*

**4** *I looked, and I saw a windstorm coming out of the north—an immense cloud with flashing lightning and surrounded by brilliant light. The center of the fire looked like glowing metal, 5 and in the fire was what looked like four living creatures. In appearance their form was human, 6 but each of them had four faces and four wings. 7 Their legs were straight; their feet were like those of a calf and gleamed like burnished bronze. 8 Under their wings on their four sides they had human hands. All four of them had faces and wings, 9 and the wings of one touched the wings of another. Each one went straight ahead; they did not turn as they moved.*

**10** *Their faces looked like this: Each of the four had the face of a human being, and on the right side each had the face of a lion, and on the left the face of an ox; each also had the face of an eagle. 11 Such were their faces. They each had two wings spreading out upward, each wing touching that of the creature on either side; and each had two other wings covering its body. 12 Each one went straight ahead. Wherever the spirit would go, they would go, without turning as they went. 13 The appearance of the living creatures was like burning coals of fire or like torches. Fire moved back and forth among the creatures; it was bright, and lightning flashed out of it. 14 The creatures sped back and forth like flashes of lightning.*

**15** *As I looked at the living creatures, I saw a wheel on the ground beside each creature with its four faces. 16 This was the appearance and structure of the wheels: They sparkled like topaz, and all four looked alike. Each appeared to be made like a wheel intersecting a wheel. 17 As they moved, they would go in any one of the four directions the creatures faced; the wheels did not change direction as the creatures went. 18 Their rims were high and awesome, and all four rims were full of eyes all around.*

**19** *When the living creatures moved, the wheels beside them moved; and when the living creatures rose from the ground, the wheels also rose. 20 Wherever the spirit would go, they would go, and the wheels would rise along with them, because the spirit of the living creatures was in the*

wheels. **21** When the creatures moved, they also moved; when the creatures stood still, they also stood still; and when the creatures rose from the ground, the wheels rose along with them, because the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels.

**22** Spread out above the heads of the living creatures was what looked something like a vault, sparkling like crystal, and awesome. **23** Under the vault their wings were stretched out one toward the other, and each had two wings covering its body. **24** When the creatures moved, I heard the sound of their wings, like the roar of rushing waters, like the voice of the Almighty, like the tumult of an army. When they stood still, they lowered their wings.

**25** Then there came a voice from above the vault over their heads as they stood with lowered wings. **26** Above the vault over their heads was what looked like a throne of lapis lazuli, and high above on the throne was a figure like that of a man. **27** I saw that from what appeared to be his waist up he looked like glowing metal, as if full of fire, and that from there down he looked like fire; and brilliant light surrounded him. **28** Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the radiance around him. 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.

UFO Cult Favourite



# WATCHMAN

Watchman (3:16-21)

*16 At the end of seven days the word of the Lord came to me: 17 “Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. 18 When I say to a wicked person, ‘You will surely die,’ and you do not warn them or speak out to dissuade them from their evil ways in order to save their life, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. 19 But if you do warn the wicked person and they do not turn from their wickedness or from their evil ways, they will die for their sin; but you will have saved yourself.*

*20 “Again, when a righteous person turns from their righteousness and does evil, and I put a stumbling block before them, they will die. Since you did not warn them, they will die for their sin. The righteous things that person did will not be remembered, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. 21 But if you do warn the righteous person not to sin and they do not sin, they will surely live because they took warning, and you will have saved yourself.”*

Vision & Warning

Role & Responsibility

If you correct a righteous person you save them from death.

If you warn a wicked person you save them from death.

No separation between the wicked and the righteous.

We are judged by what we do, not what we believe.

The question of “will God judge the righteous?” Yes!

He will judge all people.

The wicked will go to destruction and the righteous are capable of being corrupted.

The key is salvation.

There is no “Good Enough.”

It is about a sustained way of life.

Once saved, always saved is not a great theological rubric.

### **The Cost of Prophesy**

After his encounter with God and his call,  
he sat in grief and anger for 7 days.  
The emotional & social cost of being a prophet.  
Self knowledge and obedience.  
Not personal preference but God's word.  
He lives out the judgements upon Jerusalem publicly.



Create a model of a siege and then lie on his side for 430 days  
390 days on his right side for Israel, 40 on his left for Judah.



Shaving his head and putting his hair on the scales as a sign of judgement.  
1/3 burned, 1/3 struck with a sword, 1/3 scattered to the wind.



The last regarding Jerusalem is most brutal.  
He is told by God not to publicly mourn for the death of his wife.  
He is not to do any of the rituals of mourning but proceed without sign.  
This was to represent how Judah did not care for the  
He mourned inwardly.

### **Application**

Love the People You Warn  
Church as prophet.  
Our very lives are a sign of mercy and judgment.  
It is a life of grief, purpose, hope and yes of joy.  
We are a New Testament People.  
We know more than Ezekiel ever did.  
Jesus had said that those who followed him in his time  
    were greater than all the prophets.  
It is because we have grasped the salvation of God.

### **Questions & Discussion**

Share about someone whose life of faith speaks to you deeply.  
(preferably someone you know personally).

What are some ways in which the life of a Christian speaks of the Kingdom of God to others?

How does the way you live and relate speak of God's Kingdom to Others?