

## THE MESSAGE OF EZEKIEL

Introduction – The book of Ezekiel is apocalyptic literature. The prophet is carried into exile in 597 BC.

- A. Ezekiel is called and commissioned by the Lord during his fifth year in exile (chapters 1-3).

The appearance of Yahweh to Ezekiel in Babylon challenges the popular belief that gods were limited to a distinct territory like Judea.

Ezekiel 2:1-5

- B. The judgment of God on those who continue to live in Judah (chapters 4-24).

1. The people of Judah trusted in the false hope that God's presence in the Temple would protect them.
2. Ezekiel predicted that Babylon would conquer Jerusalem in 586 BC.

Ezekiel 24:15-16, 20-21

- C. The judgment of God on the nations (chapters 25-32).

Ezekiel 26:2-6, 12-14

- D. Restoration of the people of God (chapters 33-45).

Ezekiel 36:26-27

Ezekiel 37:26-27

Ezekiel closes with a vision of a massive new Temple built to fill the earth.

Conclusion – Jesus and the Church are a fulfillment of Ezekiel's vision of a restored Temple.

John 1:14

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

1 Peter 2:4-5