



OUR CLAIM TO FAME

Studies in Ezekiel

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Growing in Spirit & Truth

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Getting It Done Right

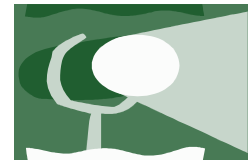
Introduction to Ezekiel 33-39

The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God’s pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God’s family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

When you are working on something, as the saying goes, to get it done right, you have to do it yourself. Ultimately, this was God’s approach with Israel as this week’s study shows. They had committed fatal mistakes in their relationship with God by rebelling against Him after He had brought them back to Him. God had warned them through His watchmen, the prophets, but they had not repented. They believed His way was too difficult and that they would never be able to survive before Him. They also thought their former righteousness would save them when they turned back to evil. But these were invalid excuses; they just needed to stop their wickedness and simply obey God—then He would take care of them. They wouldn’t listen, though, and

continued to do the wrong thing. The shepherds, or leaders, of Israel had a part in this sick pattern. They used their position to take care of themselves instead of taking care of the people. There were also powerful people who took advantage of the weaker sheep. These were all fatal mistakes, much like the attitude of Edom, Israel’s neighbor. God would judge all of them for this evil; but then He would bring about full restoration as He took matters into His own hands. In the last days God would bring Israel back to their homeland, repopulate it, renew His covenant with them, and give them new hearts that would obey Him. This would be as miraculous as dry bones in a grave coming back to life. God would also reunite Is-



Our claim to fame is found as we reflect the glory of God.

rael and Judah as His people. However, He would do this for the glory of His name and not because they deserved it. Lastly, God would cause the final victory to take place in the land of Israel. He would bring the peoples of the far north (Russia today) against them when they seemed to be vulnerable. But rather than succeeding in their conquest they would be totally vanquished. The slaughter would be so great that it would take months to clean up. In the end it would be shown that God Himself had to take over to get it done right.

Daily Study Questions for Ezekiel 33-39

(For answers to questions attend an ABF or go to www.celebrationnet.com, small groups, abf)

1. Look at Ezek 33:1-20. What is the watchman’s responsibility (v1-3, 6-8)? What is the responsibility of the one warned (v4-5) and what excuses are not valid (v10-11, 12-16, 17-20)? Why?	
2. In Ezek 33:21-33 what occurred in Jerusalem (v21), but was Judah’s hope (v24)? What would keep them from realizing that hope (v25-26, 30-32) and what would God do (v27-29, 33)? Apply.	
3. From Ezek 34:1-16 list all the things that the shepherds (leaders) of Israel had done wrong (v2-3, 4-5, 6, 8). What would God do to correct the problem (v11-16)?	

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Ezekiel 33-39 Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. Using Ezek 34:17-31 what had the bad sheep done wrong (v18, 21) and how did it affect the good sheep (v19, 21)? What would God do for the good sheep (v23-31)?

5. In 35:1-15 what would God do to Mount Seir/Edom (v1-4, 6-9, 11, 14-15) and why (v5, 10, 12-13)? What does this teach us?

6. Looking at Ezek 36:1-21 what had happened to Israel (v1-4, 16-20) and what was God going to do for them (v4-7, 8-12, 13-15, 21)?

7. According to Ezek 36:22-38 why was God about to act (v22-23, 32)? What would He do for Israel (v24) and what did He promise them (25-28, 29-30, 31, 33-36, 37-38)?

8. From 37:1-14 describe what Ezekiel saw (v1-2). What did God tell Ezekiel to do (v3-6) and what happened (v7-10)? What did this vision mean (v11-14)? Apply.

9. Using 37:15-28 what did God tell Ezekiel to do (v15-17), and what did it mean (v18-22)? What else did God promise (v23-27) and why (v28)?

10. Looking at 38:1-23 what was Gog (Russia) going to be led to do in the end times (v1-6, 7-9, 10-13, 14-16)? What will be the final outcome (v17-23)?

11. In 39:1-24 what would God do to Gog in the end (v1-6) and how bad would it be (v9-10, 11-16, 17-20)? What would happen to Israel (v21-29)? Why (v29)?

12. How does this week's study show that God is the only One who can make everything turn out right?

Scripture to Remember

“As I live!” declares the Lord God, “I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from his way and live.”

Ezekiel 33:11 (NASV)

Celebration Fellowship

Help—Hope—Healing

We're on the web

www.thehospitalchurch.com

Life Group Questions—Sheep Have Valleys, Too (Ps 23:4)

(Using questions based on today's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. Discuss together what “valleys” represent in everyday life. What are some typical valleys that you face in your lives?
2. Psalm 23:4. Do you agree that valleys are inevitable? Why?
3. What does it mean that valleys are unpredictable and impartial, and how does that make you feel? Share some experiences you have had with this and how you handled them.
4. Why is it good to remember that valleys are temporary, and purposeful? What do you think the connection is between God's purpose for us (23:3b) and the valley?
5. Since fear is a normal human emotion what does the instruction to “fear no evil” mean? How does this help you not give up when you are in the valley?
6. How do you sense God's presence with you in the valley? What do His rod (protection) and staff (correction) have to do with this? Give personal examples.
7. Bring up anything else important to you from Sunday's message if there is time.