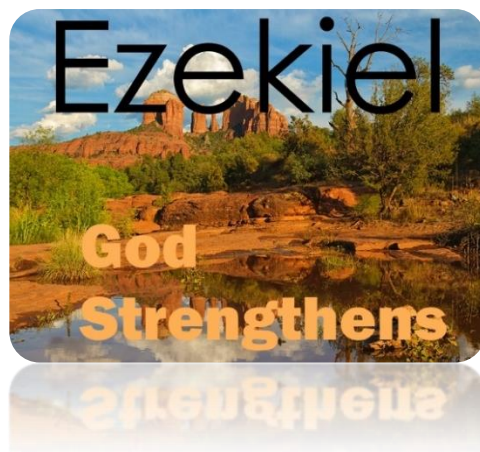


EZEKIEL 12 vs 1

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An outline of Ezekiel: **Chapters 1 – 24**: The Lord's prophecies against **Israel** and **Judah**; **Chapter 25**: prophecies against 4 neighbors: Ammon, Moab, Edom – east of Jordan, Philistia – the western coastline; **Chapter 26 – 28**: judgment on Tyre in Lebanon, its overthrow; a funeral song; its leader's downfall, and a funeral song for its real king, lastly judgment on Sidon. **Chapter 29 – 32**: judgment on Egypt; description of judgment; comparison to Assyria; a funeral song over Egypt. **Chapter 33**: appointing watchmen on the wall; **Chapter 34**: firing all the shepherds / the hired pastors; the LORD will do the job. **Chapter 35 - 36**: judgment begins at the household of God; but extends to the irksome neighbors; God always looks for love freely given. Much of this record – but not all was local history 2500 years ago.



Plan A: the first days: Passover, Unleavened Bread, Firstfruits, and Pentecost; fulfilled in Christ.

Plan B: The last days: **Trumpets**, **Afflicting souls**, and **Tents**; 3 days that are still on the Lord's calendar. **Chapter 37** the great awakening of Joseph (led by **Ephraim** and Manasseh) when **they** along with **Judah** become one; until Jesus Messiah returns to rule with a rod of iron. **Armageddon**: **Chapter 38** Gog and Magog against Judah and Manasseh; **Chapter 39** Gog and Magog against **Ephraim** – the battle is over.

What our Lord said to Paul may fitly be applied to the prophet Ezekiel, to whom the same Lord is here speaking, Rise and stand on your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to make you a minister – **Acts 26**. Ezekiel's ministry was to keep before those in captivity, the sins which brought God's judgment on them, and to assure them of God's future blessing for those who would return to Him and keep His covenant. For this, we learn, Ezekiel was murdered, being dragged through the streets.

Ezekiel in Babylon;

¹ The word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² Son of man, you dwell in the midst of a rebellious house, which has eyes to see, and sees not; they have ears to hear, and hear not: for they are a rebellious house / so His people have been given the tools needed to be obedient... eyes that see; and ears that hear the word of the Lord... and I bet they also have hands and feet to go and do it; not rocket science is it?

³ Therefore, son of man, prepare stuff for removing, and remove by day in their sight; and you will remove from your place to another place in their sight: maybe they will reconsider, though they are a rebellious house.

⁴ In their sight, bring forth your stuff by day, stuff for removing: and in their sight, go forth at evening, as they who go forth into captivity.

⁵ In their sight, dig through the wall, and carry out through it.

⁶ In their sight, bear it on your shoulders, and carry it forth in the twilight: cover your face, that you do not see the ground: for I have set you for a sign to the house of Israel / Ezekiel is a sign – and what do signs do? Signs give information; they point a direction; to all who claim to be ruled by God: not merely the House of Judah the relatively small group of the 2 tribes comprising the Jewish people today. But also, the greater house of Israel, which includes: the 2 sons of Joseph, one would become a great commonwealth of nations and the other, a great nation... and many others at the close of the time of the Gentiles; Ezekiel points to the LORD, so each of us who claim to be ruled by Him can individually learn a very important lesson!

⁷ And I did as I was commanded: I brought forth my stuff by day, as stuff for captivity, and in the evening, I dug through the wall with my hand; I brought it forth in the twilight, and I bare it on my shoulder in their sight.

⁸ And in the morning came the word of the LORD to me, saying,

⁹ Son of man, has not the house of Israel, the rebellious house, said to you, What are you doing?

¹⁰ You tell them, Thus says the LORD God; This burden concerns the ruler in Jerusalem, and all the house of Israel who are among them.

¹¹ Say, I am your sign: like as I have done, so it will be done to them: they will remove and go into captivity.

¹² And the ruler that is among them will bear on his shoulder in the twilight, and will go forth: they will dig through the wall to carry out by it: he will cover his face, so that he cannot see the ground with his eyes.

¹³ I will also spread My net over him, and he will be caught in My snare. I will bring him to Babylon to the land of the Chaldeans; yet he will not see it, though he will die there.

¹⁴ And I will scatter to every wind all who are around him, his helpers, and all his troops; and I will unsheathe a sword after them.

¹⁵ And they will know / so they're going to learn a lesson, and what is it?

I am the LORD, when I scatter them among the nations, and disperse them in the countries.

¹⁶ But I will spare a few of them from the sword, the famine, and the pestilence; that they may tell all their abominations among the nations where they go; and they will know:

I am the Lord.

¹⁷ Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

¹⁸ Son of man, eat your bread with quaking, and drink your water with trembling and anxiety;

¹⁹ then say to the people of the land, Thus says the LORD God concerning the inhabitants of Jerusalem in the land of Israel; They will eat their bread with anxiety, and drink their water with horror, because their land will be deserted from all that is in it, because of the violence / **hamas**... of all them who dwell in it; violence – and the art of creating fear and intimidation; much like now days in our genius 21st century; like hyping Russian aggression – by the way, **Russia is the 2nd largest community of Christians** in the world; they are not roman, they are orthodox; so the last world govt won't like them either; violence filled the hearts of all mankind at the time of Noah, causing the Lord God to destroy the world with a flood.

²⁰ And the cities that are inhabited will be laid waste, and the land will be deserted; and you will know:

I am the LORD.

²¹ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

²² Son of man, what is this proverb that you have in the land of Israel, saying, The days are long, and every vision fails? / what the false prophets told them came to nothing.

²³ So tell them, Thus says the LORD God;

I will make this proverb to cease, and they will no longer use it as a proverb in Israel; but say to them, **The days are near, and every vision will be fulfilled.**

²⁴ For there will **no** longer be an empty vision or flattering hocus pocus in the **house of Israel.**



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²⁵ For I am the LORD: I will speak, and the word that I speak will happen.

It will no longer be delayed, for in your days, O rebellious house, I will speak the word, and will perform it, says the LORD God.

²⁶ Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying. ²⁷ Son of man, behold, those of the house of Israel say, The vision that he sees is for many years to come, and he prophesies of times far off / no longer about history 2500 years ago; but the whole house of Israel; fast-approaching these 3 last days shadows of things to come, fulfilled in Christ.

²⁸ So tell them, Thus says the LORD God; none of My words will be delayed any longer. The word I spoke will be done, says the LORD God.