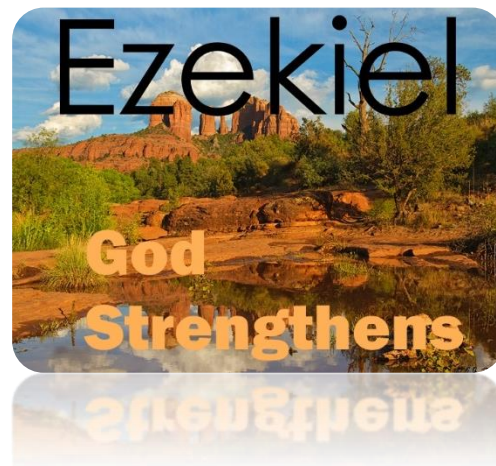


EZEKIEL 31 vs 1

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An outline of Ezekiel: **Chapters 1 – 24**: The Lord's prophecies against **Israel** and **Judah**; (1) **Chapter 25**: prophecies against 4 neighbors: Ammon, Moab, Edom – east of Jordan, Philistia – the western coastline; (3) **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. (4) **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. (2) **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 – but not all was local history 2500 years ago.



When Messiah comes to reign; He will get the water to flow and clean up Jerusalem; notice there are no more bloody sacrifices. Were these words given to help God's people act in faith?

Yet only 10% of **Judah** got excited and decided to get up, and return to Jerusalem, and rebuild the temple in preparation for when Messiah came the first time. Now another temple is no longer needed. The stone that the builders rejected became the Chief cornerstone. So where are they planning to put the Chief cornerstone in their supposed 3rd temple?

Here one stands indicted at the bar of divine justice for his pride and haughtiness, and the injuries he had done to God's people; but he think himself so high, so great, as not to be accountable to any authority, so strong, and so well guarded, as not to be conquerable by any force – MH.

¹ **In the eleventh year, in the third month, in the first day of the month** / this prophecy is dated in the springtime before the fall of Jerusalem; when God's people were in the depth of their distress,

the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

² **Son of man, say to Pharaoh king of Egypt and to his multitude** / all aspects of leadership who contributed to Egypt's magnificence; all branches including: health and human services; and the military;

Who is like you in your greatness? / those many millennia ago, Egypt had no earthly rival.

³ **Indeed, Assyria** / whose magnificence descended from the rebel Nimrod...

Assyria... was like a cedar in Lebanon with the most beautiful branches and forest shade, and of towering height; its topmost shoots were above the boughs / among the clouds.

⁴ **The waters nourished it; the deep roots made it grow tall, making its rivers flow around the place of its planting, and sending its streams to all the trees of the field** / to all the nations of the earth.

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⁵ **So it towered magnificently high above all the trees of the field, Wow!** from abundant water in its shoots, its boughs grew large, and its branches long / as a nation, it was well resourced and prospered. Wow!

⁶ **All the birds of the heavens made their nests in its boughs** / in this impressive nation every little birdbrain found a place to call home among its resources, Wow!

under its branches all the beasts of the field gave birth to their young / under its branches even the wild brutes and beastlike govts proliferated, Wow!

and under its shadow live all the great nations / Wowzer! the Lord reminds Ezekiel that He is comparatively speaking about Assyria, a grand nation among the many nations; and back to the analogy.

And notice: The Lord GOD continues to pile on its glorious earthy splendor in every dimension and asset.

⁷ **It was beautiful in its greatness, in the length of its branches: for its root went down to abundant waters** / its proportions and dimensions were well managed; its spreading dominion was skillfully kept in shape and good order. Wow!

⁸ **The cedars in the garden of God could not rival it** / Assyria is described with the similitude of David's glorious house, but remember it seems to have descended from Nimrod, the great rebel: Wow!

the fir trees of the field... did not equal its boughs, the fruit trees were not like its branches; no tree in the garden of God was its equal in beauty. Wow!

⁹ **I made it beautiful in its massive branches** / God made it; and it excelled in height above all others, as well as extended its dominion spreading beyond all others: Wow!

and all the trees of Eden, that were in the garden of God, envied it. Wow! / they were jealously angered by this stately planting gone rogue; and it makes you wonder, who is this Assyria? Since it doesn't sound like any nation we have been told about; though it sounds like what all the rebellious nations would hope to aspire to... only achieved with the help of God's greatest rebel – the father of lies.

¹⁰ **Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: because you towered high, and set your top above the boughs** / higher than all others, **and your heart was proud of its height** / the king of Egypt resembles the king of Assyria in pomp, and power, and prosperity...

and of course, in pride... but with pride... we know what inevitably follows;

¹¹ **I will give it into the hand of a mighty one of the nations** / notice, God uses the tools at hand, one ruthless nation against another. And who utterly destroyed Assyria? The answer cannot be a nation 2500 years ago; because it would not be in the news today, if back then... it was totally destroyed. He /

the mighty one... **will surely deal with it as its wickedness deserves. I have driven it out** / the LORD Himself says He chauffeured them out of town.

¹² **And strangers / foreigners, the most terrifying of the nations, have cut it down and left it on the mountains, and in all the valleys its branches have fallen** / and it begs the question: Who is this most terrifying one? they seized upon some aspects – the highlands, the lowlands of his dominion are lopped off first, to destabilize its ability to rule,

and its boughs have been broken in all the ravines of the earth; and all the people of the earth are gone away from its shadow, and left it / the masses of people are always gone -- pawns always being displaced, force to move on,

¹³ **Upon its fallen trunk dwell all the birds of the heavens, and on its branches are all the beasts of the field** / little birdbrains without shade, without protection while the rich fly away in their Lear-jets; brutes feasting on the unsuspecting birdbrains:

¹⁴ **So that no trees by the waters may grow to towering height, nor set their tops above the boughs / higher than the others; the Author of life has creatively set limits, and no trees that drink water may reach up to them in height. For they are all given over to death, to the lower parts of the earth, among the children of Adam, with those who go down to the pit.**

¹⁵ **Thus says the Lord God;**

caused mourning / when it went to the garbage dump... He caused weeping from Beverly Hills... to the City of seven hills:

I covered the deep over it, I restrained its rivers, and many waters were stopped; I covered the trees of Lebanon in gloom for it, and all the trees of the field fainted of it / He turned out the lights on their business; how, we don't know, without water they are good as dead.

¹⁶ **I shook the nations at the sound of its fall, when I cast it down to Sheol with those that descend to the pit** / when this lofty rebel and his design were thrown down; the LORD says, He got the world's attention... when He threw some terrifying stately planting into the garbage dump... that special frat house for likeminded fools...

And all the trees of Eden, the choice and best trees of Lebanon, all that drink water, were comforted in the lower parts of the earth / the living-dead always seek miserable companions; when great men fall, then a great many fall with them... just as a great many in like manner have fallen before them.

¹⁷ **They also went down with it to Sheol, those who are slain by the sword** / but did they go willingly to the garbage dump? by missile or bullet; or droned, or nuked, or poisoned;

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and those who were its arm who lived under its shadow among the nations / its strength, its armies, its lineage; those trusting in their weapons of war; who lived near and dear to do violence.

¹⁸ **Who is similar to you in glory and greatness among the trees of Eden?** / who is like this rebel among all who were first planted by the Creator in the beginning.

And it is, as if the LORD taunts any other drunk fool to step forward...

and feel free to identify themselves, because the garbage dump is spacious enough; His heaven will not be populated with earth's trailer trash.

You too will be brought down with the trees of Eden to the lower parts of the earth. You too will lie among the uncircumcised, with those who are slain by the sword. “This is Pharaoh and all his multitude”, says the Lord GOD.

Matthew Henry wrote: Soldiers, who being both armed and commissioned to kill, and destroy may be counted among the terrorists of the nations.

And this chapter steeped in rebellion and violence... sounds exactly like what the USA and roman globalists are doing with our tax-payer \$\$\$. Now days, as they disregard their own supposed concerns for global warming; and instead for years bomb the hell out of unsuspecting folks,

especially those of the most ancient eastern Christian societies, doesn't it? So, I bet there is a lesson for us to learn, too.

Many forget the Lord promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and to their generations through Ephraim and Manasseh, brothers who were ½ Egyptian: they inherited all the birthright promises: two great powers at the center of the earth; and these brothers were to become a blessing to all the nations – from the rising of the sun to its setting; a blessing and not a curse: So, I wonder if they also forgot.