



Welcome
to
Studio Scriptura

SOT.11
Ezekiel

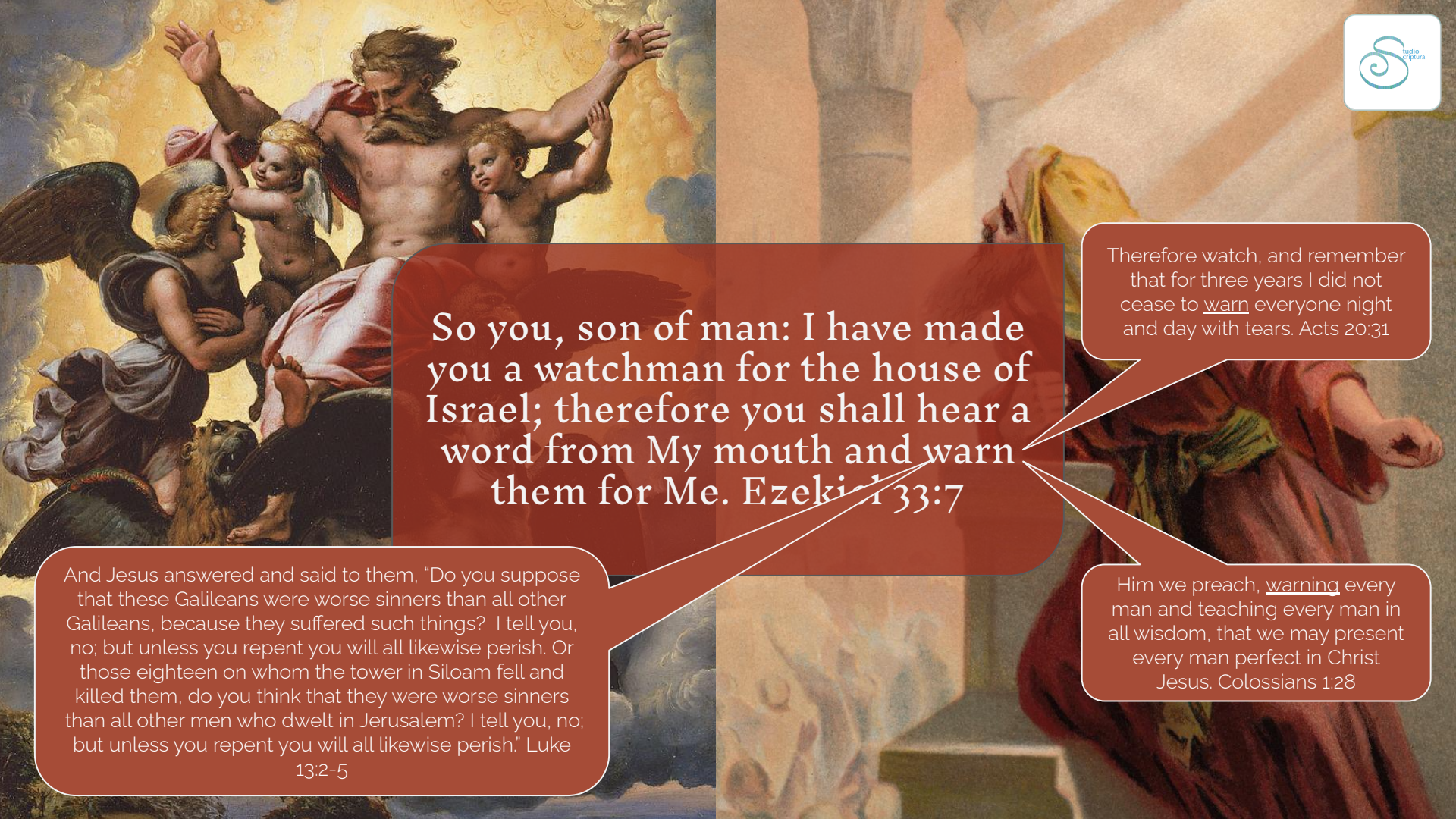


Logistics & Learning Objectives:

1. Participants will gain a high level understanding of:
 - a. The Prophet Ezekiel



New King James Version,
1988. Nashville: Holman
Bible Publishers.

The background is a composite of two classical paintings. On the left is Raphael's 'The School of Athens', showing Plato and Aristotle. On the right is a detail from Michelangelo's 'The Creation of Adam', showing the reclining Adam and the reaching Christ.

So you, son of man: I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore you shall hear a word from My mouth and warn them for Me. Ezekiel 33:7

And Jesus answered and said to them, "Do you suppose that these Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse sinners than all other men who dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish." Luke 13:2-5

Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears. Acts 20:31

Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. Colossians 1:28

INTRODUCTION:

- Received his call as a prophet in July 593 BC, on his thirtieth birthday, and ministered among his fellow exiles while living near Nippur (modern day Iraq). Ezekiel's ministry extended until at least 571 BC.
- Ezekiel, who came from a priestly family, was transported into exile as part of the second Babylonian deportation in 597 BC.
- Ezekiel has three visions: 1-The Lord appears to Ezekiel and commissions him to be a prophet. The Lord did not forsake His people and provided a prophetic messenger for the exiles. 2-Ezekiel sees the glory of the Lord depart from Jerusalem and removed His protective presence because of their pride, idolatry and wickedness. 3-Ezekiel sees the glory of the Lord return to Jerusalem with the valley of dry bones, rebuilding of the temple and the restoration of Israel in the last days.
- The expression "know that I am the Lord" appears 72 times in the book of Ezekiel.
- Judah's sin and subsequent judgment tarnished the Lord's reputation among the nations so the Lord will act for the sake of His own name and honor.



EZEKIEL

WATCHMAN OF ISRAEL

JUDGEMENT of JUDAH & JERUSALEM

Ezekiel 1-24

EZEKIEL

WATCHMAN OF ISRAEL

- The Lord appeared to Ezekiel as a mighty warrior riding out of the clouds on his war chariot. The Lord was present with His people in Babylon; He had not abandoned them.
- These angelic creatures serve as the Lord's royal attendants around His throne
- The sovereign Lord of heaven asserted His sovereignty in the land of Babylon, and no human ruler or army would be able to oppose Him.
- Ezekiel's role as a prophet is compared to the work of a "watchman" who stood on the city wall and warned the people
- Ezekiel portrayed the siege of Jerusalem to show the exiles that the Lord would not tolerate the demeaning of His holiness.

EZEKIEL

WATCHMAN OF ISRAEL

- Ezekiel's dramatic language was/is necessary because the exiles treated the prophet's warnings as empty proverbs or predictions for the distant future,
- Ezekiel told three parables to portray the sinfulness of Judah and the certainty of coming judgment (Ezekiel 15–17).
 - Parable of the useless vine
 - Parable of the spiritual adultery
 - Parable of two eagles and a vine
- Ezekiel 20 gives one of the most negative assessments of Israel's history in the entire Old Testament. The Davidic dynasty would be on pause until its restoration at the time near the end of the age.

EZEKIEL

WATCHMAN OF ISRAEL

Some Key Verses:

- Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the River Chebar, that the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God. Ezekiel 1:1
- And above the firmament over their heads was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like a sapphire stone; on the likeness of the throne was a likeness with the appearance of a man high above it. Ezekiel 1:26
- And He said to me: "Son of man, I am sending you to the children of Israel, Ezekiel 2:3a
- "Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore hear a word from My mouth, and give them warning from Me: When I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. Ezekiel 3:17-18

EZEKIEL

PROPHET OF ISRAEL

- One-third of you shall die of the pestilence, and be consumed with famine in your midst; and one-third shall fall by the sword all around you; and I will scatter another third to all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them. Ezekiel 5:12
- “Yet I will leave a **remnant**, so that you may have some who escape the sword among the nations, when you are scattered through the countries. Ezekiel 6:8
- ‘They will throw their silver into the streets, And their gold will be like refuse; Their silver and their gold will not be able to deliver them In the day of the wrath of the Lord; They will not satisfy their souls, Nor fill their stomachs, Because it became their stumbling block of iniquity. Ezekiel 7:19

EZEKIEL

THE VISION OF THE NEW HEARTS OF ISRAEL

- Then He said to me, "The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceedingly great, and the land is full of bloodshed, and the city full of perversity; for they say, 'The Lord has forsaken the land, and the Lord does not see!' Ezekiel 9:9
- Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God. Ezekiel 11:19-20
- And say to the people of the land, 'Thus says the Lord God to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the land of Israel: "They shall eat their bread with anxiety, and drink their water with dread, so that her land may be emptied of all who are in it, because of the violence of all those who dwell in it. Ezekiel 12:19
- "Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their hearts, and put before them that which causes them to stumble into iniquity. Should I let Myself be inquired of at all by them? Ezekiel 14:3

EZEKIEL

WATCHMAN OF ISRAEL

- “As I live,” says the Lord God, “neither your sister Sodom nor her daughters have done as you and your daughters have done. Look, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. And they were haughty and committed abomination before Me; therefore I took them away as I saw fit. Ezekiel 16:48-50
- “Moreover you took your sons and your daughters, whom you bore to Me, and these you sacrificed to them to be devoured. Were your acts of harlotry a small matter, Ezekiel 16:20-30 “How degenerate is your heart!” says the Lord God, “seeing you do all these things, the deeds of a brazen harlot. Ezekiel 16:30
- In you they take bribes to shed blood; you take usury and increase; you have made profit from your neighbors by extortion, and have forgotten Me,” says the Lord God. Ezekiel 22:12
- Again, in the ninth year, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, the word of the Lord came to me, saying, “Son of man, write down the name of the day, this very day—the king of Babylon started his siege against Jerusalem this very day. Ezekiel 24:1-2



EZEKIEL

WATCHMAN OF ISRAEL

JUDGEMENT of the NATIONS

Ezekiel 25 - 32

EZEKIEL

WATCHMAN OF ISRAEL

- Like Isaiah (Isaiah 13–23) and Jeremiah (Jeremiah 46–51), Ezekiel's prophecies contain an extended series of oracles against foreign nations. The Lord's sovereignty extended beyond Israel and Judah, included all peoples and nations, and communicated to all peoples that the Lord was the true God.
 - Amman
 - Moab
 - Edomite
 - Philistia
 - Tyre: Due to his great pride, his fall is described in terms that remind us of the fall of Satan.
 - Sidon
 - Egypt



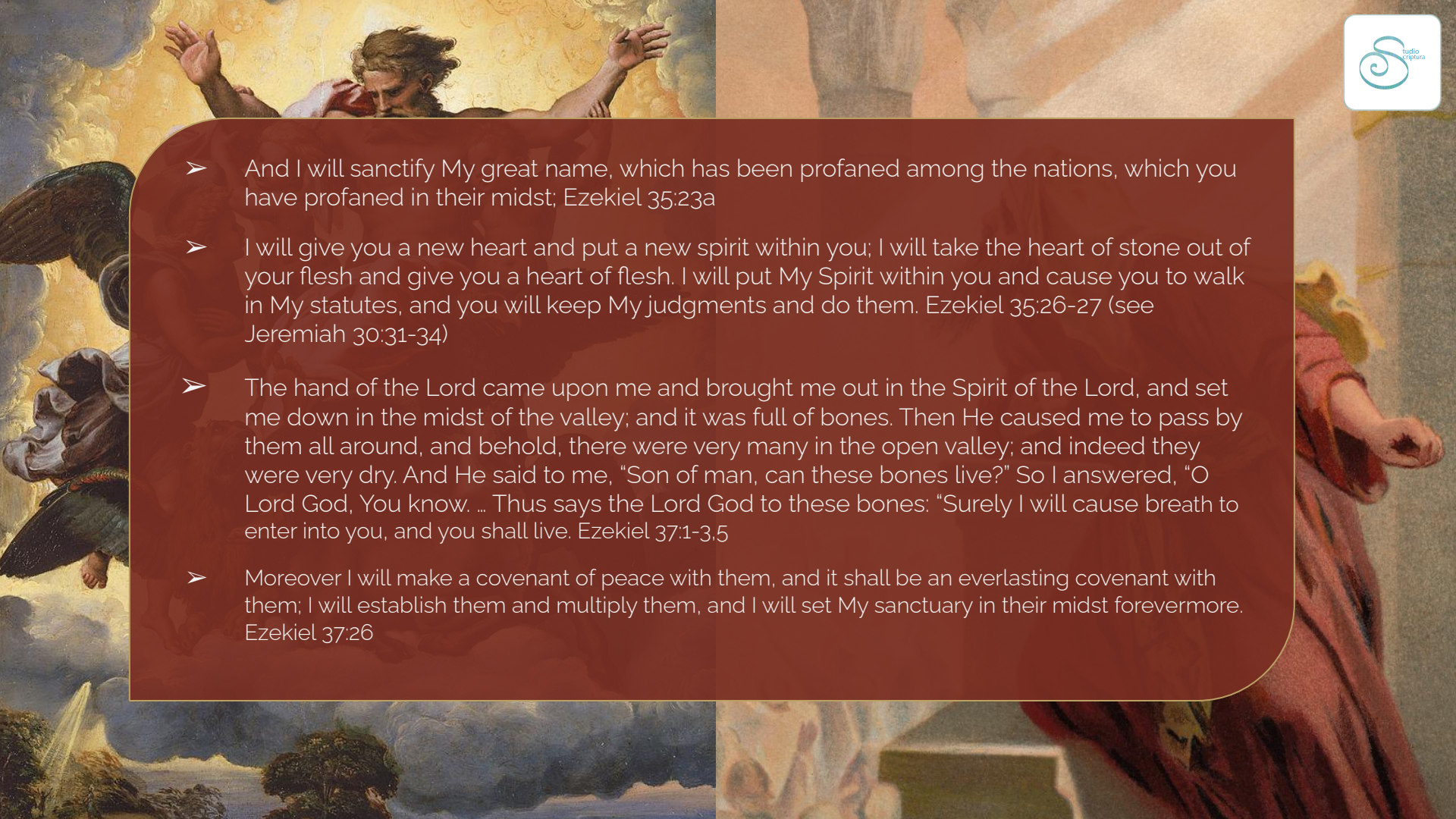
FUTURE RESTORATION of ISRAEL
Ezekiel 33-48

- The final section of Ezekiel's prophecy turns to the hope of Israel's future restoration:
- Ezekiel 36 provides the theological ground for the restoration of future Israel to fulfill God's promises and restore His glory.
- Ezekiel 37 gives the mechanics of the restoration (regathered to the Promised Land prior to their spiritual rebirth) through the vision of the valley of dry bones. The word "forever" is used five times in vv. 25–28 repeatedly affirming an eschatological fulfillment. I.e., the rebirth of Israel at the time of Christ's second coming when He would reign as the Davidic Messiah.
- Ezekiel's prophecies in Ch 38-39 predict Israel's victory over Gog and Magog. Israel would not need to defend itself because the Lord Himself would destroy these enemies by pouring down upon them torrential rains, hailstones, and burning sulfur.
- The erecting of the restoration temple in chaps. 40–48.

The background of the slide is a composite of several classical paintings. At the top, a man with long hair and a beard, likely Jesus, is shown with his arms outstretched against a golden, cloudy sky. To the left, an angel with large, dark wings is depicted. At the bottom, there is a landscape with a large tree and a body of water under a dark, stormy sky. On the right side, a portion of a figure in a red robe is visible.

Some Key Verses:

- Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying: "Son of man, they who inhabit those ruins in the land of Israel are saying, 'Abraham was only one, and he inherited the land. But we are many; the land has been given to us as a possession.' "Therefore say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: "You eat meat with blood, you lift up your eyes toward your idols, and shed blood. Should you then possess the land? You rely on your sword, you commit abominations, and you defile one another's wives. Should you then possess the land?" ' "Say thus to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: "As I live, surely those who are in the ruins shall fall by the sword, and the one who is in the open field I will give to the beasts to be devoured, and those who are in the strongholds and caves shall die of the pestilence. For I will make the land most desolate, her arrogant strength shall cease, and the mountains of Israel shall be so desolate that no one will pass through. Then they shall know that I am the Lord, when I have made the land most desolate because of all their abominations which they have committed." ' Ezekiel 33:23-29
- Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God to the shepherds: "Woe to the shepherds of Israel who feed themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flocks? Ezekiel 34:2

- 
- The background of the slide is a composite of several classical paintings. At the top, a man with long hair and a beard, possibly Jesus, is shown with his arms raised in a gesture of blessing or prayer against a golden, cloudy sky. To the left, a winged figure, likely an angel, is depicted in a dynamic pose. At the bottom, a landscape with a large tree and a body of water is visible. On the right side, a portion of a figure in a red robe is shown, possibly a saint or a religious figure.
- And I will sanctify My great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst; Ezekiel 35:23a
 - I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them. Ezekiel 35:26-27 (see Jeremiah 30:31-34)
 - The hand of the Lord came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry. And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" So I answered, "O Lord God, You know. ... Thus says the Lord God to these bones: "Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. Ezekiel 37:1-3,5
 - Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them, and it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; I will establish them and multiply them, and I will set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore. Ezekiel 37:26

- Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him. Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya are with them, all of them with shield and helmet. Ezekiel 38:2,5
- You will come up against My people Israel like a cloud, to cover the land. It will be in the latter days that I will bring you against My land, Ezekiel 38:16a
- And as for you, son of man, thus says the Lord God, 'Speak to every sort of bird and to every beast of the field ... You shall eat the flesh of the mighty, drink the blood of the princes of the earth. Ezekiel 39:17a, 18a

Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great." Revelation 19:17-18

~40 miles

Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl ... For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. "Behold, I am coming as a thief.

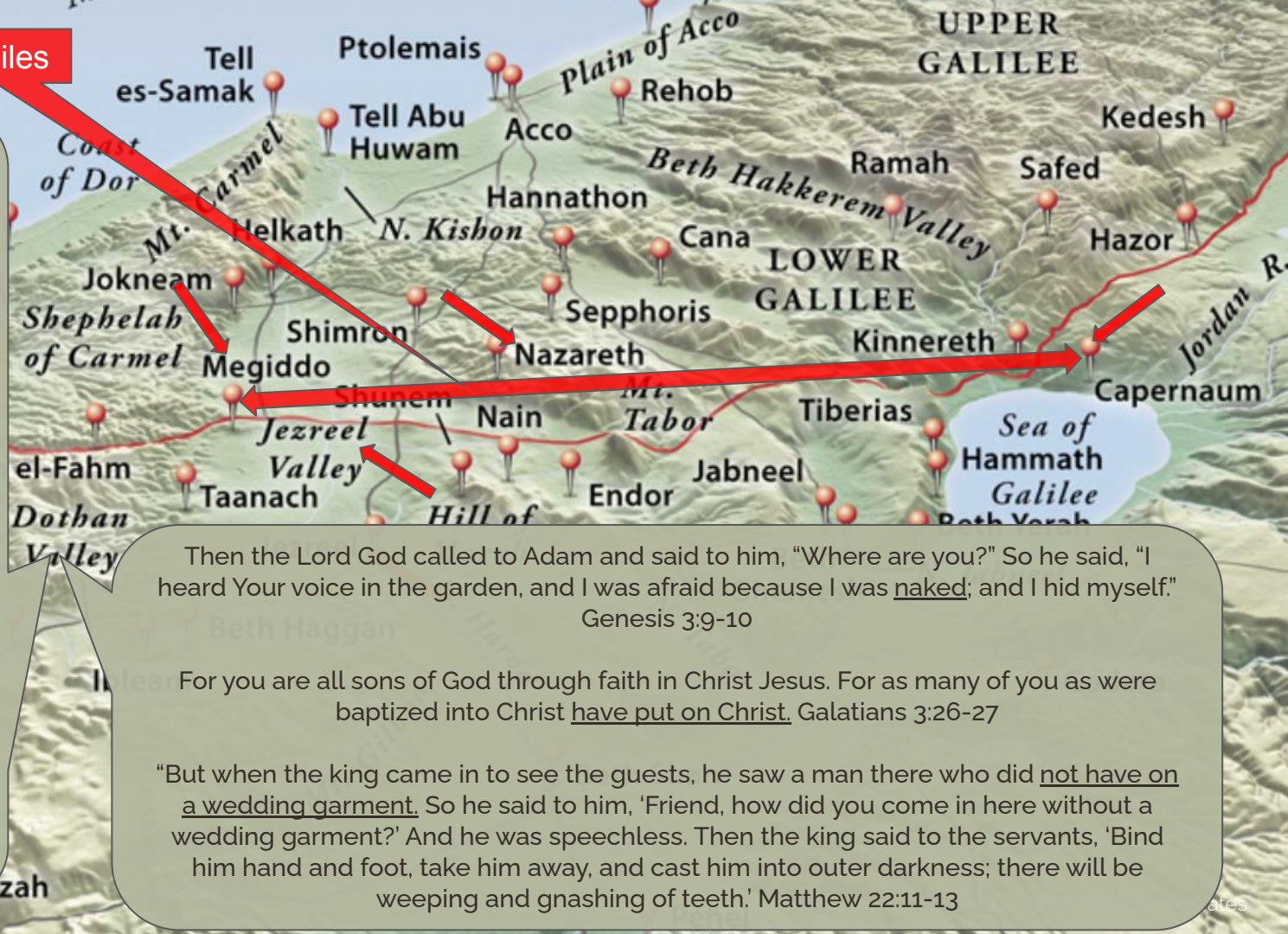
Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame." And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.

Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!" Revelation 16:12a, 14-17

Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?" So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself." Genesis 3:9-10

For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Galatians 3:26-27

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' Matthew 22:11-13



EZEKIEL'S TEMPLE (Chs 40 - 48)

- Ezekiel concludes with an extended vision of an eschatological temple and the return of the Lord to dwell among His people. Scholars have offered several different interpretations of this vision of the new temple:
 - Symbolically to represent the restoration of the relationship between God and Israel.
 - Prophecy concerning the rebuilding of the temple in the postexilic period under Zerubbabel - but that temple fell far short of what Ezekiel envisions.
 - Fulfilled figuratively in Jesus Christ as the replacement of the temple and in the Church as God's spiritual temple.
 - Detailed measurements and specifications concerning of this temple suggest that a real physical sanctuary is in view here and that the focus of this prophecy is the temple that will exist in Jerusalem during the earthly millennial kingdom (see Rev 20:1-10).

So What & Now What?



- ❑ Before next week's class, read the Book of Daniel
- ❑ Written Short Answer and/or Discuss:
 - ❑ Based on lessons from Ezekiel and other passages of Scripture is it correct to warn people and society of God's pending judgement? Why? How can you do so in a loving way? (150 words)
 - ❑ What are the three parables of Ezekiel? How might they apply to your church today? (150 words)
 - ❑ Are Ezekiel 38 & 39 hinged with any passages in the New Testament? Which ones and how are they so hinged? (150 words)
 - ❑ Which verses from Ezekiel resonated with you? Why?

