

Book of Ezekiel

Lesson 7

Historical Time Frame of Ezekiel 24, 29-33

January 588 BC: *The siege of Jerusalem begins (24:1-14)*

January 587 BC: Prophecy against Egypt (29:1-16)

April 587 BC: Re-affirmation of the fall of Egypt (30:20-26)

June 587 BC: Egypt compared with Assyria (31:1-18)

July 586 BC: *Destruction of Jerusalem Temple (24:15-24)*

January 585 BC: *Arrival of fugitive from Jerusalem (33:21-22)*

March 585 BC: Lamentation over Pharaoh and Egypt (32:1-16)

April 585 BC: Consolation for Pharaoh (32:17-32)

April 571 BC: Re-confirmation of the fall of Egypt (29:17-21)

Lamentation over fall of Egypt (30:1-19)

⁶...“Because you have been a staff of reed to the house of Israel, ⁷when they grasped you with the hand, you broke and tore all their shoulders; and when they leaned on you, you broke and made all their loins to shake. ⁸Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will bring a sword upon you, and will cut off from you man and beast, ⁹and the land of Egypt shall be a desolation and a waste. Then they will know that I am the LORD.

29:¹In the tenth year, in the tenth month, on the twelfth day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me: ²“Son of man, set your face against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and prophesy against him and against all Egypt; ³... say, ...: “Behold, I am against you, Pharaoh king of Egypt, the great dragon that lies in ... his streams, that says, ‘My Nile is my own; I made it for myself.’ ...⁶...“Because you have been a staff of reed to the house of Israel, ⁷when they grasped you with the hand, you broke and tore all their shoulders; and when they leaned on you, you broke and made all their loins to shake. ⁸Therefore ...: Behold, I will bring a sword upon you, ... ⁹and the land of Egypt shall be a desolation and a waste. Then they will know that I am the LORD.

Jeremiah 37:⁵The army of Pharaoh had come out of Egypt. And when the Chaldeans who were besieging Jerusalem heard news about them, they withdrew from Jerusalem. ⁶Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet: ⁷...: Thus shall you say to the king of Judah ... ‘Behold, Pharaoh’s army that came to help you is about to return to Egypt, to its own land. ⁸And the Chaldeans shall come back and fight against this city. They shall capture it and burn it with fire. ⁹... Do not deceive yourselves, saying, “The Chaldeans will surely go away from us,” for they will not go away. ¹⁰For even if you should defeat the whole army of Chaldeans who are fighting against you, and there remained of them only wounded men ..., they would rise up and burn this city with fire.’”

Jeremiah 34:¹⁵You recently repented and did what was right in my eyes by proclaiming liberty... ¹⁶but then you turned around and profaned my name when each of you took back his male and female slaves, whom you had set free according to their desire, and you brought them into subjection to be your slaves.
¹⁷“Therefore, thus says the LORD: You have not obeyed me by proclaiming liberty, ... I will make you a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth....²¹And Zedekiah king of Judah and his officials I will give into the hand of their enemies and into the hand of those who seek their lives, into the hand of the army of the king of Babylon which has withdrawn from you.

30:²⁰In the eleventh year, in the first month, on the seventh day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me: ²¹“Son of man, I have broken the arm of Pharaoh king of Egypt ... so that it may become strong to wield the sword. ²² ... I am against Pharaoh king of Egypt and will break his arms, both the strong arm and the one that was broken, and I will make the sword fall from his hand.... ²⁵I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon, but the arms of Pharaoh shall fall. Then they shall know that I am the LORD, when I put my sword into the hand of the king of Babylon and he stretches it out against the land of Egypt.

31:¹In the eleventh year, in the third month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me: ²“Son of man, say to Pharaoh king of Egypt and to his multitude:

“Whom are you like in your greatness?

³Behold, Assyria was a cedar in Lebanon,
with beautiful branches and forest shade,
and of towering height,
its top among the clouds....

⁶All the birds of the heavens
made their nests in its boughs;
under its branches all the beasts of the field
gave birth to their young,
and under its shadow
lived all great nations.

31:¹⁰“Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Because it towered high and set its top among the clouds, and its heart was proud of its height, ¹¹I will give it into the hand of a mighty one of the nations. He shall surely deal with it as its wickedness deserves. I have cast it out.... ¹⁶I made the nations quake at the sound of its fall, when I cast it down to Sheol with those who go down to the pit. And all ... were comforted in the world below. ¹⁷They also went down to Sheol with it, to those who are slain by the sword ..., who lived under its shadow among the nations.....18... “This is Pharaoh and all his multitude, declares the Lord GOD.”

32:¹In the twelfth year, in the twelfth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me: ²“Son of man, raise a lamentation over Pharaoh king of Egypt and say to him:

“You consider yourself a lion of the nations, but you are like a dragon in the seas; ...

³... I will throw my net over you...

haul you up in my dragnet....

⁵I will strew your flesh upon the mountains and fill the valleys with your carcass....

¹¹...The sword of the king of Babylon shall come upon you. ¹²I will cause your multitude to fall by the swords of mighty ones, all of them most ruthless of nations.

Isaiah 27:¹In that day the LORD will punish Leviathan...,
With His fierce and great and mighty sword,
Even Leviathan the twisted serpent;
And He will kill the dragon who *lives* in the sea.

30:⁷Even Egypt, whose help is vain and empty.
Therefore, I have called her
“Rahab who has been exterminated.”

51:⁹Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD;
Awake as in the days of old, the generations of long ago.
Was it not You who cut Rahab in pieces,
Who pierced the dragon?

Job 3:8“May those curse it who curse the day,
Who are prepared to disturb Leviathan.

26:12“With His power He quieted the sea,
And by His understanding He shattered Rahab.

41:1“Can you drag out Leviathan with a fishhook,
And press down his tongue with a rope?

32:¹⁷In the twelfth year, on the fifteenth day of the month, the word of the Lord came to me: ¹⁸“Son of man, wail for the hordes of Egypt and consign to the earth below both her and the daughters of mighty nations, along with those who go down to the pit....

²²“Assyria is there with her whole army; All who had spread terror in the land of the living are slain, fallen by the sword....

³¹“Pharaoh—he and all his army—will see them and he will be consoled for all his hordes that were killed by the sword....

³²Although I had him spread terror in the land of the living, Pharaoh and all his hordes will be laid among ... those killed by the sword, declares the Sovereign Lord.”

29:¹⁷In the twenty-seventh year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me:
¹⁸“Son of man, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon made his army labor hard against Tyre ..., yet neither he nor his army got anything from Tyre to pay for the labor that he had performed against her. ¹⁹Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will give the land of Egypt to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; and he shall carry off its wealth and despoil it and plunder it ²¹“On that day I will cause a horn to spring up for the house of Israel, and I will open your lips among them. Then they will know that I am the LORD.”

30:2“Son of man, prophesy ..., Thus says the Lord GOD:

“Wail, ‘Alas for the day!’

³ For the day is near,
 the day of the LORD is near;
it will be a day of clouds,
 a time of doom for the nations.

⁴A sword shall come upon Egypt,
 and anguish shall be in Cush,
when the slain fall in Egypt,
 and her wealth is carried away,
 and her foundations are torn down.

Isaiah 61:¹The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;...
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;...

Luke 4:¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor....
¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ...

²¹And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has
been fulfilled in your hearing."

Book of Ezekiel

Lesson 8

24:¹Now the word of the LORD came to me in the ninth year, in the tenth month, on the tenth of the month, saying, ²“Son of man, write the name of the day, this very day. The king of Babylon has laid siege to Jerusalem this very day.”

24:¹⁵And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
¹⁶“Son of man, behold, I am about to take from you
what is precious to your eyes with a fatal blow; but you
shall not mourn and you shall not weep, and your tears
shall not come.... ¹⁸So I spoke to the people in the
morning, and in the evening my wife died.... ²⁰Then I
said to them, ... ²¹ ... “This is what the Lord GOD says:
‘Behold, I am about to profane My sanctuary, the pride
of your power, that which is precious in your eyes and
the longing of your soul; and your sons and your
daughters whom you have left behind will fall by the
sword.

24:²⁵‘As for you, son of man, will it not be on the day when I take from them their stronghold, the joy of their splendor, that which is precious in their eyes and their heart’s longing, their sons and their daughters, ²⁶that on that day the one who escapes will come to you with information for your ears? ²⁷On that day your mouth will be opened to him who escaped, and you will speak and no longer be silenced. So you will be a sign to them, and they will know that I am the LORD.’”

33:7“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

33:¹⁰“And you ..., say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ ¹¹Say to them, As I live ..., I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

33:¹⁸When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. ¹⁹And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by this. ²⁰Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”

33:¹⁴Again, though I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, ¹⁵if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ¹⁶None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

Deuteronomy 30:¹⁵See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. ¹⁶For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, ¹⁸I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

33:²¹In the twelfth year of our exile, in the tenth month, on the fifth day of the month, a fugitive from Jerusalem came to me and said, "The city has been struck down."

²²Now the hand of the LORD had been upon me the evening before the fugitive came; and he had opened my mouth by the time the man came to me in the morning, so my mouth was opened, and I was no longer mute.

33:²³The word of the LORD came to me: ²⁴“Son of man, the inhabitants of these waste places in the land of Israel keep saying, ‘Abraham was only one man, yet he got possession of the land; but we are many; the land is surely given us to possess.’ ²⁵... You eat flesh with the blood and lift up your eyes to your idols and shed blood; shall you then possess the land? ... ²⁷... As I live, surely those who are in the waste places shall fall by the sword, and whoever is in the open field I will give to the beasts to be devoured, and those who are in strongholds and in caves shall die by pestilence ²⁹Then they will know that I am the LORD.

33:³⁰“As for you, son of man, your people who talk together about you by the walls and at the doors of the houses, say to one another, each to his brother, ‘Come, and hear what the word is that comes from the LORD.’

³¹And they come to you as people come, and they sit before you as my people, and they hear what you say but they will not do it; for with lustful talk in their mouths they act; their heart is set on their gain. ³²And behold, you are to them like one who sings lustful songs with a beautiful voice and plays well on an instrument, for they hear what you say, but they will not do it. ³³When this comes—and come it will!—then they will know that a prophet has been among them.”

34:¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²“Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel ... Ah, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep?... ⁴The weak you have not strengthened, ... the lost you have not sought, and with force and harshness you have ruled them. ⁵So they were scattered, because there was no shepherd, and they became food for all the wild beasts.... ¹⁰...Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will require my sheep at their hand and put a stop to their feeding the sheep.... I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, that they may not be food for them.

34:¹¹“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out.... ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land.... ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land..... ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD.... ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.

34:²⁵“I will make with them a covenant of peace and banish wild beasts from the land, so that they may dwell securely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods. ²⁶And I will make them and the places all around my hill a blessing, and I will send down the showers in their season....²⁷...And they shall know that I am the LORD, when I break the bars of their yoke, and deliver them from the hand of those who enslaved them. ²⁸They shall no more be a prey to the nations, nor shall the beasts of the land devour them. They shall dwell securely, and none shall make them afraid....³⁰And they shall know that I am the LORD their God with them, and that they, the house of Israel, are my people, declares the Lord GOD.

35:¹The word of the LORD came to me: ² ... Behold, ... Mount Seir, ... I will stretch out my hand against you, and I will make you a desolation and a waste.... ⁵Because you cherished perpetual enmity and gave over the people of Israel to the power of the sword at the time of their calamity.... ¹⁰“Because you said, ‘These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will take possession of them’—although the LORD was there— ¹¹therefore, ... I will deal with you according to the anger and envy that you showed because of your hatred against them....¹²And you shall know that I am the LORD. “I have heard all the revilings that you uttered against the mountains of Israel, saying, ‘They are laid desolate; they are given us to devour.’

36:¹“And you, son of man, prophesy to the mountains of Israel, and say... ²...: Because the enemy said of you, ‘Aha!’ and, ‘The ancient heights have become our possession,’ ...⁵...I have spoken in my hot jealousy against the rest of the nations and against all Edom, who gave my land to themselves as a possession with wholehearted joy and utter contempt, that they might make its pasturelands a prey.... ⁶ ... I have spoken in my jealous wrath, because you have suffered the reproach of the nations. ⁷Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: I swear that the nations that are all around you shall themselves suffer reproach.

36:⁸“But you, O mountains of Israel, shall shoot forth your branches and yield your fruit to my people Israel, for they will soon come home....¹⁰And I will multiply people on you, the whole house of Israel, all of it....¹¹... And I will cause you to be inhabited as in your former times, and will do more good to you than ever before. Then you will know that I am the LORD.¹²I will let people walk on you, even my people Israel. And they shall possess you, and you shall be their inheritance, and you shall no longer bereave them of children....¹⁵And I will not let you hear anymore the reproach of the nations, and you shall no longer bear the disgrace of the peoples and no longer cause your nation to stumble, declares the Lord GOD.”

Isaiah 34:¹Draw near, O nations, to hear,
and give attention, O peoples!...

²For the LORD is enraged against all the nations,
and furious against all their host;
he has devoted them to destruction....

⁴All the host of heaven shall rot away,
and the skies roll up like a scroll....

⁵For my sword has drunk its fill in the heavens;
behold, it descends for judgment upon Edom,
upon the people I have devoted to destruction....

⁸For the LORD has a day of vengeance,
a year of recompense for the cause of Zion.

Isaiah 63:¹Who is this who comes from Edom,
in crimsoned garments from Bozrah,...

³...I trod them in my anger
and trampled them in my wrath;
their lifeblood spattered on my garments,
and stained all my apparel.

⁴For the day of vengeance was in my heart,
and my year of redemption had come.

⁵I looked, but there was no one to help;...
so my own arm brought me salvation,
and my wrath upheld me.

⁶I trampled down the peoples in my anger;
I made them drunk in my wrath,....