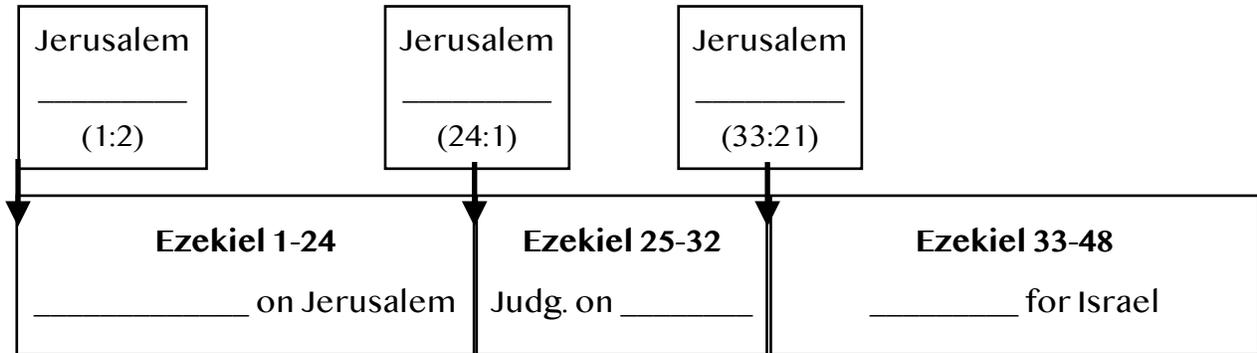


Class #8 - Idols in the Temple

Objectives:

- Match the early chapters of Ezekiel with their summaries/highlights.
- Recall two abominations taking place in the temple in Ezekiel's vision.
- Identify the crime worse than all the idolatry that Ezekiel witnessed.

Review



Match each section of Ezekiel with the appropriate summary or highlight:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| • ch.1 _____ | A. Ezekiel is called by God as the watchman of Israel. |
| • ch.2-3 _____ | B. Devastation of Israel's economy, religion, & gov't. |
| • ch.4 _____ | C. A sword coming on Judah—in famine, plague, & exile. |
| • ch.5-6 _____ | D. Ezekiel sees the likeness of the glory of God. |
| • ch.7 _____ | E. Ezekiel builds a model of the siege of Jerusalem. |

Opening Discussion (Ezekiel 8)

Try to get into the head of the people of Judah—how could this have happened?

The Trip and First Abomination (Ezekiel 8:1-6)

- This passage is dated, and takes place _____ months after Ezekiel's call (see 1:2)
 - He would have been bearing the iniquity of _____ (see 4:6)
- Interestingly, the _____ of Judah have come to his house. Why?

- Once again, Ezekiel sees a vision of God (?) and is “transported” to the entrance of the inner court of the _____ in Jerusalem.
- He sees there an _____ of _____ set up, while the _____ of the Lord stands by in His temple.
 - see 2 Kings 21:5 - a practice carried out in the days of _____, and though _____ had cleansed idols from the land, here they are again.

The Second Abomination (Ezekiel 8:7-13)

- Then, Ezekiel is told to _____ through the wall into the _____.
- There he sees the walls covered in _____ images of _____, with the seventy _____ of Judah each worshipping one of these images.
 - He recognizes Jaazaniah, son of Shaphan, a man from a _____ family (see 2 Kings 22:3ff; Jeremiah 26:24; 29:33; 36:10-12; 39:14)
- Their rationale for doing this? “Jehovah does not _____; Jehovah has _____ the land.” (8:12) What do they mean?

The Third Abomination (Ezekiel 8:14-15)

- Next, Ezekiel is taken to the entrance of the temple, where women are weeping for Tammuz, a _____ god of the seasons / fertility.

The Fourth Abomination (Ezekiel 8:16-18)

- Finally, he is taken back into the inner court, where he sees twenty five men facing east (_____ to the temple of Jehovah) – bowing down to the _____.
 - again, see 2 Kings 21:5, the altars built in the temple for the host of heaven
- And yet, God tells Ezekiel that these are _____ offenses, compared to the fact that they have filled the land with _____.