OLD TESTAMENT · MAJOR PROPHETS · BOOK 26 OF 66

Ezekiel

They shall know that I am the LORD

48	Ezekiel	593–571 B.C.	48:35
Chapters, 1,273 Verses	Priest and Prophet	Among the Captives	The LORD Is There

STRUCTURE

The Book in Four Parts

The glory of the LORD leaves Jerusalem in Part I and returns to the temple in Part IV.



Each bar shows that part's share of the 1,273 verses.

I 1–24 · 619 verses

Judgment

The glory, the watchman, signs and warnings.

II 25–32 · 197 verses

The Nations

Ammon, Moab, Edom, Philistia, Tyre, Sidon, Egypt.

III 33–39 · 197 verses

Restoration

One shepherd, a new heart, dry bones live, Gog.

IV 40–48 · 260 verses

The Temple

The glory returns; the river; "The LORD is there."

DATES B.C.

A Book of Dates

Ezekiel dates his messages by the years of King Jehoiachin's captivity.

2 KINGS 24:15	1:2	8:1	24:1
597 Ezekiel carried captive	**593** Called by the river of Chebar	**592** Visions of the temple	**588** The siege of Jerusalem begins
33:21	**40:1**	**29:17**	**1:1–3**
585 "The city is smitten"	**573** The vision of the temple	**571** The last dated message	**22 Years** Among the captives

By the River of Chebar

MAP

By the River of Chebar

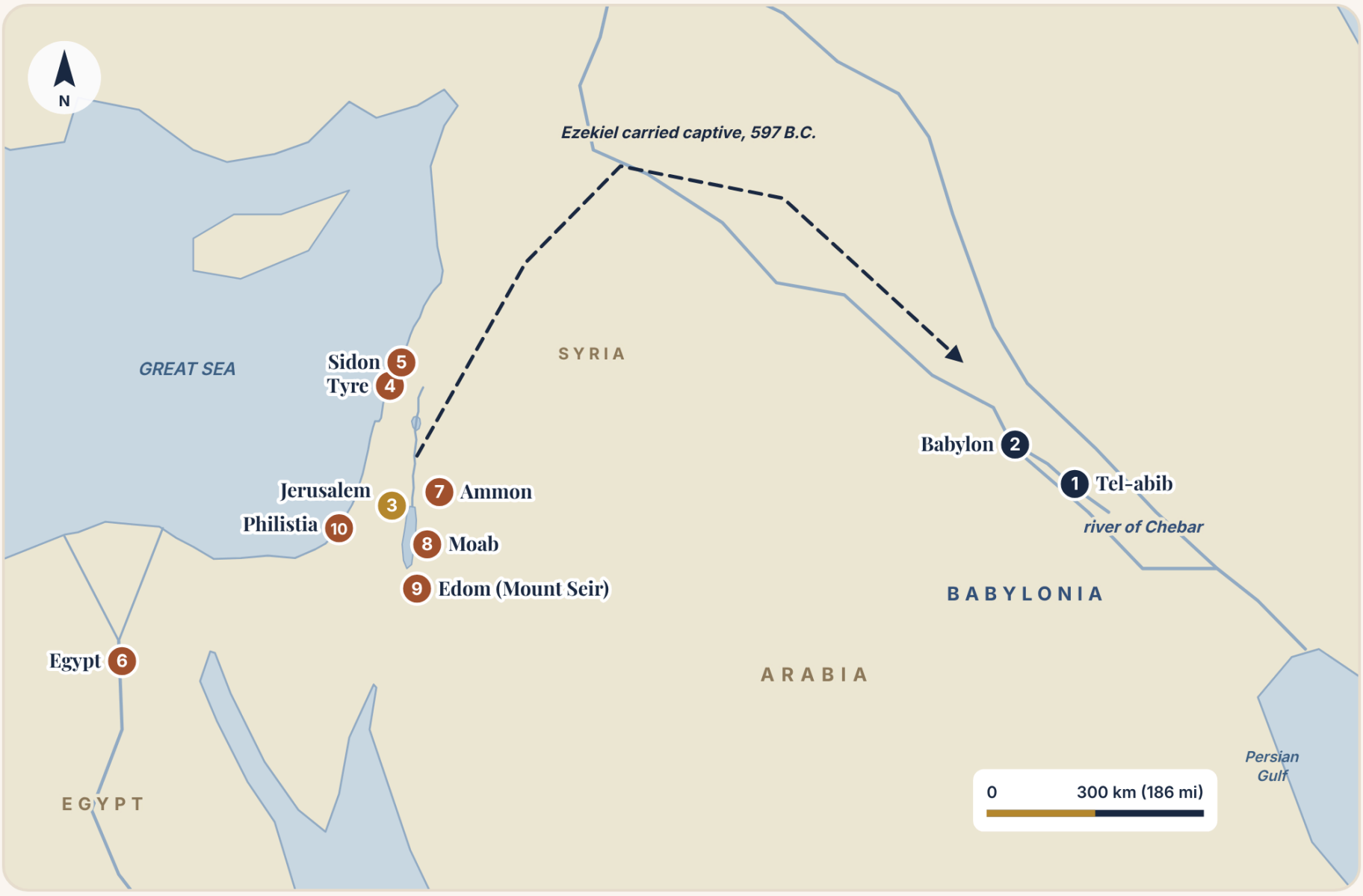
Ezekiel lived among the captives in Babylonia but saw Jerusalem in visions. Navy marks the captivity, gold Jerusalem, and rust the nations of chapters 25–32. The numbers match the cards below.

EZEKIEL 1:1–3; 25–32

By the River of Chebar

The captives in Babylon, Jerusalem, and the nations

c. 593–571 B.C. · Places approximate



The captivity
Tel-abib and Babylon

Jerusalem
Seen in visions (8–11)

The nations
Chapters 25–32

"I was among the captives by the river of Chebar, that the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God."

EZEKIEL 1:1 (KJV)

The Chebar was a canal of the Euphrates near Nippur. Places approximate.

BibleStudyForAll.com · Map positions approximate · Scripture from the King James Version

1 1:1–3; 3:15

Tel-abib

The captivity. By the river of Chebar, where Ezekiel "sat where they sat" among the captives.

2 17:12; 21:19

Babylon

The captivity. Nebuchadrezzar's city; its king came to the parting of the way.

3 8–11; 33:21

Jerusalem

Jerusalem. Seen in vision as the glory departed; the city fell in 586 B.C.

4 26–28

Tyre

The nations. The proud trading city, "perfect in beauty," brought down.

5 28:20–24

Sidon

The nations. "Behold, I am against thee, O Zidon."

6 29–32

Egypt

The nations. Pharaoh, "the great dragon," humbled.

7 25:1–7; 21:28

Ammon

The nations. They said "Aha" when the sanctuary was profaned.

8 25:8–11

Moab

The nations. They said Judah was like all the heathen.

9 25:12–14; 35

Edom (Mount Seir)

The nations. Took vengeance on Judah; Mount Seir made desolate.

10 25:15–17

Philistia

The nations. Took vengeance "with a despiteful heart."

EZEKIEL AT A GLANCE · PART 3 OF 6

Visions of God and the Watchman

EZEKIEL 1–3

Visions of God

Ezekiel's call began with a vision of God's throne, moving in glory among the captives.

> *"This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw it, I fell upon my face."*
>
> Ezekiel 1:28 (KJV)

1:5–14
Four Living Creatures
Faces of a man, a lion, an ox and an eagle

1:15–21
Wheels
Full of eyes, going wherever the spirit went

1:26–28
The Throne
A rainbow round about it

3:1–3
The Roll
"As honey for sweetness"

EZEKIEL 3; 33

A Watchman unto Israel

God made Ezekiel a watchman, responsible to warn the people whether they listened or not.

IF THE WATCHMAN WARNS	IF HE IS SILENT
The wicked who turns not dies in his iniquity; the watchman has delivered his soul 3:19	**The wicked dies in his iniquity, but his blood is required at the watchman's hand** 3:18
The one who hears the warning "shall deliver his soul" 33:5	**The sword comes and takes them away** 33:6

> *"As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?"*
>
> Ezekiel 33:11 (KJV)

EZEKIEL AT A GLANCE · PART 4 OF 6

Acted Signs, and the Glory Leaves and Returns

OBJECT LESSONS

Ezekiel’s Acted Signs

God had Ezekiel act out His messages before the people’s eyes.

1 **4:1–3**
The Tile
Jerusalem besieged in miniature

2 **4:4–8**
On His Side
390 days, then 40 days

3 **4:9–17**
Siege Bread
Eaten by weight

4 **5:1–4**
The Shaved Hair
Burned, smitten, scattered

5 **12:3–7**
Stuff for Removing
Carried out through the wall

6 **21:6**
Sighing
With the breaking of his loins

7 **24:15–18**
No Mourning
His wife dies; he does not weep

8 **37:16–17**
Two Sticks
Judah and Joseph made one

EZEKIEL 10–11; 43

The Glory Leaves and Returns

Because of the people’s sin, the glory of the LORD left the temple in stages. In the closing vision it comes back the same way.

THE GLORY DEPARTS	THE GLORY RETURNS
From the cherub to the threshold of the house	**From the way of the east**
9:3; 10:4	43:2
Out from the threshold, over the cherubims	**By the way of the gate toward the east**
10:18	43:4
To the mountain on the east side of the city	**“The glory of the LORD filled the house”**
11:23	43:5

EZEKIEL AT A GLANCE · PART 5 OF 6

A New Heart, Dry Bones and the River

EZEKIEL 34–37

A New Heart and New Life

After the city fell, Ezekiel's message turned to hope: God Himself would shepherd, cleanse and raise His people.

> *"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh."*
>
> Ezekiel 36:26 (KJV)

34:11
The Good Shepherd
"I, even I, will both search My sheep."

36:25
Cleansed
"Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you."

36:27
My Spirit Within You
"And cause you to walk in My statutes."

EZEKIEL 37

Can These Bones Live?

In a valley full of very dry bones, God showed Ezekiel what His word and Spirit can do.

1 37:3
The Question
"Can these bones live?"

2 37:4
The Word
"O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD"

3 37:7–8
Bone to Bone
Sinews, flesh and skin

4 37:10
The Breath
"They lived, and stood up upon their feet"

EZEKIEL 47

Every Thing Shall Live

From the threshold of the house a river flows east, growing deeper as it goes, and brings life wherever it reaches.

47:3
To the Ankles
A thousand cubits

47:4
To the Knees
Another thousand

47:4
To the Loins
Another thousand

47:5
Waters to Swim In
A river that could not be passed over

"And by the river upon the bank thereof … shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade … and the leaf thereof for medicine" (47:12).

Christ in Ezekiel, Key Themes and Key Verse

LOOKING FORWARD

Christ in Ezekiel

Ezekiel's promises point to the Son of man, the Good Shepherd, and the Spirit He gives.

2:1 · MARK 10:45

The Son of Man

Ezekiel's title became Christ's: "the Son of man came ... to give His life a ransom for many."

34:23 · JOHN 10:11

One Shepherd

"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth His life for the sheep."

36:26 · JOHN 3:5

Born of Water and Spirit

A new heart and new spirit, the new birth Jesus taught Nicodemus.

47:1–12 · REVELATION 22:1–3

The River of Life

"A pure river of water of life ... proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb."

BIG IDEAS

Key Themes

The Glory of God

Seen, departing, returning.

1:28; 10:18; 43:2

God's Holiness

For Mine holy name's sake.

36:22–23

Personal Responsibility

The soul that sinneth shall die.

18:4, 20

The Watchman

Warn them from Me.

3:17; 33:7

Judgment

An end is come.

7:6

God Rules the Nations

They shall know that I am the LORD.

25–32

The Good Shepherd

I will seek My sheep.

34:11–23

A New Heart

And My Spirit within you.

36:26–27

God Dwells with His People

The LORD is there.

37:27; 48:35

KEY VERSE

"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh."

Ezekiel 36:26 (KJV)