RECORDING THIS SESSION



Bible Study -Year 3

Ezekiel 12-19

Ezekiel, as depicted by Michelangelo on the Sistine Chapel ceiling

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17BC

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn man back to dust, saying, "Return, O children of men." For a thousand years in your sight are as yesterday, now that it is past, or as a watch of the night.

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You make an end of them in their sleep;

the next morning they are like the changing grass,

Which at dawn springs up anew, but by evening wilts and fades. R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain wisdom of heart. Return, O LORD! How long? Have pity on your servants! R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Fill us at daybreak with your kindness, that we may shout for joy and gladness all our days. Prosper the work of our hands for us! Prosper the work of our hands!

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.



https://historyonlinenow.weebly.com/section-1-civilization-in-the-fertile-crescent.html

2 Chronicles 36:15 - 21

The Fall of Judah. 15 Early and often the Lord, the God of their ancestors, sent his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. 16 But they mocked God's messengers, despised his words, and scoffed at his prophets, until the Lord's anger against his people blazed up beyond remedy. 17 Then he brought up against them the king of the Chaldeans, who killed their young men with the sword in their own sanctuary, with compassion for neither young men nor young women, neither the old nor the infirm; all of them he delivered into his power. 18 All the utensils of the house of God, large and small, the treasures of the Lord's house, and the treasures of the king and his princes, all these he brought to Babylon. 19 They burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, burnt down all its palaces, and destroyed all its precious objects. 20 Those who escaped the sword he carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants to him and his sons until the Persian kingdom came to power. 21 All this was to fulfill the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah: Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled.

Timeline of the Prophets



https://quizlet.com/299637570/route-66-timeline-of-bible-prophets-who-wrote-books-diagram/



2 Kings 23 2 Chronicles 36

Reign of Jehoahaz

- son of Josiah
- v31, 23yo, reigned 3 months
- EVIL
- Taken prisoner by Pharaoh Neco of Egypt
- Neco made Jehoahaz' brother Eliakim king — changed his name to Jehoiakim
- Neco took Jehoahaz to Egypt, where he died
- Neco taxed Judah heavily



2 Kings 23 - 24

2 Chronicles 36

Reign of Jehoiakim

- 25 yo, reigned 11 years
- EVIL
- King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon attacks,
- makes Jehoiakim vassal X 3 YEARS
- 24:2, God's plan coming to fruition God allows other nations to attack Judah
- note 24:3 occurred bc of Judah's sins
- dies, acts recorded....
- BTW, v7, Babylon had conquered Egypt as well

- v6, King Nebuchadnezzar bound him in chains,
 - took him to Babylon
- along with vessels from the Temple — put them in his palace
- son Jehoiachin succeeds him



2 Kings 24

2 Chronicles 36

Reign of Jehoiachin /Jeconiah

- 18 yo, reigned 3 months
- EVIL
- Neb attacks again, besieges Jerusalem
- Jehoiachin surrenders
- in ??8th year?? of his reign, taken captive
- along with treasures of king's house
- v14, Neb deported high officials, army, wealthy Israel [Ezekiel and Daniel]
- left the poor
- Neb made his uncle Mattaniah king changed name to Zedekiah



 v10, Chronicler calls Mattaniah the brother of Jehoiachin, but is actually his uncle (Mattaniah is son of Josiah)

2 Kings 24

Reign of Zedekiah

- 24:18, Zedekiah, 21 yo, reigned 11 years
- EVIL
- note v20
- Rebelled against Babylon

2 Chronicles 36

- v12, did not humble himself before prophet Jeremiah
- rebelled against k. Neb
- became stiff-necked and hard headed rather than....
- Princes, priests and people of Judah: Treacherous & idolatrous



VI. Oracles of the Restoration of Israel and Judah

Jeremiah 34

Fate of Zedekiah

- while k. Neb attacking Jerusalem, and the 'earth's kingdoms under his rule,' God speaks to Jeremiah
- v2, Tell k Zedekiah: I'm giving Jerusalem to k. Neb
 - he will burn it
 - you will escape, but will be captured and deported
 - you will die in peace, and be buried with spices
- v6-7, Jeremiah told k. Zed while Jerusalem under attack



Jeremiah 37

Jeremiah in the Dungeon

- k.Zed sent for Jer: 'Is there any word from the Lord?'
- Jer: 'As a matter of fact there is you are a goner! Jerusalem will fall to Babylon'
 - implores the king to have him released, afraid he will die imprisoned at the scribe's home
 - k. Zed has Jer moved to the court of the guard, and given a ration of bread daily — until all the bread is gone.



https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Jeremiah

Jeremiah 38

Jeremiah in the Muddy Cistern

- v1, Pashur and others heard Jer's words:
- v2-3, if you stay in Jerusalem, you will suffer; BUT if you go to Babylon, you will be spared. Know: Babylon is coming!
- v4, princes to king: Jeremiah needs to die...
- v5, k Zed: he is in your hands
- v6, threw Jer into a muddy well, lowered him with a rope
 - Jer sank down in the mud



https://www.artehistoria.com

Jeremiah 38

Jeremiah in the Muddy Cistern

- Ebed-melech (Ethiopian) tells the king they are wrong to have place Jer in the well, treating him wrong
- v10, k. Zed orders him to take 3 men and pull him out
- v11, so they did
- v13b, but Jer remained incarcerated at the court of th guard



https://www.artehistoria.com

Jeremiah 38

Jeremiah in the Muddy Cistern

- v14, k Zed sends for Jer: 'I have a question for you...tell me the truth
- v15, Jer concerned for his life
- v16, k Zed promises to protect him
- v17, Jer: God said, surrender to Babylon and you will live. But if you do not, Babylon will destroy stall and you will not escape
- v19, k Zed, afraid of Judahites
- v20-23, NOTE, READ Jer begs k Zed to listen
- v24, k Zed tells Jer to keep quiet about their conversation



https://www.artehistoria.com

Jeremiah 39

The Capture of Jerusalem

- v1, Jerusalem captured, k. Zed's 9th year, 10th month
- v2, in 11th year, 9th day of 4th month (Tammuz), Jerusalem's wall was breached
- v3, the princes of Babylon stood in authority
- v4, k. Zed and his warriors fled city at night caught near Jericho, took him prisoner
- brought him to k Neb who pronounced sentence
- executed sons
- blinded k. Zed, bound him in chains, led him to Babylon



2 Kings 25

Reign of Zedekiah

- K. Neb marched against Judah, built a wall surrounding Jerusalem's wall
- day 9, famine in city
- Babylon breached the wall
- King Zed ran

2 Chronicles 36

- v12, did not humble himself before prophet Jeremiah
- rebelled against k. Neb
- became stiff-necked and hard headed rather than....
- Princes, priests and people of Judah: Treacherous & idolatrous



Jeremiah 39

The Capture of Jerusalem

- v8, Babylonians burned palace, homes, tore down Jerusalem's walls
- v9, deportation of the people
- v10, a captain in Babylonian army (Nebuzaradan) left in Judah to manage the poor who remained



geraldwhitely.blogspot.com/ 2017/12/ii-kings-242.html

2 Kings 25

2 Chronicles 36

Fall of Judah

- Zedekiah ran, caught near Jericho in the desert
- arrested him
- Killed his sons in front of him, then gouged out his eyes
- bound him, took him to Babylon
- v8-9, Babylonian army came to Jerusalem, burned the Temple (586 BC)
- tore down Jerusalem's walls
- deported last of the army
- left the country's poor
- v13 <u>17</u>, destroyed the contents of the Temple
 - ??Ark of the Covenant??
- v18 21, the chief priests were captured, taken to Babylon, and killed
- thus, Judah went into exile

• v15 - 21, READ

- v15, Early on and often....God sent messengers... compassion
- but they were mocked...



Matthew 23:37

"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how many times I yearned to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her young under her wings, but you were unwilling!..."





https://www.johnbmacdonald.com/blog/solomon-to-exile-in-10-minutes

3 Deportations of Judah by Babylonians

Jeremiah 52:8-30

First Deportation - 597BC

- 2 Kings 24:1-16
- Incl: Ezekiel, Daniel

Second Deportation - 586 BC

- 2 Kings 24:20-25:21; Jer
 39:1-10
- Temple destroyed in 586 BC
- Third Deportation 581BC
- Flight to Egypt (2 Kings 25:22-26; Jer 40-44).





The Flight of the Prisoners (1896) by James Tissot; The exile of the Jews from Canaan to Babylon

I. Call of the Prophet

- NOTE: Ezekiel is source material for Apocalyptic literature in Daniel and Revelation
- 1:1, In Babylon, God calls Ez in his 30th year
- Sees an awesome vision of God coming in his glory from the North
- Told he is being sent to the exiles to prophecy
- 2:4, Must say everything he is told, and tell them, 'Thus says the Lord..."



https://samkod.org/visions-of-god/

I. Call of the Prophet

- 3:1, Ez told to eat the scroll like honey
- Go to Tel-abib, to the exiles
- 3:17, Told he is to be a sentinel
- And the prophet will be held accountable
- 3:22, Mute
- 1st act Symbolic of Exile
 - Lie on bricks 390 / 40 days for 390 / 40 years
 - Starvation / Eat Ezekiel Bread baked on cow dung



I. Call of the Prophet

- 5:1, 2nd act Symbolic of Exile
- Cut your beard with a sharp sword
 - 1/3 burn
 - 1/3 strike with sword in city
 - 1/3 scatter in wind
 - Interpretation: what will happen to the people in Jerusalem when it falls





I. Call of the Prophet

Against mountain of Israel

6:3, Denounced the idolatry on the 'high places'

End Has Come

- 7:2, Told the 4 corners of the earth will descend on Jerusalem and destroy it
- There will be great misery
- Silver and gold of no value
- v26-27, God will judge them

I. Call of the Prophet

Abominations in the Temple

- ◆ 8:3, Idols in Jerusalem AT the Temple gates
- 8:11, Elders in Temple worshiping/incense art on wall of animals (Egypt)
- 8:14, Women worshiping Tammuz
- 8:16, Men worshiping sun (with back to Temple)
- v17, 'Ezekiel, do you see this?!?!?!'
 - 9:1-11, Told to slaughter idolators, but place mark (X) on the righteous
 - 10:18, Glory of the Lord LEFT the Temple

https://st-takla.org/bible/commentary/en/ot/ma

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

Chapter 11

Death for the Remnant in Jerusalem

- v1, Spirit lifted and carried Ezekiel east gate of Jerusalem
- v2, public officials (25), these are the men planning evil...
 - saying: [pot/meat] = we will be protected by being within Jerusalem, like a pot protects the meat inside
 - But they lie, tell them...
- I have seen what you have done. You have killed people (who are the meat) and the pot is the city.
- I will remove you from the city and judge you
- v13, city official Pelatiah fell dead at those words
- v13b, Ez is shocked 'Lord, you are killing the remnant..'

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

Chapter 11

- Restoration for the Exiles
- Remnants in Judah believe the exiles no longer have rights to the land - since they are 'far away'
 - Those in Jerusalem had false security
 - And they had contempt for the exiles
- v17, But the Lord will gather them, and return them to Israel,
- He will remove their sins
- And READ vv19-21 (the new covenant heart of stone→heart of flesh)
 - Cf Jeremiah 31:31-34
- v21, Those who remain devoted to abominations will be destroyed

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

Chapter 11

- Restoration for the Exiles
- vv22-25, Ezekiel lifted and flown back to the exiles in Babylon, and told them all the Lord had shown him
- v23, glory of Lord leaves Jerusalem came to rest on Mt. Olivet/ Mount of Olives (east of the city) — where Christ would later ascend to heaven (per St. Jerome)
- Final hope: people will be restored to their land in order to be God's people in the right way



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount_of_Olives

Chapter 13

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

- Against the Prophets of Peace
- v13, again...Therefore, says the Lord, in my fury...
- Compare Matthew 23, esp v 27 (whitewashed tombs)



http://teampyro.blogspot.com/2019/05/ how-to-build-whitewashed-tomb.html

Chapter 13

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

Against Witches

- v17, prophecy from their own thoughts
- v18b, daughters (women)...sew amulets ...make veils they ensnare the lives of the people (using Babylonian magical practices) — for money/goods (v19)
 - v19, They marked people for life or death for a price
 - They pronounce death on the righteous
 - That decision belongs to the Lord
- v20, <u>Therefore</u>, ...I'm coming for you...
 - God will tear off their instruments of divination
 - v21b, then you will know I am the Lord
 - READ v22 they discouraged the righteous, and encouraged the wicked (not good!)

Chapter 14

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

Idolatry and Unfaithfulness

- v3, Elders "keepers of the faith" are keeping the memory of idols in their hearts
- <u>v</u>4-5, <u>Therefore</u>...when they consult the Lord, the Lord will answer in person — to catch their hearts ensnared in evil
- v6, tell Israel: Return to me; turn from idols and all abominations
- v7-8, if you ask a prophet to consult me while you are still attached to idolatry <u>in your heart</u> — I myself will answer you....and make you a sign (an example of the punishment)
- v9-11, if the prophet speaks deceiving words, I will destroy him
 - Both the prophet and the person with idolatrous heart
 - consequences for personal sins

Recall: Ezekiel 14:14, 20

Just Cause. 12 The word of the Lord came to me: 13 Son of man, if a land sins against me by breaking faith, and I stretch out my hand against it, breaking its staff of bread and setting famine loose upon it, cutting off from it human being and beast alike—14 even if these three were in it, Noah, Daniel, and Job, they could only save themselves by their righteousness—oracle of the Lord God. 15 If I summoned wild beasts to prowl the land, depopulating it so that it became a wasteland which no one would cross because of the wild it my bloody wrath, cutting off from it human being and beast alike, 20 even if Noah, Daniel, and Job were in it, as I live—oracle of the Lord God—they could save neither son nor daughter; they would save only themselves by their righteousness.
SEE Footnote Ezekiel 14:14

<u>14:14</u> Noah, Daniel, and Job:
righteous folk heroes whom
Israel <u>shared with other</u>
ancient Near Eastern cultures.
Daniel was the just judge
celebrated in <u>Ugaritic</u>
literature, perhaps the model
for the hero of Dn 13 (Story of Susanna)



Heroes/Legends







https://www.visitplano.com/event/heritage-farmstead-museum-presents-fun-on-the-farm-johnny-appleseed/ https://kiddingaroundyoga.com/blog/lumberjack-paul-bunyan-trees-yoga/ https://baseballhall.org

https://baseballhall.org/museuminaction/babe-ruths-spikes





https://www.wikiart.org/en/william-blake/illustration-to-book-of-job-2

Daniel / Danel

Epic of Aqhat.

- > Ugarit tale (Canaanite) Ugarit now part of Syria
- > Dates to about 1350 BC
- Danel is described as a righteous ruler or king, who provided justice to widows and orphans.



Tablet bearing part of the Danel epic, Musée du Louvre

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Danel

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tale_of_Aqhat

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

Just Cause

- vv12-20, if people of the land sin, and I punish them with famine, sword, wild beasts, plagues (v21b) — even if Noah, Daniel and Job were there, each person would be saved by his own righteousness — not the righteousness of the heroes
 - First reference to the acts/righteousness of these men who remained righteous despite their circumstances
 - See FN 14:14, These 3 'heroes' were known to the ancient Near East cultures
 - Noah lived among an unrighteous world
 - Daniel last judge celebrated in Ugaritic culture
 - Job is ancient historical fiction story passed down remained just despite struggles
- v22 there will be a remnant
- v22b, God consoles Ezekiel, when you see what they have done, you will know and understand why I punished them as I did
- READ v23

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

Parable of the Vine

 v2, wood of the vine vs wood of the branches - in the forest (a vine growing wildly)



II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

Parable of the Vine

- v2, wood of the vine vs wood of the branches
- If vine wood catches afire then, without the wood, the branches die
- v6, Like the vine wood in parable, I will cause Jerusalem to burn by fire
- Those who escape, will also be devoured
- Then you will know I am the Lord
- Land desolation BC of unfaithfulness



II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

Parable of the Vine

ls 5:1-7	"Why did it yield rotten grapes?" (v. 4b).		
ls 27:2-6	"The pleasant vineyard, sing about it! I, the LORD, am its keeper" (v. 2b-3a)		
Jer 2:21b	"How could you turn out so obnoxious to me, a spurious vine?"		
Jer 6:9	"Glean, glean like a vine the remnant of Israel"		
Ez 17:1-10	"True, it is planted; but will it thrive?" (v. 10a).		
Ez 19:10-14	"Your mother was like a leafy vine" (v. 10a)		
Hos 10:1a	"Israel is a luxuriant vine .d." o bits offen and o obem staaming		
Hos 14:8b	"They will blossom like the vine"		
Ps 80:15c-16	"Attend to this vine, the shoot your right hand has planted."		
Mt 21:33-46;	"There was a landowner who planted a vineyard Then he leased it to tenant " (v. 33)		
Mk 12:1-12;	"At the proper time he sent a servant to obtain some of the produce of the vineyard" (v. 2).		
Lk 20:9-19	"He will turn over the vineyard to others" (v. 16).		

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

A <u>Parable</u> of Infidelity

- Before you read this chapter:
 - Make sure the kids are fast asleep,
 - Pull the shades so the neighbors don't hear
 - Make sure to be sitting down





If I only read the Bible in order to see what horrible bits I can find in it, or to count up the bloodthirsty bits, then of course it won't heal me.

For one thing, the Bible reflects a certain history, but it is also a kind of path that leads us in a quite personal way and sets us in the right light. If, therefore, I read the Bible in the spirit in which it was written, from Christ, in fact, or if I read it as a believing Jew, if I read it from the right starting point, that is, and read in faith, then indeed it has the power to transform me. It leads me into the attitude of Christ; it interprets my life to me and changes me personally.

> Pope Benedict XVI [Cardinal Ratzinger], God and the World, (San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2002), p. 155.



II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

• A <u>Parable</u> of Infidelity

- God makes his case starting from the beginning of His relationship with Israel until now
- v2, 'tell Jerusalem all about herself!'
 - By origin and birth: Canaanite
 - Mama = Ammorite; father = Hittite
 - v4, not one care for you, v5, no one had pity on you.
 Rejected baby!
- v6-15, THEN I PASSED BY... and fell in love with you READ
- v15, BUT...look what you did, how you treated my love, our relationship
- v23, THEN after all that...v25, you rebelled MORE = prostitution

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

• A Parable of Infidelity

- v27, THEREFORE...I gave you what you wanted, gave you to the Philistines... who were, like, *EW*!
- v28, also to the Assyrians bc you wanted more though still not satisfied with them
- v29, so now you are with the Babylonians and you are still not satisfied
- v30: "How wild your lust!" entering into this SHAMELESS prostitution
- v32, Adulterous wife taking strangers like a husband
- READ v34b you paid to be a prostitute! (Who does that???)

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

• A <u>Parable</u> of Infidelity

- v35, "THEREFORE, Prostitute,..."
- READ v41b, never again <u>offer</u> payment...
 - I am going to show your lovers who you really are
 - Pronounce judgment of adultery and murder
 - I will bring bloody with and anger
 - And leave you stark naked
 - KEY v43, did not remember days of your youth

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

• A <u>Parable</u> of Infidelity

- v44, READ, like mother, like daughter
 - Mother = the pagans in Jerusalem before the Israelites
- v46, elder sister = Samaria, younger sister = Sodom
- READ v47-48, 51
- Note v56
- v58
- READ v59, KEY!
- And READ vv60-62 here we see the very nature of God
 - Loving, merciful, forgiving it is impossible for him to remain angry long

Ezekiel in the Liturgy of the Mass - Weekdays

	Bar 4:5-12, 27-29	Ord. Time, Week 26, Sat	1	
-	Ezek 1:2-5, 24-28c	Ord. Time, Week 19, Mon	2	
	Ezek 2:8–3:4	Ord. Time, Week 19, Tues	2	
	Ezek 9:1-7; 10:18-22	Ord. Time, Week 19, Wed	2	
	Ezek 12:1-12	Ord. Time, Week 19, Thurs	2	
	Ezek 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63	Ord. Time, Week 19, Fri	2	
	Ezek 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32	Ord. Time, Week 19, Sat	2	
	Ezek 18:21-28	Lent, Week 1, Fri		
be whole coefficients of abarter 16 with barch convert				
The whole section of chapter 16 with harsh, sexual				

The whole section of chapter 16 with harsh, sexual language is skipped for Mass!

	Ezek 36:23-28	Ord. Time, Week 20, Thurs	2
	Ezek 37:1-14	Ord. Time, Week 20, Fri	2
14 A. 11	Ezek 37:21-28	Lent, Week 5, Sat	1+2
	Ezek 43:1-7ab	Ord. Time, Week 20, Sat	2
	Ezek 47:1-9, 12	Lent, Week 4, Tues	1+2
	Dan 1:1-6, 8-20	Ord. Time, Week 34, Mon	1

2

https://catholic-resources.org/Lectionary/Index-Weekdays.htm

Let's take a moment to exhale

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

The Eagles and the Vine

- v2, Propose a riddle (allegory), tell house of Israel
- vv3-6, Eagle transplants top of Lebanon cedar to land of merchants
 - Took some native seed, fertile soil
 - And it that grew
- v7-8, then another huge eagle was welcomed by the vine;
- 2nd eagle transplanted the vine
- v9-10, Lord: will it thrive? Won't this 2nd eagle devour it? Won't it eventually wither?



II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

- The Eagles and the Vine
 - v12, <u>Interpretation</u>:
 - 1st Eagle: king of Babylon, k. Neb
 - Lebanon = Jerusalem



- Highest branch: Jehoiachin along with the princes, nobles, people of influence
- The seeds and the vine represent the king Zedekiah
- Placed Zedekiah as king of Judah
- 2nd Eagle: Pharaoh of Egypt, Hophra

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

The Eagles and the Vine

- v12, Interpretation:
- 1st Eagle: king of Babylon, k. Neb dethroned Jehoaichin→1st deportation of princes, nobles, people of influence



- Placed Zedekiah (seeds) as king of Judah
- v13, k. Neb made covenant with Zedekiah to ensure survival of Judah
- v15, BUT, Zedekiah rebelled sought help from Egypt [pharaoh Hophra] — (thus breaking the covenant with k. Neb)
- Will he survive? Zedekiah will die in Babylon (v16b)
- v17, Pharaoh Hophra will not/ cannot help him
- vv19-21, God promises to destroy Judah and inhabitants, including Zedekiah

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

• The Eagles and the Vine



- vv22-24 Messianic prophecy/Church
- God: I too will pluck from the crest of the Lebanon cedar
- he will raise up a leader from the Judahites/Davidic line - place him atop a mountain, will bear fruit, will be majestic, and will be a nesting place with shade for every kind of bird / for all people
- READ Matthew 13:31-32 mustard seed / faith
- Christ and the Church / The Kingdom of Heaven



II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

Personal Responsibility

	Bar 4:5-12, 27-29	Ord. Time, Week 26, Sat	1
	Ezek 1:2-5, 24-28c	Ord. Time, Week 19, Mon	
**	Ezek 2:8–3:4	Ord. Time, Week 19, Tues	
	Ezek 9:1-7; 10:18-22	Ord. Time, Week 19, Wed	
	Ezek 12:1-12	Ord. Time, Week 19, Thurs	
	Ezek 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63	Ord. Time, Week 19, Fri	
	Ezek 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32	Ord. Time, Week 19, Sat	2
	Ezek 18:21-28	Lent, Week 1, Fri	1+2
	Ezek 24:15-23	Orde Time, Wester 20, Mar	
	Ezek 28:1-10	Ord. Time, Week 20, Tues	
	Ezek 34:1-11	Ord. Time. Week 20. Wed	

Ezek 17:22-24	92-В	Time Time
Ezek 18:25-28	136-A	26th Sunday in Orc inary Time
Ezek 33:7-9	127-A	and the inclusion of the second secon

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

Personal Responsibility

- v2, Popular proverb/saying: self-righteous Israelites, blaming their punishment on the sins of the fathers
- But God says: 'all life is mine!..'
 - Only the one who sins, will bear the consequences of his/her sins
- vv5-9, if a person is just, is not idolatrous, is not adulterous, does not steal, is merciful to the hungry, ...READ v9 - he will live.
- vv10-13, BUT...if a person is unrighteous and does not observe my commands, he will bring punishment on himself
- vv14-20, if the son of the wicked person does not imitate his father, but is just, he will live (v17). - only the father will be punished, v18.
- READ vv19-20

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

- Personal Responsibility
- vv21-23, If a wicked man repents and does what is right, he will not die.
 - God: I will have amnesia!
 - v23, God finds NO PLEASURE in the death of the wicked!
 - But REJOICES when they repent
 - Cf. entire Luke 15 esp vv 7, 10, 32

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

Personal Responsibility

- vv24-29, if the just decides to become evil, abandon the Law of the Lord - they will be punished; will not be remembered
 - v25, READ it is the way of unrighteous man that is not fair
- v30, THEREFORE...God will judge each according to his/her choice
 - READ 30b-32
 - v31: make yourself a new heart and a new spirit = you decide
- Recall: Joshua 24:15 Choose this day whom you will serve...
- And Matthew 25:1-13, 25:14-30; 25:31-46 each about our personal responsibility and the day of judgment



II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

The poem is a lamentation about the kings of Judah - see v14c

- Allegory of the Lions
- Judah is depicted as a lion: Gen 49:9 in Jacob's blessing
 - v4b, Cub #1 Jehoahaz → Egypt (2 Kings 23:34)
 - v9, Cub #2 Jehoiachin → Babylon (2 Kings 24:12,15)
 - And/or Zedekiah (2 Kings 25:7)





https://www.flickr.com/photos/kjdrill/2312863941

II. Before the Siege of Jerusalem

Allegory of the Vine Branch

- Israel was a leafy vine strong
- v11, royal scepter (Judah) Gen 49:10
- v12, but Judah is bested, is conquered, torn apart
 - Vine-branch = Zedekiah, who was captured
- v13, now she is planted in a wilderness - *in exile*
- 14b, now she does not have a royal scepter [king] at the helm
- READ v14c lamentation





The Flight of the Prisoners (1896) by James Tissot; The exile of the Jews from Canaan to Babylon

Next Week: Ezekiel 20-32

Psalm 112:1-9 The Blessings of the Just

1 Hallelujah!

Blessed the man who fears the Lord,

who greatly delights in his commands.

2 His descendants shall be mighty in the land,

a generation of the upright will be blessed.

3 Wealth and riches shall be in his house;

his righteousness shall endure forever.

4 Light shines through the darkness for the upright;

gracious, compassionate, and righteous.

5 It is good for the man gracious in lending,

who conducts his affairs with justice.

- 6 For he shall never be shaken; the righteous shall be remembered forever.
- 7 He shall not fear an ill report; his heart is steadfast, trusting the Lord.
- 8 His heart is tranquil, without fear, till at last he looks down on his foes.
- 9 Lavishly he gives to the poor; his righteousness shall endure forever;

his horn shall be exalted in honor.



https://www.biblequestions.org/bqar410.html

Major and Minor Prophets



https://www.neverthirsty.org/bible-qa/qa-archives/question/who-are-prophets-in-bible/