



The Unified Scriptures

The Story of the Bible

North Hixson church of Christ

January – March 2014

*Lesson 8: Homesick Heroes – Ezekiel and
Daniel*

Course Objectives

- To grow in our knowledge and understanding of the facts, themes, and principles of scripture. (2 Tim 3:15)
- To gain confidence in the inspiration of the Bible and its power to change our lives. (Heb. 4:12)
- To increase our faith and hope in God and His wisdom. (1 Peter 1:21)
- To equip ourselves with the ability to tell the story of the Bible to others. (Mark 16:15)



ASSYRIAN EMPIRE

1120 - 626 BC

BABYLONIAN EMPIRE

626 - 538 BC

PERSIAN EMPIRE

536 - 331 BC

THE BIBLE IS SILENT DURING THE PERIOD 400 BC TO 4 BC

CONTROL OF PALESTINE

GRECIAN EMPIRE 331 - 321 BC

EGYPTIAN RULE 321 - 198 BC

SYRIAN RULE 198 - 168 BC

MACCABEAN INDEPENDENCE 167 - 63 BC

ROMAN EMPIRE 63 BC - 476 AD

11
19

DIVIDED KINGDOM

ISRAEL

Jeroboam
Northern Kingdom
Samarie

End of Kingdom of Israel
ASSYRIAN CAPTIVITY

Fall of Samarie
722 BC

I Chron 10-36

I Kings 12 - II Kings 25

Elijah, Elisha

Hosea, Jonah
Amos, Micah

Joel?

I Kings 12

I Kings 11:9-18

900 BC

Obadiah?

800 BC

700 BC

Isaiah

Jeremiah
Zephaniah
Nahum
Habakkuk

600 BC

Daniel, Ezekiel

BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY

597 BC

586 BC

FALL OF JERUSALEM
Third Group Taken

606 BC

First Group Taken

Second Group Taken

DECREE BY CYRUS
First Group Returns

536 BC

500 BC

Haggai, Zechariah

Ezra, Esther

Nehemiah, Malachi

REMNANT RETURNS

TEMPLE REBUILT

520 TO 516 BC

Second Group Returns Under Ezra

453 BC

WALL OF JERUSALEM REBUILT

444 BC

Matthew, Mark
Luke, John

BIRTH OF JESUS
John the Immerser
Jesus

4 TO 7 BC

JUDAH

Rehoboam
Southern Kingdom
Jerusalem

931 BC

400 BC TO 4 BC

Ezekiel – The Man

- A priest, son of Buzi. Name means “**God will strengthen**”
- Born in 622 BC during Josiah’s reign and grew up in Palestine
- 17 years old when Daniel was taken to Babylon with the first group of Jews in 605 B.C.
- Taken to Babylon when he was twenty-five years old with the second wave of deportees along with king Jehochin and 10,000 others
- Called to prophecy at the age of 30 after five years in exile. Lived in a fertile area on the river Chebar known as the “hill of corn ears”
- Called the Jews in exile to repentance from their past evil ways and told them of the hope for God’s remnant.



Ezekiel – The Book

- **Theme:** “Ye shall know that I AM THE LORD” (63x)
- **Other key expressions:**
 - “The word of the LORD came to me saying” (49x)
 - “ Thus says the Lord GOD” (64x)
 - “I, the LORD, have spoken” (12x)
 - “Son of man” (93x)
- **Summary Outline:**
 - I. Jerusalem must fall due to the wickedness of God’s chosen people (chapters 1-24)
 - II. The Gentile Nations Will Not Escape God’s Judgement (chapters 25-32)
 - III. The Nation is Restored and God Ushers In a New Order (chapters 33-48)





Prophecies of Restoration

- **Restoration for the sake of God's holy name (Ezekiel 36:17-23)**

And I will sanctify my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst; and the nations shall know that I am the LORD," says the Lord GOD, "when I am hallowed in you before their eyes. (36:23)

- **The Dry Bones come to life (Ezekiel 37:1-14)**

I will put my Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and performed it" (37:14)

- **The Kingdom to be reunited under the rule of David's heir (Ezekiel 37:15-28)**

David my servant shall be king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd. (37:24)

Daniel – The Man

- Young Israelite of the tribe of Judah, perhaps of noble descent (1:3)
- Captured and carried to Babylon with the first group in 605 B.C.
- Selected for 3-year training program to serve in Nebuchadnezzar's palace along with Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah
- Promoted to governor by Nebuchadnezzar, continued to serve and prophesy into the reign of Cyrus (some 70 years)
- Name means “God is my judge”. One of the great men of faith in the Bible.



Daniel – The Book

- **Theme: God rules in the kingdoms of men**
- **Summary Outline:**
 - I. Historical setting and prologue (chapter 1)
 - II. The Destinies of the World's Nations (Chapters 2-7)
 - A. Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the large statue (2)
 - B. Nebuchadnezzar's making of the gold image (3)
 - C. Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the enormous tree (4)
 - D. Belshazzar and Babylon's downfall (5)
 - E. Daniel's deliverance (6)
 - F. Daniel's dream of the four beasts (7)
 - III. The Destiny of Israel / Times of the End (chapters 8-12)
 - A. Daniel's vision of a ram and a goat (8)
 - B. Daniel's prayer and prophesy of the seventy weeks (9)
 - C. Daniel's visions of Israel's future and the times to the end (10-12)



Nebuchadnezzar's Dream



And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.

Daniel 2:44

God's King

- *I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.”*
(2 Samuel 7:12-13)
- *David my servant shall be king over them...* (Ezekiel 37:24)
- *For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given...of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and his kingdom to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever.*
(Isaiah 9:6-7)
- *And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, who shall stand as a banner to the people; for the Gentiles shall seek Him, and His resting place shall be glorious.* (Isaiah 11:10)
- *...I will also give you as a light to the Gentiles, that you should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.* (Isaiah 49:6)



Key Principles

- God rules in the kingdoms of men
- God's word is powerful and sure
- God is glorified through his people
- God's kingdom will fulfill the third promise to Abraham



Next Week

Lesson 9:

Home Again Heroes

Ezra and Nehemiah

Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi

