

God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind...

Ozark Family Camp Week 3

14 August 2021

Ezekiel Seminar #1

Introduction and Overview

Ozark Family Camp

	Topic
1	Introduction to the Book
2	Visions of the Glory of God
3	Prophecies against the Nations
4	The Good Shepherd & New Temple

Introduction

- Setting the Context
 - From Moses to Zedekiah
 - Deportation Timeline
 - Timeline of the Prophets
- Why Study Ezekiel?
 - Take a look in the mirror
 - Gain perspective on God's plan
 - Find hope in the midst of suffering

From Moses To Zedekiah

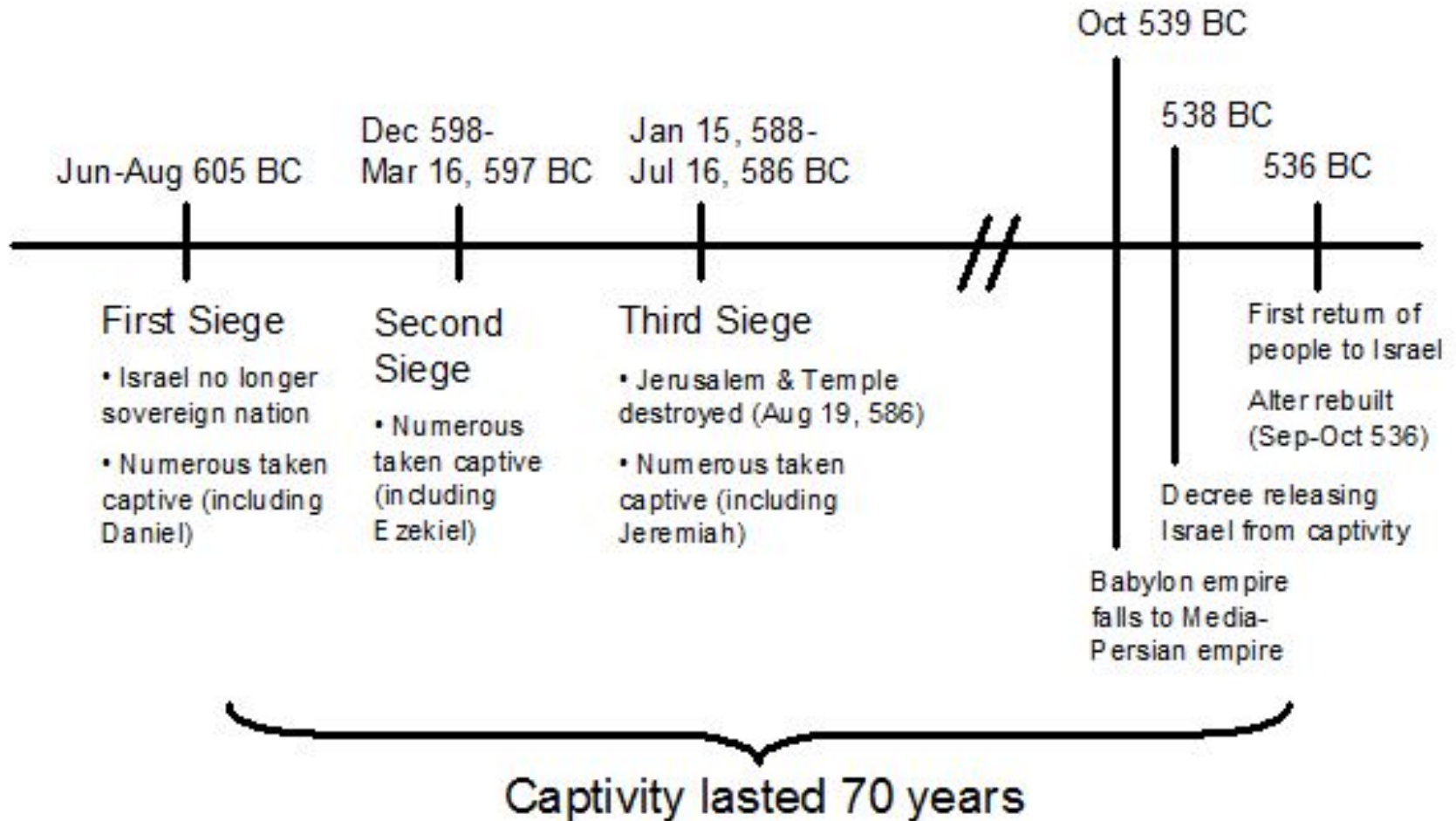
Deuteronomy 31:16-18 (ESV)

16 And the Lord said to Moses, “Behold, you are about to lie down with your fathers. Then this people will rise and whore after the foreign gods among them in the land that they are entering, and they will forsake me and break my covenant that I have made with them. 17 Then my anger will be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them and hide my face from them, and they will be devoured. And many evils and troubles will come upon them, so that they will say in that day, ‘**Have not these evils come upon us because our God is not among us?**’ 18 And I will surely hide my face in that day because of all the evil that they have done, because they have turned to other gods.

Deportation Timeline

Year	Event
609 BC	Death of Josiah
609–598 BC	Reign of Jehoiakim (succeeded Jehoahaz , who replaced Josiah but reigned only 3 months) Began giving tribute to Nebuchadnezzar in 605 BC. First deportation, purportedly including Daniel .
598/7 BC	Reign of Jehoiachin (reigned 3 months). Siege and fall of Jerusalem . Second deportation, 16 March 597
597 BC	Zedekiah made king of Judah by Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylon
594 BC	Anti-Babylonian conspiracy
588 BC	Siege and fall of Jerusalem . Solomon's Temple destroyed. Third deportation July/August 587
583 BC	Gedaliah the Babylonian-appointed governor of Yehud Province assassinated. Many Jews flee to Egypt and a possible fourth deportation to Babylon

Deportation Timeline



Ezekiel - Biography

- Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi (1:2)
- Name means “God will Strengthen”
- Was to start serving as a priest at age 30
- Ministered as a prophet for 22 years:
 - 597 BC - Exiled
 - 593 BC - Commissioned as a prophet
 - 586 BC - Prophecy before the fall (7yrs)
 - 571 BC - Prophecy after the fall (15 yrs)
- Married, lived in his own house

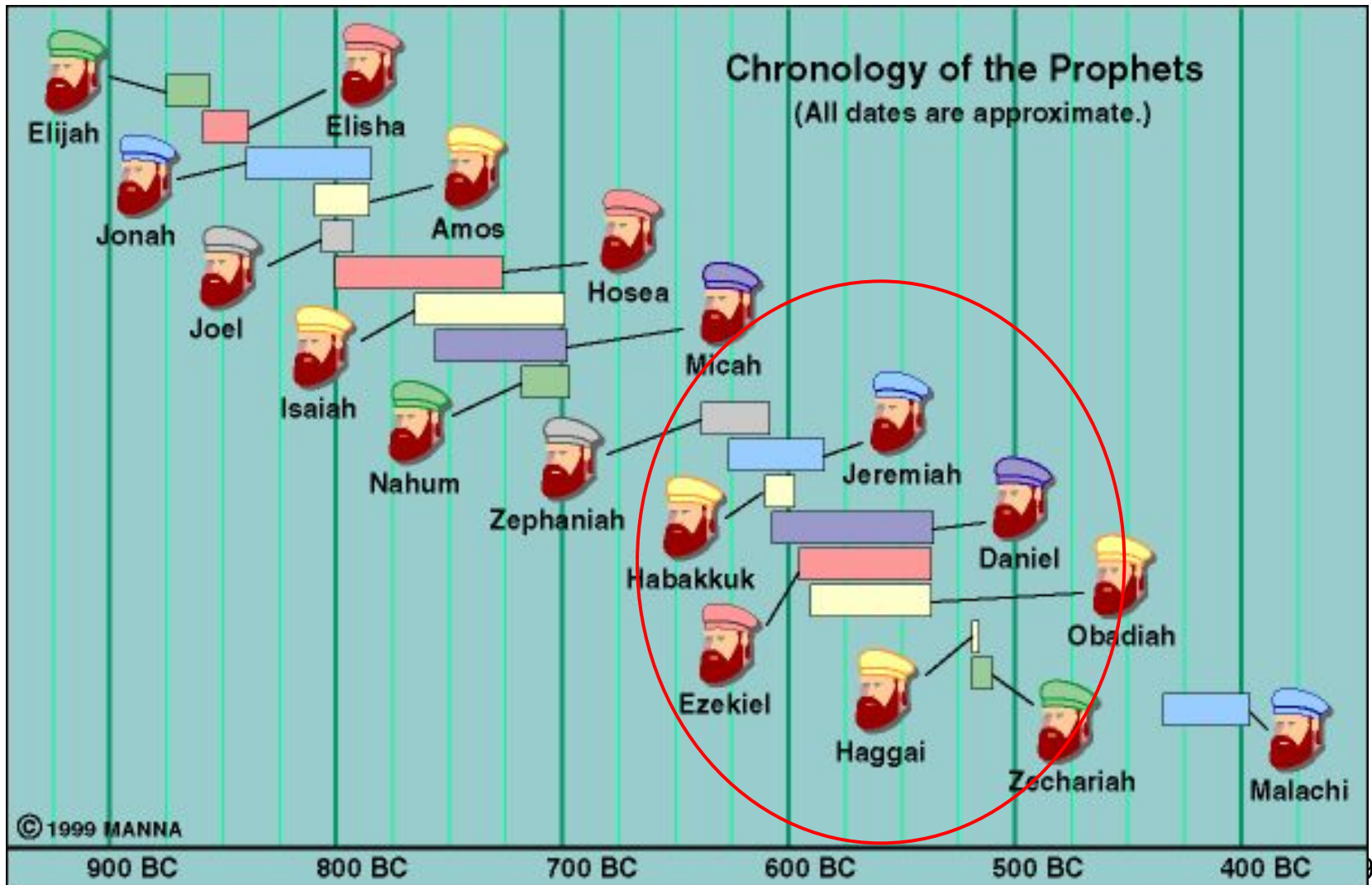
The Trip

From Jerusalem
to Babylon:

- 900 Miles
- 4 months
- Toronto CA to
THRBC

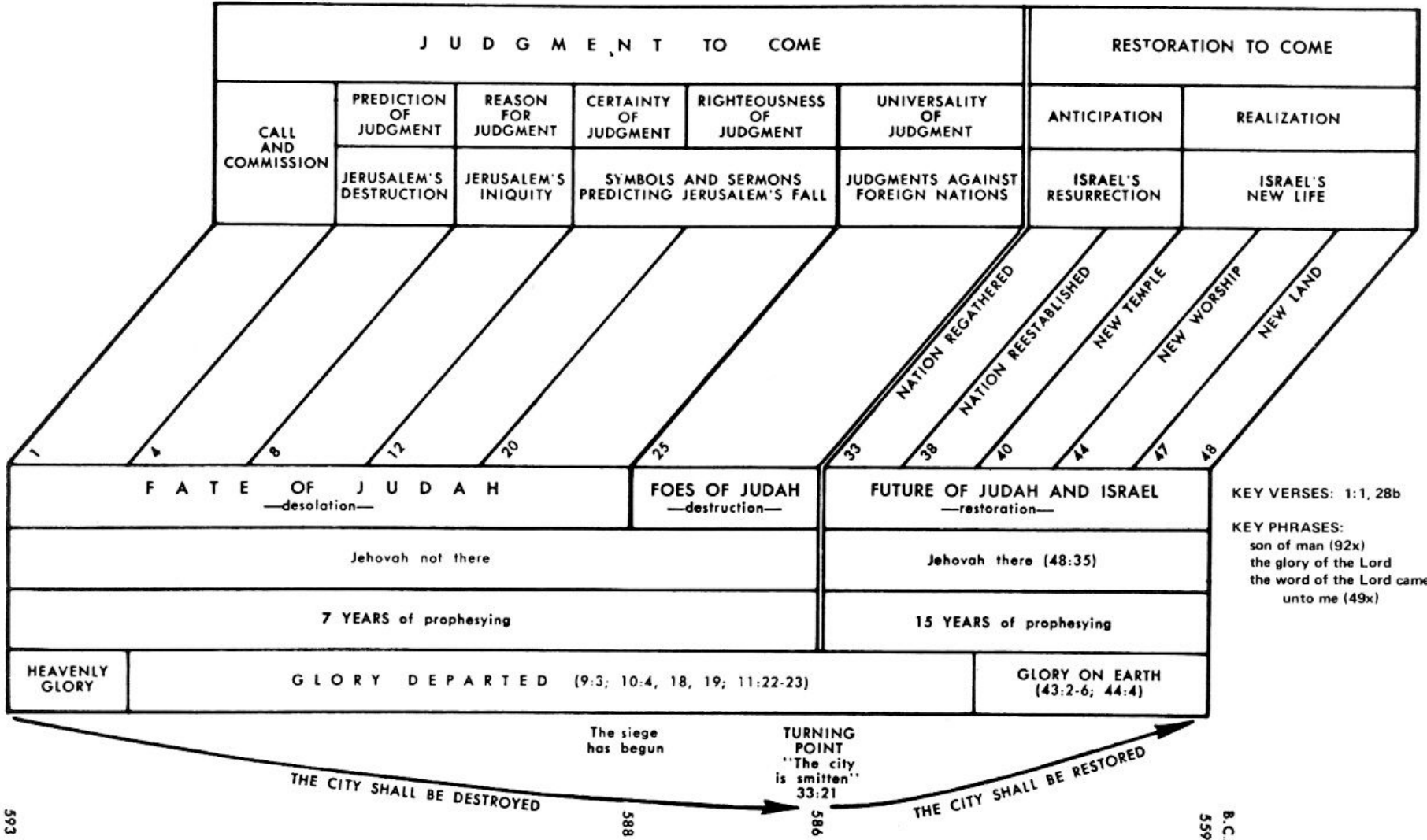


Timeline of the Prophets



Message of the Major Prophets

Isaiah	Prophet of the Salvation of the Lord 740-686 BC
Jeremiah	Prophet of the Judgment of the Lord 650-570 BC
Ezekiel	Prophet of the Glory of the Lord 622-570 BC
Daniel	Prophet of the Kingdom of the Lord 620–538 BC



KEY VERSES: 1:1, 28b
 KEY PHRASES:
 son of man (92x)
 the glory of the Lord
 the word of the Lord came
 unto me (49x)

Ezekiel's Calling

Ezekiel 2:1 - 3:14

Ezekiel gets his message across:

- Visions (6)
 - God's Glory - departing and returning
 - The scroll
 - The coming Judgment
 - The dry bones
 - The temple
- Street Theater (7)
 - The brick, lying on side, unclean food, hair
 - Hole in the wall, trembling while eating, stick
- Parables (7)
- Poetic Language and Laments

Key Phrases (ESV)

95x	Son of Man
73x	Know that I am the LORD
14x	Rebellious House
10x	The word of the LORD came to me
3x	Ears to hear

Phrase: Know that I am the Lord

15x	Judgments on Israel (land & people)
12x	Judgments on Israel's leaders
17x	Hope for Israel (land & people)
25x	Judgments on Israel's neighbors
4x	Hope for the nations

Why Ezekiel? Look in the Mirror

- Ezekiel repeatedly holds up a mirror to Israel, so that they can see:
 - Their **idolatry** (chs. 8, 14, 16)
 - Their **pride** (ch. 19)
 - Their **misplaced hopes** (ch. 17)
 - Their **self-righteousness** (ch. 18)
 - Their **unfaithfulness** (ch. 23).

And he does not let them look away, or minimize their sins, or take refuge in flimsy excuses.

Why Ezekiel? Look in the Mirror

- God's statements to Ezekiel about them:
 - A Rebellious House (12x)
 - Hard Headed and Hard Hearts (3:7)
 - Neither fear them or their words (3x)
- Other things we notice:
 - Convinced of things not true (Jer. 28:1-4)
 - Unconvinced about the things of Ezekiel
 - Not listening to Ezekiel; listening to the false prophets
 - Not moved

Why Study Ezekiel? God's Plan

- With the city overrun and the temple destroyed (ch. 33), God's people wondered what God was doing, if the promises had failed, if their future was gone.
- God will judge the nations, just as he had judged Israel (chs. 25–32).
- But in an act of powerful re-creation, his Spirit would restore Israel (ch. 37).

Why Study Ezekiel? God's Plan

- He would make a new covenant with his people that could not be broken, and he would put his own Spirit in them (ch. 36).
- They would live peacefully and safely under David their shepherd and God himself would be their shepherd (ch. 34).
- And this restoration would culminate in:
 - an ideal temple (chs 40-46)
 - in the midst of a new creation promised land (chs. 47–48)
 - from which God would never again depart (43:7).

Why Study Ezekiel? Find Hope

- Ezekiel wants us to know that God is where he always is; he is with his people. He's with them in the midst of their judgment
- He's with them in the new life that he gives through the new covenant, because he puts his very Spirit within them.
- And he will be with them forever in the New Jerusalem which is the people of God, a city which will need no temple because God himself will dwell in their midst. (Rev. 21).

Bibliography

[Crossway.com - Why Study the Book of Ezekiel?, Michael Lawrence, April 22, 2018](#)

[God Rules: Ezekiel, Daniel \(Ray C. Stedman\)](#) - good commentary with great transitions

[ESV Bible Facts - Estimate it took the deportees 4 months to travel the 900 miles from J. to B.](#)

[Biography.com - Ezekiel](#)

[Biblica.com - Intro to Ezekiel](#)