### Ezekiel

## Chapter 34

1Then the Word of Jehovah came to me and said:  
  
 2‘O son of man,  
  
 ‘Against the ‘shepherds’ of IsraEl  
 You must now prophesy!  
 Tell them that thus says Jehovah, the Lord:  
  
 ‘O ‘shepherds’ of IsraEl!  
 You have been feeding yourselves  
 When you should have been feeding My ‘sheep!’  
  
 3‘{Look!} You have drunk all their ‘milk,’  
 And you’ve wrapped yourselves in their ‘wool’…  
 You have slaughtered the best of My ‘sheep’  
 And you’ve failed to ‘graze’ [all the rest].  
  
 4‘You haven’t strengthened the weak,  
 And those that are ill, you’ve not treated;  
 Those with broken [bones], you’ve not wrapped,  
 And the strayed, you have failed to return.  
 No, you haven’t searched for the lost,  
 And for the strong, all you do is make trouble.  
  
 5‘So now, My ‘sheep’ have been scattered  
 Because they don’t have any shepherds.  
 6They’re being consumed by wild beasts in the fields,  
 Since they’re scattered upon every mountain and hill…  
 They’re scattered across the face of the land,  
 And no one has searched to make them turn back!  
  
 7‘Because of this, O you ‘shepherds;’  
 Hear the Word of Jehovah!  
  
 8‘As I live,’ says Jehovah, the Lord;  
 Instead of My ‘sheep’ being plundered  
 And being eaten by beasts in the plains…  
 Yes, because there aren’t any shepherds,  
 Shepherds who will search for My sheep...  
 And because the shepherds have grazed on My sheep  
 While they’ve failed to provide them with grass...  
  
 9‘Because of this, O you ‘shepherds,’  
 Hear the Word of Jehovah!  
 10For the Lord Jehovah says this:  
  
 ‘Look, I’m against all the ‘shepherds!’  
 So I’ll take My ‘sheep’ out of their hands…  
 Yes from tending My ‘sheep,’ they’ll be fired,  
 And the shepherds won’t graze upon them again.  
 I’ll rescue My ‘sheep’ from their mouths…  
 They’ll no longer be something to eat!  
  
 11‘The Lord Jehovah also said this:  
  
 ‘{Look!} I will search for My ‘sheep,’  
 And I will come visit with them.  
 12Like a shepherd that looks for his flocks  
 On dark cloudy days when they’ve strayed…  
 Yes, that’s how I’ll search for My ‘sheep.’  
  
 ‘I’ll drive them back from where they were [lost]  
 On that dark, cloudy day.  
 13I’ll lead them out of the nations…  
 From many regions, I’ll gather them back  
 And return them to their own land,  
 Where on IsraEl’s mountains, I’ll ‘graze’ them…  
 In the valleys and homes of their country.  
  
 14‘I’ll provide good pastures for them,  
 And on IsraEl’s mountains, they’ll ‘graze.’  
 For there, they will find a safe haven…  
 A place where they can sleep and find rest  
 In good and plentiful pastures  
 Upon the mountains of IsraEl.  
  
 15‘Yes I’ll graze My ‘sheep’ and bring them some rest,  
 Says Jehovah, the Lord.  
 16‘I’ll search for the lost and the strayed,  
 And I’ll bring back the ones who are broken.  
 I will bind and strengthen those who are weak,  
 And I’ll also watch over the strong…  
 I’ll allow each one to ‘graze’ his fair share.  
  
 17‘Then, from among you, My ‘sheep,’  
 Says Jehovah, the Lord,  
 ‘{Look!} I’ll separate the ‘sheep’ from the ‘sheep’  
 And the ‘rams’ from the ‘goats’.  
  
 18‘Were the ‘pastures’ you fed from so poor  
 That you trampled on them with your feet?  
 And weren’t there enough places to drink  
 That you stomped and muddied the waters?  
  
 19‘Yes, My ‘sheep’ have trampled their food with their feet,  
 And muddied the waters they drank from.  
 20So because of this,’ says Jehovah, the Lord;  
 ‘{Look!} I’ll separate the strong from the weak.  
  
 21‘For you pushed them away with your shoulders and sides,  
 And the weak, you have gored with your ‘horns’…  
 You squeezed them out and pushed them aside!  
  
 22‘So, I will rescue My ‘sheep,’  
 And no more will they serve as [your] plunder;  
 For between ‘ram’ and ‘ram,’ I will judge.  
  
 23‘I will raise a ‘shepherd’ for them,  
 And My servant ‘David’ will tend them…  
 He’ll be a ‘shepherd’ who cares about them.  
 24Then, I, Jehovah, will be their God,  
 And My servant ‘David’ will rule in their midst…  
 Yes, I, Jehovah, have spoken.  
  
 25‘Among them, I’ll make an Agreement of peace,  
 And I’ll wipe the fierce ‘beasts’ from their land.  
 Then, they will dwell in the deserts,  
 And in the forests, they’ll sleep.  
  
 26‘Around My Mountain, they will be spread,  
 And I’ll give them rain when it’s due…  
 It will be a rain of great blessings.  
  
 27‘The trees in the plains will then yield their fruit;  
 The ground will yield all her strength;  
 And in the hope of peace, they’ll dwell in their land.  
  
 ‘Then they’ll know that I am Jehovah,  
 When I break the chains of their yoke  
 And save them from those who are making them slaves.  
  
 28‘By the nations, they’ll not be plundered again,  
 Nor will they be eaten by ‘beasts.’  
 They will then dwell in hope,  
 And no one will make them afraid!  
  
 29‘For them, I’ll raise plants of peace,  
 And they won’t be hungry or starving again,  
 Nor will they be scorned by the nations.  
 30Then they’ll know that I am Jehovah their God,  
 And that I will always be with them.  
  
 ‘For, you are My people, O house of IsraEl,‘  
 Says Jehovah, the Lord.  
 31‘You are the sheep of My pasture  
 And I am Jehovah your God,’  
 Says the Jehovah, the Lord.’