Wycliffe Associates Bible Translation Reviewers' Guide

Ezekiel

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1:1-21

Background: The Book of Ezekiel contains words that Ezekiel prophesied between 592 B.C. and 573 B.C. The Jewish people were exiled in Babylon. Ezekiel told them that God had punished them because they sinned against him. However, Ezekiel assured them that God would restore them. God was using Babylon to punish them. But eventually another nation would defeat the Babylonians. Ezekiel also prophesied about how God would restore Jerusalem and the temple so that the people can worship and sacrifice to him again. Ezekiel then described how the land will be divided again among the tribes of Israel.

This passage talks about "the land of the Chaldeans." Chaldea was a region in Babylonia. The name "Chaldean" came to mean "Babylonian."

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Ezekiel was living as a captive in the land of the Chaldeans when he received a vision from God. [1:1-3]
In Ezekiel's vision he saw four living creatures who looked like lightning when they moved. [1:4-14]
The four living creatures had four wheels that were able to go in any direction without turning. [1:17-21]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- Where was Ezekiel living when he had visions of God? [1:1-3]
 Ezekiel was living among the captives in the land of the Chaldeans.
- When did Ezekiel have his vision of God? [1:2]

On the fifth day of that month. It was the fifth year of the exile of King Jehoiachin.

3. What was coming from the north? [1:4]

There was a windstorm and a great cloud with lightning flashing in it and brightness all around it and inside of it.

4. What was in the middle of the great cloud? [1:5]

In the middle of the cloud was the likeness of four living creatures.

5. How many faces and wings did they have? [1:6]

They each had four faces and four wings.

6. What were their feet like? [1:7]

They were like the hooves of a calf that shone like polished bronze.

7. What did they have under their wings? [1:8]

They had human hands.

8. How did the four living creatures move? [1:9]

The creatures did not turn as they went but each one went straight forward.

Ezekiel 1:1-21 continued

- 9. What appearances did the living creatures have on their faces? [1:10]

 Their faces had the appearance of a man, a lion, an ox, and an eagle.
- 10. What was directing the movement of the four living creatures? [1:12]

 The Spirit was directing the movement of the four living creatures.
- 11. As the four living creatures moved back and forth, what did they look like? [1:14] As they moved, the four living creatures looked like lightning.
- 12. What did Ezekiel see beside each living creature? [1:15] He saw a wheel beside each living creature.
- 13. What were the four wheels beside the four living creatures able to do? [1:17] The four wheels were able to go in any direction without turning.
- 14. How did Ezekiel describe the rims? [1:18]

 He said they were high and fearsome for they were full of eyes round about them.
- 15. Why did the wheels go wherever the living creatures went? [1:20-21]

 The wheels followed the living creatures because the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels.

1:22-28

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Ezekiel saw an expansive dome over the four living creatures in his vision. [1:22]
The living creatures had wings stretched out, using a pair of their wings to cover their bodies. The sound their wings made was very loud. [1:23-25]
Ezekiel saw over the dome a throne and the appearance of one who looked like a man, and he had brightness all around him. [1:26-27]
Ezekiel fell with his face to the ground when he saw the bright figure.[1:28]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What was over the heads of the living creatures? [1:22]

The likeness of an expansive dome was over the heads of the living creatures.

2. What did the living creatures do with their wings? [1:23]

Each one of the creature's wings stretched out straight and touched another creature's wings and each of the living creatures also had a pair of wings to cover his own body.

3. What does Ezekiel say the creatures' wings sounded like? [1:24]

The creatures' wings sounded like many waters, like the voice of the Almighty, like a rainstorm, and like an army.

4. What was above the dome, which was over the creatures' heads? [1:26]

Above the dome was a throne, and on the throne was the appearance of one who looked like a man.

5. How did Ezekiel describe the figure's appearance? [1:27]

From his hips up he looked like glowing metal with fire in it. From his hips down he looked like fire and had brightness all around.

6. What was this appearance that Ezekiel saw? [1:28]

It was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of Yahweh.

7. What did Ezekiel do when he saw this glory? [1:28]

Ezekiel fell on his face.

8. Why do you think he fell on his face? [1:28]

Perhaps he fell down because he was afraid of what he was seeing. Or perhaps he was humbling himself and showing reverence to the person he was seeing.

2:1-10

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Yahweh called Ezekiel "son of man" and told him to stand up and Yahweh would speak to him. [2:1]
The Spirit entered Ezekiel and said he would send Ezekiel to speak to the people of Israel who had rebelled agains
him. [2:2-4]
Ezekiel was given a scroll with descriptions and commands written on it. [2:9-10]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. What name did Yahweh call Ezekiel? [2:1]

 The son of Man
- What did the Spirit do to Ezekiel? [2:2]
 The Spirit entered Ezekiel and set him on his feet.
- Where would the Spirit send Ezekiel? [2:3]
 He would send Ezekiel to the people of Israel.
- 4. What kind of people were the descendants of Israel? [2:3-4]

 The descendants of Israel were a stubborn, hardhearted, and rebellious people.
- What was Ezekiel to say to the people of Israel? [2:4]Ezekiel was to say, "This is what the Lord Yahweh says."
- 6. What would the people of Israel know because of Ezekiel's speaking to them? [2:5] The people of Israel would know that a prophet had been among them.
- 7. What did the Spirit tell Ezekiel not to do as he spoke to the people of Israel? [2:6]

 The Spirit told Ezekiel not to be afraid of the people, their words or their faces..
- 8. How was Ezekiel supposed to be different from the people of Israel? [2:8] Ezekiel was not to be rebellious like the people of Israel.
- What was spread out before Ezekiel, and what did the Spirit tell Ezekiel to do with it? [2:8-10]
 A written scroll was spread out before Ezekiel, and the Spirit told him to eat it.
- 10. What was written on the scroll? [2:10]

 On the scroll were written lamentations, mourning, and woe.

3:1-15

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Ezekiel ate the scroll the Spirit gave him and it was as sweet as honey. [3:1-3]
The Spirit told Ezekiel to speak to the house of Israel, even though they would not listen to the words he spoke. [3:4-7]
The Spirit told Ezekiel to take his words into his heart and then go speak to the captives. [3:8-11]
The Spirit lifted Ezekiel and transported him to the captives along the Kebar Canal [3:12-15]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. What did the Spirit tell Ezekiel to do with the scroll? [3:1-2] He told him to eat the scroll.
- 2. What did Ezekiel say the scroll that he ate tasted like? [3:3] The scroll was as sweet as honey in his mouth
- 3. What did the Spirit tell Ezekiel to go and do? [3:4]

 The Spirit told Ezekiel to go and speak his words to the house of Israel.
- 4. If Ezekiel had been sent to a foreign people, how would they have responded to Ezekiel's words? [3:6] If Ezekiel had been sent to a foreign people, they would have listened to Ezekiel's words.
- 5. How would the house of Israel respond to Ezekiel's words? [3:7]

 The house of Israel would not be willing to listen to Ezekiel's words.
- 6. How had the Spirit prepared Ezekiel to go speak to the people of Israel.? [3:8-9]

 He made Ezekiel's face and brow as hard as their faces and brows. This meant that Yahweh had made him strong so he could do what Yahweh told him to do, even though the people of Israel opposed him.
- 7. What did Yahweh tell Ezekiel to do with the words he told him [3:10-11]

 Ezekiel needed to take the words into his heart and then go speak the words to the captives.
- 8. What was said when the Spirit lifted up Ezekiel? [3:12] "Blessed be the glory of Yahweh from his place!"
- How did Ezekiel say how he went when the Spirit lifted him up and took him away? [3:14]
 He said he went with bitterness in the anger of his spirit, and the strong hand of Yahweh was on him.
- Where did the Spirit take Ezekiel [3:14-15]
 The Spirit took Ezekiel to the captives at Tel Aviv along the Kebar Canal.

Ezekiel 3:1-15 continued

11. What did Ezekiel then do for seven days, and what was his condition? [3:15] Ezekiel stayed with the captives for seven days, overwhelmed in amazement.

3:16-27

Part 1

have to answer to Yahweh for it. If he did, and the person did not listen to him, the person would die in his Ezekiel would not be blamed for it. [3:17-21]	Yahweh made Ezekiel a watchman for the house of Israel. [3:17]
Ezekiel would not be blamed for it. [3:17-21]	Ezekiel must warn a person if they were doing evil. If he did not, the person would die in his sin, and Ezekiel would
	have to answer to Yahweh for it. If he did, and the person did not listen to him, the person would die in his sin, but
☐ Ezekiel went out to the plain, and when he saw the glory of the Lord, he fell on his face. [3:23]	Ezekiel would not be blamed for it. [3:17-21]
	Ezekiel went out to the plain, and when he saw the glory of the Lord, he fell on his face. [3:23]

being among them. [3:24-25]

☐ The Spirit said he would make Ezekiel unable to speak and rebuke them because they were a rebellious people.

☐ The Spirit told Ezekiel to shut himself in his house because the people of Israel would tie him up and stop him from

□ The Spirit said he would make Ezekiel unable to speak and rebuke them because they were a rebellious people. Yahweh will also cause him to speak Yahweh's message, and some would listen and some would not. [3:26-27]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did Yahweh say he had made Ezekiel for the house of Israel? [3:16-17] Yahweh said he had made Ezekiel a watchman for the house of Israel.

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- 2. What do you think it meant that Ezekiel was a watchman for the house of Israel? [3:17-19]

 It meant that Ezekiel was to warn the people of Israel about their sin and that Yahweh would punish them. This was like a watchman who stood in a tower and told the people if something dangerous was approaching the city.
- 3. What did Yahweh say would happen if Ezekiel did not warn a person about his evil deeds? [3:18, 20]

 The person would die because of their sins, and Yahweh would require his blood from Ezekiel's hand. This meant Ezekiel would be responsible for the person's death.
- 4. What did Yahweh say would happen if Ezekiel did warn a person about their evil deeds? [3:19, 21]

 If the person did not stop doing evil deeds, then he would die. If the person did stop doing evil deeds, then he would live. Either way, Ezekiel would rescue himself.
- 5. What did Ezekiel do when he saw the glory of Yahweh in the plain? [3:23] He fell on his face.
- 6. What did the Spirit tell Ezekiel to go and do? [3:24]

 The Spirit told Ezekiel to go and shut himself up in his house.
- 7. Why would Ezekiel not be able to rebuke the house of Israel? [3:26] The Spirit would make Ezekiel unable to speak.

Ezekiel 3:16-27 continued

8. What did the Spirit say Ezekiel would be able to do when the Spirit spoke to him? [3:27]

The Spirit said Ezekiel would be able to open his mouth and say, "This is what the Lord Yahweh says," when the Spirit spoke to him.

5:1-13

Background: In Chapter 4, Yahweh told Ezekiel to do certain actions that would symbolize what Yahweh was about to do to Israel and Judah.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Yahweh commanded Ezekiel to shave his head and beard and burn a third of the hair in the city, strike a third with the
sword around the city, and scatter a third to the wind. This was a symbol for what Yahweh was going to do to the
people in Jerusalem. [5:1-5]
Yahweh said he was not going to spare Jerusalem because they had rejected his decrees and not obeyed his laws.
[5:5-8]
Yahweh described how horrible their punishment will be and said a third of the people would die because of famine, a
third would die by the sword, and a third would be scattered in every direction. [5:9-17]
After this happens, Yahweh's wrath and fury would end, and the people would know that Yahweh had spoken. [5:13]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did Yahweh command Ezekiel to do? [5:1]

Yahweh told Ezekiel to shave his head and beard and take scales to weigh and divide the hair.

2. What was Ezekiel told to do with each third of his hair? [5:2]

Ezekiel was to burn a third in the city, strike a third with the sword around the city, and scatter a third to the wind.

3. What was Ezekiel told to do with a small number of hairs? [5:3]

Ezekiel was told to take a small number of hairs and tie them into the folds of his robe.

4. What was the meaning of the hair that Ezekiel was told to throw into the fire? [5:4]

Yahweh said that a fire would go out to all the house of Israel.

5. Where had Yahweh placed Jerusalem? [5:5]

He placed it in the midst of the nations, surrounded by other lands.

6. How had the people of Jerusalem acted? [5:6]

They were more wicked than the other nations, and they did not obey Yahweh's laws.

7. What did Yahweh say he would do because of the nation of Israel's behavior? [5:8]

Yahweh said he would act against the nation of Israel and execute judgments on them for the other nations to see.

8. What horrible things would the people of Israel do because of Yahweh's judgment on them? [5:10] Fathers would eat their children, and sons would eat their fathers.

Ezekiel 5:1-13 continued

- 9. Why did Yahweh say he was not going to spare the people of Israel? [5:11] Yahweh would not spare them because they defiled Yahweh's sanctuary.
- 10. What did Yahweh say he would do with each third of the people? [5:12]

 A third would die by plague, a third would fall by the sword, and a third would be scattered.
- 11. What did Yahweh say he would do to the people who were scattered? [5:12] Yahweh said he would draw out a sword to chase after the people.
- 12. What did Yahweh say he would do with his wrath after this judgment? [5:13] Yahweh said his wrath would be completed after this judgment.
- 13. What would the people know when Yahweh's fury was completed? [5:13] They would know that Yahweh had spoken to them in his jealousy.

8:1-18

Background: This passage mentions Tammuz in 8:14. Tammuz was an idol.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Again, Ezekiel saw a likeness with the appearance of a man, and Ezekiel was taken by the Spirit to the temple in Jerusalem where he saw the glory of the God of Israel. [8:1-4]
The Spirit told Ezekiel that he was leaving his own sanctuary in the temple because of the great evil in the house of Israel. [8:5-6]
When Ezekiel dug through the temple wall and opened a door, he found images of detestable animals and all the idols of Israel, and seventy elders of the house of Israel making offerings to the detestable idols. [8:7-13]
Ezekiel saw women mourning for the idol Tammuz at the gate on the north side of Yahweh's house. [8:14-15]
Ezekiel saw men worshiping the sun in the inner courtyard of the house of Yahweh. [8:16]
The Spirit told Ezekiel that he would act and not spare the people of Jerusalem, nor have compassion even though they cry with a loud voice. [8:17-18]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. Where was Ezekiel when the hand of the Lord Yahweh fell upon him? [8:1] Ezekiel was sitting in his house with the elders of Judah sitting before him.
- 2. What did Ezekiel see when the hand of Yahweh came upon him? [8:2] Ezekiel saw what was a likeness of a man.
- 3. Where did the Spirit take Ezekiel, and what did he see there? [8:3]

 The Spirit took Ezekiel to the inner northern gate in Jerusalem, where he saw the idol that provoked jealousy.
- 4. What else did Ezekiel see at the entrance of the inner northern gate? [8:4] Ezekiel saw the glory of the God of Israel which he had seen in his vision on the plain.
- 5. What did the Spirit say he was being forced to do because of the great abominations (wickedness) of the house of Israel? [8:6]

The Spirit said he was being forced to go far from his own sanctuary.

- 6. What did the Spirit tell Ezekiel to do once he was brought to the doorway of the courtyard? [8:7-8] The Spirit told Ezekiel to dig into the wall.
- 7. After Ezekiel dug into the wall and saw a door, what did the Spirit tell Ezekiel to do? [8:9]

 The Spirit to Ezekiel to "Go and see the wicked abominations that they are doing here."

Ezekiel 8:1-18 continued

8. What did Ezekiel see after he opened the door? [8:10-11]

Ezekiel saw images on the wall of detestable animals and all the idols of Israel, and seventy elders of the house of Israel with censers in their hands as they made offerings to the idols.

9. What were the elders saying about Yahweh as they worshiped their idols? [8:12]

The elders were saying that Yahweh does not see them and that Yahweh had abandoned the land.

10. What did Ezekiel see the women doing at the gate on the north side of Yahweh's house? [8:14] The women were sitting there mourning for Tammuz.

11. What did Ezekiel see in the inner courtyard of Yahweh's house? [8:16]

There were twenty-five men with their faces to the east worshiping the sun.

12. What did the Spirit say the house of Judah was doing with their abominations? [8:17]

They had filled the land with violence and provoked Yahweh to anger.

13. Because of the abominations of the house of Israel, what did the Spirit say he was going to do? [8:18]

The Spirit said that he would act, not have compassion, nor spare them even though they cried with a loud voice.

10:15-22

Background: In 9:1-10:14, Ezekiel continued seeing the vision that Yahweh was showing him at the sanctuary. Ezekiel again saw the throne with the wheels and living creatures he saw in Chapter 1.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Ezekiel described the living creatures and told how they and the wheels moved. [10:15-17, 20-22]
- ☐ The glory of Yahweh left the threshold of the house of Yahweh and settled above the living creatures. [10:18-19]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- What did Ezekiel say about the cherubim? [10:15]
 These were the living creatures that he saw at the Kebar Canal.
- 2. What did the wheels do as the cherubim moved? [10:16]

 The wheels would go beside the cherubim when the cherubim moved.
- 3. Why would the wheels rise up the cherubim? [10:17]

This happened because the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels.

4. Where did the glory of Yahweh, the cherubim, and the wheels move to? [10:18-19]

They moved to the eastern entrance of Yahweh's house.

5. How did Ezekiel describe the cherubim? [12:20-22]

The cherubim each had four faces and four wings, with the likeness of human hands under their wings.

15:1-8

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses

☐ Yahweh told Ezekiel that the house of Israel was like a useless vine that is given as fuel for a fire. [15:1-6]

☐ Yahweh said he would make the land an abandoned waste because of their great sin. [15:7-8]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What two things in the forest did Yahweh compare? [15:1-2]

Yahweh compared the vine to any tree with branches.

2. What two questions did Yahweh ask about the vine? [15:3]

He asked if anyone could take wood from the vine to make something or if a person could use it as a peg to hang something on.

3. What question did Yahweh ask Ezekiel about a vine that was thrown into the fire? [15:4]

He asked if the vine was good for anything once it was burned.

4. What do you think were the answers to the three questions that Yahweh asked in 15:3-6?

The answers were "no" for all three questions.

5. Why do you think Yahweh asked these questions? [15:3-7]

Yahweh wanted Ezekiel to think deeply about what he was saying. Yahweh was using these questions to teach Ezekiel something.

6. What did the Lord Yahweh say he had given the vine for? [15:6]

The Lord Yahweh said he had given the vine as fuel for fires.

7. In what way were the inhabitants of Jerusalem like the vine? [15:6]

Yahweh said the inhabitants of Jerusalem were like the vine in that both were given as fuel for fires.

8. Who would know that the Lord is Yahweh? [15:7]

Yahweh said "you" will know. Here, "you" is plural so it probably meant Ezekiel and all of the captive Jews in Babylon.

Why would Yahweh make the land into an abandoned wasteland? [15:8]

Yahweh would make the land into an abandoned wasteland because the inhabitants of Jerusalem had committed faithlessness. This meant that they sinned badly against Yahweh.

18:19-32

Background: In 18:1-18, Yahweh spoke again to Ezekiel. Yahweh said that no longer would someone be punished for someone else's sin. The one who sins would die. The one who did what was right would live. Yahweh said if a father sinned, but the son did what was right, the father would die, but the son would live.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

A son would not die because of his father's sins. Those who did what is right would be rewarded, and those who
sinned would be punished. [18:19-20]
If a wicked person turned from his sins and did what was right, he would not die, but when a righteous person turned
from his righteousness and did injustice, he would die. [18:21-24]
When Israel told Yahweh that he was unjust, Yahweh said it was the house of Israel that was unjust. [18:25-29]
Yahweh told the house of Israel to repent and stop sinning so they would not die. [18:30]
Yahweh takes no pleasure in the death of anyone. [18:32]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- Why did the son not bear the iniquity of his father? [18:19]
 The son did not bear the iniquity of the father because he did what was just and right.
- 2. What would happen to the one who sinned? [18:20] The one who sinned would die.
- 3. What did Yahweh say would happen to a wicked person who stopped sinning? [18:21-22] Yahweh said that the person would certainly live.
- Do you think Yahweh rejoiced in the death of the wicked? [18:23]
 No, he did not. He wanted the wicked to stop sinning so they would live.
- 5. What did Yahweh say would happen to a righteous person who started sinning? [18:24] Yahweh said the person would die in the sins that he committed.
- 6. What did the house of Israel say about the way of the Lord? [18:25] They said the way of the Lord was not fair.
- 7. How did Yahweh show that his ways were fair? [18:27-28]

 He said that he punished those who were wicked, but if the person stopped sinning, he would live.
- 8. How did Yahweh reply to those who said he was not fair? [18:29] He said it was their ways that were not fair.

Ezekiel 18:19-32 continued

- 9. How did Yahweh say he would judge each man? [18:30]

 Yahweh said he would judge each man according to his ways.
- 10. What did Yahweh tell the house of Israel to do? [18:30] Yahweh told them to repent and stop sinning.
- 11. What did Yahweh tell the house of Israel to make for themselves? [18:31] He told them to make a new heart and a new spirit for themselves.
- 12. What did Yahweh say about the person who died? [18:32]

 Yahweh said he did not delight in the death of the one who died.

20:30-44

Background: In 20:1-29, the elders of Israel went to Ezekiel so they could ask Yahweh questions. Yahweh said he would not let them ask him questions. Instead, he told them about how the people of Israel have been sinning since the time Yahweh took them out of Egypt, and they were still sinning as their fathers did.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Yahweh told the house of Israel that he would not allow them to seek him if they continued worshiping idols like the
nations around them. [20:30-32]
Yahweh would gather his people out of the nations where they were scattered, take them into the wilderness, judge
them, and remove those who rebelled against him. [20:33-38]
If the house of Israel continued to serve idols and disobey Yahweh, they must stop bringing Yahweh gifts. [20:39]
Yahweh said that there would come a time when all Israel would serve him on his holy mountain, and Yahweh would
accept them and their gifts. [20:40-42]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. What did Yahweh ask the house of Israel? [20:30]
 - Yahweh asked why the house of Israel made themselves unclean with the way of their fathers, and why they acted like prostitutes, searching for disgusting things.
- 2. What were the people of Israel doing with their sons? [20:31]

The people of Israel were causing their sons to pass through the fire.

- 3. What do you think "pass through the fire" meant? [20:31]
 - It probably meant that the people of Israel were burning their sons as sacrifices to false gods.
- 4. What thought was in the minds of the people of Israel? [20:32]

The people of Israel were thinking they wanted to be like the other nations, worshiping wood and stone.

- 5. What was Yahweh's declaration to the house of Israel? [20:33]
 - Yahweh said that he would reign over Israel with a mighty hand, and that fury would be poured out on them.
- 6. What did Yahweh say he would do to the people of Israel in order to judge them face to face? [20:34-35] Yahweh said he would gather the people of Israel out of the countries where they were scattered and bring them into the wilderness of the peoples and judge them there.
- 7. How did Yahweh say he would judge Israel? [20:36]
 - He said he would judge them as he judged their fathers in the wilderness of Egypt.

Ezekiel 20:30-44 continued

8. What would Yahweh cause the people to do? [20:37]

He would cause them to pass under his rod, and he would make them obey the covenant.

9. Who would Yahweh purge from among the people of Israel? [20:38]

Yahweh said he would purge those who rebelled and revolted against him.

10. What did Yahweh say to the house of Israel about their idol worship? [20:39]

If they were going to worship idols, they should not profane his name any longer with their gifts and their idols.

11. After Yahweh gathered the house of Israel on his holy mountain, what would Israel do? [20:40] They would worship Yahweh.

12. How would Yahweh show himself? [20:41]

He would show himself as holy among Israel for the nations to see.

13. What did Yahweh tell the house of Israel they would know after he would bring them out of the lands where they were scattered. [20:42]

The house of Israel would know that it was Yahweh who delivered them.

14. What would the house of Israel think of themselves as they called to mind their past evil ways? [20:43-44] The house of Israel would hate themselves for all the evil actions they committed.

24:15-24

Background: In 24:1-14, Yahweh spoke to Ezekiel on the day that Babylon attacked Jerusalem.

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

- ☐ Yahweh took Ezekiel's wife away from him, but Ezekiel was told not to mourn for her. [24:15-17]
- □ Ezekiel told the people that in the same way he did not mourn over the loss of his wife, the captives were not to mourn when they learned that their beloved Jerusalem had been destroyed. [24:19-24]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. What did Yahweh say he was taking from Ezekiel? [24:15-16] Yahweh said he was taking Ezekiel's wife from him.
- What did Yahweh tell Ezekiel not to do? [24:16]
 Yahweh told Ezekiel not to mourn or weep for having lost his wife.
- 3. How was Ezekiel commanded to react to the death of his wife? [24:17]

 Ezekiel was commanded not to have a funeral or act like other men did when they lost their wives.
- 4. What did the people ask Ezekiel? [24:18]

 They asked him to explain the meaning of what he was doing.
- 5. What did Yahweh say was the meaning of the events which happened to Ezekiel? [24:19-21] Yahweh said he would desecrate his sanctuary, and their sons and daughters in Jerusalem would die.
- 6. What would the captives in Babylon do when they suffered this loss? [24:22-23] The people would do exactly as Ezekiel did and not mourn or weep.
- 7. What would Ezekiel be to the captives? [24:24]

 Ezekiel would be a sign to them so they will know that the Lord is Yahweh.

33:1-11

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Yahweh told Ezekiel that a watchman must warn the people if danger was coming. If they did not listen, it was their
fault that they died. If he did not warn them, then he would be punished for their death. [33:1-6]
Ezekiel was the watchman for the house of Israel, and whenever Ezekiel heard a word from Yahweh, he must give a warning to them. [33:7-9]
Yahweh said that he had no pleasure in the death of the wicked, so he wants Israel to repent so they can live. [33:10-12]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. What do people do when someone attacks their land? [33:1-2] They choose one man and make him a watchman.
- 2. What does the watchman do for the people of the land? [33:3]

The watchman looks for those coming with the sword to attack them and blows his horn to warn the people.

- 3. What happened if the people did not pay attention to the watchman? [33:4] If the people did not pay attention, it was their fault that they were killed.
- 4. What happened to the watchman if he did not warn the people? [33:6]

 If the watchman did not warn the people, he would be responsible for the deaths of the people.
- 5. Who did Yahweh make a watchman for the house of Israel? [33:7] Yahweh made Ezekiel a watchman for the house of Israel.
- 6. What would happen to Ezekiel if he did not warn a wicked person who Yahweh said would die in his iniquity? [33:8] The wicked man would die in his iniquity, but Yahweh would punish Ezekiel.
- 7. What would happen to Ezekiel if he warned a wicked person about his ways, but the person did not listen? [33:9] The wicked man would die, but Ezekiel would save his own life.
- What does Yahweh not delight in? [33:11]Yahweh says he does not delight in the death of the wicked.
- 9. What did Yahweh want Israel to do? [33:11]

 He wanted them to repent so they would not die.

33:21-33

Part 1

A fugitive came from Jerusalem and reported that the city had been captured. [33:21]
Yahweh's hand was upon Ezekiel, and he was no longer mute. [33:22]
Yahweh said the people who lived in the ruins of Jerusalem would die. [33:23-29]
Now that Ezekiel could talk, the people would come and listen to him, but they would not do what Yahweh
commanded. [33:30-32]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. What message did the fugitive bring to Ezekiel? [33:21] The city of Jerusalem had been captured.
- 2. What did Yahweh do to Ezekiel by the time the fugitive went to him? [33:22] Yahweh made Ezekiel able to talk. He was no longer a mute.
- 3. What were the people of Israel saying about the land that Abraham inherited? [33:23-24] The people of Israel were saying the land that Abraham inherited was their possession.
- 4. Why did Yahweh question whether the people of Israel should really possess the land? [33:25-26] Yahweh questioned whether they should possess the land because they had depended on their swords and had done disgusting things.
- 5. What did Yahweh say would happen to the people who lived in the ruins of Jerusalem? [33:27] The people would fall by the sword, and those in the fields would be given to the living creatures as food, and those in fortresses and in caves would die of plagues.
- 6. What did Yahweh say he would do to the land because of the things the people of Israel have done? [33:28-29] Yahweh said he would turn the land into a desolation and a horror.
- 7. What would the people of Israel do with the words of Ezekiel? [33:30-32]

 The people of Israel would listen to the words of Ezekiel, but they would not obey them.
- 8. What would the people of Israel know when everything came to pass? {33:33} The people of Israel would know that a prophet has been among them.

37:1-14

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

Ezekiel was taken by the Spirit of Yahweh to a valley full of dry bones and told to prophesy over the bones. [37:1-7]
As Yahweh commanded him, Ezekiel prophesied over the dry bones, and they came to life. [37:7-10]
Yahweh said that just like the dry bones, he would breathe life into Israel, and he would bring them back to their own
land. [37:11-14]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

- 1. Where did the Spirit of Yahweh set Ezekiel down, and what was there? [37:1]

 The Spirit of Yahweh set Ezekiel down in the midst of a valley full of dry bones.
- 2. What did Ezekiel see when Yahweh made him walk in the valley of the bones? [37:2] There were a great many bones, and they were dry.
- 3. What question did Yahweh ask Ezekiel? [37:3] Yahweh asked Ezekiel if the dry bones could live again.
- 4. What did Yahweh tell Ezekiel to do? [37:4]

Ezekiel was told to say to the dry bones, "Dry bones. Listen to the word of Yahweh."

- 5. What did Yahweh say would happen to the dry bones? [37:5-6] He said that the dry bones would have flesh and live again.
- 6. What happened to the bones when Ezekiel prophesied to them the first time? [37:7-8]

 When Ezekiel prophesied to them the first time, the dry bones drew together and flesh and skin covered them.
- 7. What did Yahweh tell Ezekiel to prophesy next? [33:9]

 He told Ezekiel to prophesy to the breath and tell it to breathe on those killed so they may live.
- 8. What happened to the bones when Ezekiel prophesied a second time? [37:9-10] When Ezekiel prophesied the second time, the breath came into them, and they lived.
- 9. According to Yahweh, who did the valley of dry bones represent? [37:11] The valley of dry bones represented the entire house of Israel.
- 10. What did Yahweh say he would do for Israel? [37:12]

 Yahweh said he would lift the people of Israel from their graves and bring them back to the land of Israel.

Ezekiel 37:1-14 continued

11. What was Yahweh's declaration? [37:14]

When Yahweh placed his Spirit within the people of Israel, they would live and have rest in their land. Then they would know that this was Yahweh who did this.