Amman International Church—Jordan Dr. Rick Griffith

Title

11 June 2022 Message 3 of 5

NLT 40 Minutes

**Allow God to Judge**

***Ezekiel 25–32***

**Topic:** Hope

**Subject:** How should we act when we feel we’re on the losing side?

**Complement:** Allow God to handle all rivals.

**Purpose:** The listeners will wait for God to judge those who rebel against him.

# Introduction

Feeling Weak?

### Interest: We often feel like we are the weak ones.

#### We have billionaires with amazing wealth while we struggle financially.

Circle

#### In which area are we experiencing victory? It seems that Satan controls just about every domain—education, government, economy, arts, media, and even religion.

?

#### We aren’t doing a great job in any of these.

#### But how is God doing running the world?

### Need: Author Jeremy Myers wrote the article “4 Reasons God is a Bad Judge.” He asks, “God is a terrible judge. Seriously. If He served in any court in our country, He would probably wind up in prison. I am not trying to malign God; I am just stating the way things are. Look at the facts” and then he gives his four reasons:

4 Reasons

4 Reasons Quote

#### God is the judge of the world, but the world is in quite a mess.

• Too Long

• Mess

#### It takes God way too long to pass judgment.

• Lenient

#### When God does make a judgment, He is way too lenient.

• Influence

#### God allows His judgments to be influenced by people.

### Subject: How should we act when we feel we’re on the losing side? How should we handle our “no glory” times? What can we do during those times when we feel so weak and insignificant?

Subject

### Background: Israel was at its lowest point ever, having been kicked out of their land. What hope was there for exiled Israel?

Ezek/Dan

#### We have seen in the first 24 chapters how God will not give his people Israel a simple pass—he will judge them severely. Ezekiel 1–3 shows his glory to the prophet to start the book.

1-3

#### And in Ezekiel 4–24 the main thing that they must admit is that God’s glory has left the temple after being present with them for nearly 400 years.

4-6

#### Now the city of Jerusalem was already under attack and would fall (24:2).

24:2

#### If God will hold his own nation responsible, then he will certainly hold to account those nations that have rejected him.

#### So, for eight chapters, Ezekiel now turns his attention to the countries surrounding Israel to declare that God will not be mocked by them either—so Israel must allow him to handle all rivals to his sovereign rule (title slide repeated).

Chart

#### The historical context is not one of ignorance but knowledge.

Title Slide

##### God had already judged Solomon for marrying into these countries.

Pagan Wives

##### The wives from the six nations that Solomon married form the acrostic S-H-A-M-E plus Egypt.

SHAME

##### This led to worshipping the gods of these nations.

False

Gods

### Preview: Today we will see how God would deal with all Israel’s rivals on every side—and then we will see how he will do the same in our lives also.

Subject

### Text: We will see God’s judgments of the nations from Ezekiel 25–32.

(What hope was there for exiled Israel? What should Israel do?)

MP

# I. See God’s glory in his reasons for destroying their enemies (Ezek 25–32).

[Israel would see why God would show his sovereignty over each rebel nation.]

Ezek 25

(2 slides)

## Ammon rejoiced at the temple’s destruction (25:1-7).

Ammon

(3 slides)

### The Ammonites resulted from incest of Lot with his younger daughter.

Amman

###  Amman is now one of the most unique cities in the world (animate).

Child Sacrifice

### The saddest reality about Amman is that live babies used to be offered on the altars to Molech downtown.

### Solomon brought this Molech worship to Jerusalem—likely through his wife Naamah who gave birth to Rehoboam.

Imported Idolatry

### But Ammon’s recent rejoicing over the temple destruction was the sin that God said would be punished.

25:1-7

### God had the last word about Ammon, as the Babylonians destroyed the place about a decade after this prophecy in Ezekiel 25:1-7.

Fall of Ammon

Moab

## Moab thought that Israel was like all of the other nations (25:8-11).

### Moab still has the same name today—like Amman.

Deities

### Their worship of Chemosh was also horrible.

Child Sacrifice

### Moab was like Ammon in its child sacrifice.

### Yet Moab had the audacity to say that Judah was like all other nations‚ so God would judge them for this.

25:8-11

## Edom avenged Judah (25:12-14).

God Chose Esau

Edom

### Edom stemmed from Esau, the brother of Jacob.

### These brothers each were fathers of Israel and Edom.

Desolate

Geography

Rock Petra

### Edom goes all the way to Aqaba as a wasteland.

### Petra was the capital within the rocks.

### Petra controlled both the north-south trade and the east-west Spice trade from India to Europe.

25:12-14

Crossroads Map

### God said that they had sinned greatly by avenging themselves against the people of Judah (25:12-14).

Fearsome

Philistia

## Philistia avenged Judah (25:15-17).

### Most of us have heard much about the Philistines since Goliath was a Philistine.

### They had a military advantage over Israel—not that this was wrong…

Ezek 26

25:15-17

Tyre

### But God declared that Philistia fought not to protect themselves but out of revenge and contempt (25:15-17).

## Tyre took pride in its beauty, power, trade, and leaders (26:1–28:19).

### In 573/72 after a 13-year siege, Nebuchadnezzar and others would ruin Tyre so that it would not be found or rebuilt (Ezek 26; 585-573/72 BC).

#### Tyre of Phoenicia was the most significant seaport city in the ancient world.

Cedars

#### Cedars of Lebanon were the premier trees of antiquity used for Solomon’s temple.

#### But, sadly, Tyre rejoiced over Jerusalem’s fall—only for the Babylonians to head north right after that.

Rejoiced

#### Tyre had both a mainland and island fortress that took Babylon 13 years to conquer—but they did it.

Island

Ezek 27

### Tyre's beauty, might, and trade would be lamented after its fall to show the awesome sovereignty of God (Ezek 27).

#### Their ships were the best in the world and made of many types of wood (27:4-9).

Med Map

#### Quality ships enabled Tyrians to travel all the way to Tarshish—modern Spain—to buy precious metals and slaves on the way to Greece.

### The prince of Tyre would be overthrown for his claim to be God in order to prove God's sovereignty (28:1-10).

Ezek 28

#### Phoenicia's key city of Tyre was not humble about its influence and wealth. Its boasting about being the god of the sea led later to enshrine this in the temple of the Greek god of the sea, Poseidon.

Lucifer

28:3-5

Temple on Hill

#### Like the king of Tyre, Satan also boasted of divine rights. The true God threw both Satan and Tyre's prince down.

#### Daniel's name had already become proverbial, despite him being contemporary to Ezekiel.

#### Sadly, wealth and beauty and power often bring pride—first true of Satan and now true on earth (28:3-5).

12-15

#### The pride of the king of Tyre reflected that of Lucifer himself (28:12-15).

16-17

#### As the king of Tyre was to be banished, so Lucifer was expelled from heaven years before (28:16-17).

### As Satan was cast to the earth at his fall, so the king of Tyre would be overthrown to prove God's sovereignty (28:11-19).

29:1-2

Chariot

Ezek 29

## Sidon showed maliciousness against Judah (28:20-26).

Sidon

### This Phoenician city north of Tyre was also wealthy and powerful.

### But God said that judgment would come via plague and war due to oppressing Israel.

## Egypt showed violence and pride (Ezek 29–32; fulfilled in 571 BC).

### Egypt would be exiled for 40 years due to her violence and pride but then restored to a weak standing among the nations (29:1-16).

#### Egypt was deemed strong.

13-15

Monster

#### But God was stronger than Egypt.

#### God likens Egypt to a huge but clumsy water monster.

#### And God promises that Egypt—the superpower of the day—would be the lowliest of nations even until today!

### Egypt would be plundered by Nebuchadnezzar unlike Tyre that gave him no reward but both Egypt and Israel would be restored (29:17-21).

18

#### Ironically, the conqueror got no pay from the wealthiest city of all (29:18)!

19-21

#### But God would pay Babylon for Tyre by defeating Egypt (29:19-21).

### The destruction of Egypt was foretold in a lament to show God's sovereign workings in poetic form (30:1-19).

Ezek 30

Pyramid

30:4-5

Ezek 31

#### Isaiah had declared over 100 years earlier not to trust in Egypt (Isaiah 30:1-3).

#### Now Egypt and its allies would be destroyed (Ezek 30:4-5).

### God would break Pharaoh through Babylon as his instrument to show his sovereignty (30:20-26).

### As Assyria was cut down by Babylon (612-605 BC), so Nebuchadnezzar would ruin Pharaoh’s pride to show God's sovereignty (Ezek 31).

#### Again, Isaiah had declared over 100 years earlier not to trust in Egypt (Isaiah 31:1).

Tree

#### Egypt was like a towering cedar with deep roots—but it would be cut down.

Ezek 32

### God lamented the downfall of Pharaoh by Babylon to show his sovereign workings in poetic form (32:1-16).

### Babylon would destroy Egypt as it did Assyria, Persia (Elam), Meshech, Tubal, Edom, and Sidon to show God's sovereignty (32:17-32).

Stairs

Subject

MPI

MP

Chart

Big Ten

Why Judgment?

(How should we handle our “no glory” times? How should we act when we feel like we’re on the losing side? How can we be expectant of God’s glory! Admit that it left and…)

# II. Allow God to handle all rivals (Main Idea).

[Wait on the LORD to protect his name at the right time.]

## God still judges nations because they are still responsible.

### The nations in Ezekiel’s day still knew at least nine of “The Big Ten” (Commandments) but ignored them.

### Russia has stolen grain from Ukraine and sent it to Turkey to bribe them from using their veto power to bring Finland and Sweden into NATO.

## God is still just (fair)—so there must be judgment.

Spelling

MI

Subject

### There are at least five reasons for judgment.

### Is God unjust about anything he does?

#### We can’t even decide how to spell the word!

#### Are we able to determine justice instead of the creator of the world?

#### If God is not the standard for justice, then who is that standard? You? Me?

Pride Necklace

### He will do what is right to those who wear pride like a necklace (Psalm 73:6).

### Even the SF District Attorney Boudin was recalled this week.

(How should we handle our “no glory” times?)

# Conclusion

### Allow God to handle all rivals (Main Idea). In other words, accept his judgment.

Be Patient

### Don’t put in the microwave what God has in the crockpot!

#### When you want God to act *now*… wait.

Chess

Billionaires

#### Invest with biblical values.

##### God’s glory will not shine with competitors in your life.

##### Tech stocks are down but the attack against oil has made many wealthy.

##### Envoy Financial has values-based investments.

#### God is judging and will judge in his timing.

##### The four multi-billionaires have all been divorced.

##### Evil people don’t understand justice, but those who follow the LORD understand completely (Proverbs 28:5).

Prov 28:5

Allow God

Eccl 12

Prayer

##### Allow God to handle all rivals (MI).

##### Fear God and keep his commands—because God will judge us (Eccl 12:13-14).

### Prayer

# Preliminary Questions

**Verses Questions**

# Context: What did the author record just prior to this passage?

### We have seen in the first 24 chapters how God will not give his people Israel a simple pass—he will judge them severely.

### The main thing that they must admit is that God’s glory has left the temple after being present with them for nearly 400 years.

# Purpose: Why is this passage in the Bible?

### But if God will hold his own nation responsible, then he will certainly hold to account those nations that have rejected him.

### So, for seven chapters, Ezekiel now turns his attention to the countries surrounding Israel to declare that God will not be mocked by them either—so Israel must allow him to handle all rivals to his sovereign rule.

# Background: What historical context helps us understand this passage?

### God had already judged Assyria by allowing Babylon to conquer them.

### These seven nations listed by Ezekiel were guilty because they continued in their sin despite knowing better.

#### They had either seen or heard about the power of Israel’s God dividing the Red Sea when coming out of Egypt or parting the Jordan to bring them into the land.

#### The certainly knew how God miraculously conquered the peoples of Canaan.

#### And yet they still clung to their worthless idols and local gods.

# Questions

### Why are these specific countries singled out for judgment?

#### None of these nations were within the boundaries conquered by Israel, as would be the case for Jebusites, Amorites, Canaanites, etc.

#### Also missing are Assyria (already judged) and Babylon whose downfalls were predicted by Jeremiah, Habakkuk, and others.

#### What makes these unique is that they surrounded Israel and thus had the closest look at the glory of the God of Israel—but they still did not turn from their false idols.

### Is the order of these judgments significant?

#### They proceed in clockwise order starting with Ammon.

#### But the last is finally Egypt, which was vying for the supreme superpower status along with Babylon during Ezekiel’s earlier years.

### Was Ezekiel the first to declare judgment on these nations?

#### Obadiah had declared that God would pay back Edom more than 250 years before Ezekiel lived.

#### Amos was the first prophet to list many nations for judgment.

#### Isaiah pronounced God’s judgment on the nations a century earlier.

#### Jeremiah was proclaiming the same judgment during the time of Ezekiel, but in the land of Israel itself.

### Was God just to judge the nations?

#### Is God unjust about anything he does?

#### Are we able to determine justice for the creator of the world?

#### If God is not the standard for justice, then who is that standard? You? Me?

### Why is so much attention given to Tyre and Egypt?

#### These were the mightiest of the nations at that time, along with Babylon.

#### They therefore had the greatest chance to learn of Israel’s God but did not do so.

**Outline of Ezekiel**

**Summary Statement for the Book**

**The way the exiles could expect the glory of the LORD to return was for God to judge his people, destroy their enemies, and restore them to a new life in a new temple.**

# The way God judged Judah was by having his glory leave Solomon’s temple (Ezek 1–24).

## God revealed his glory to Ezekiel as a prophet to deliver his messages of judgment and blessings (Ezek 1–3).

### Before Jerusalem’s fall, Ezekiel saw a vision of God’s glory to show his sovereignty and holiness as the basis for the book (Ezek 1).

### God called Ezekiel as a prophet to judge Israel and the Spirit gave him power as Israel's watchman despite his trials (Ezek 2–3).

#### God told Ezekiel to fearlessly deliver his message despite Israel’s rebellion so they would know him as a true prophet (2:1-7).

#### Ezekiel ate a scroll to receive God's word of judgment on the nation (2:8–3:3).

#### God sent Ezekiel to deliver his judgment written on the scroll but warned that the nation would not listen (3:4-11).

#### The Spirit gave Ezekiel power as a watchman for Israel despite physical restraints imposed on him by the LORD (3:12-27).

## The reason God was justified to leave the temple in pre-exile judgment was that Jerusalem was hopeless (Ezek 4–24).

### Judah needed judgment due to its rebellion (Ezek 4–11).

#### Ezekiel’s four signs of judgment showed Judah’s disobedience (Ezek 4–5).

##### He symbolized Jerusalem under attack by using a clay tablet (4:1-3).

##### He symbolized Israel's 390 years of sin and Judah's 40 years of sin by lying on his sides for fourteen months (4:4-8).

##### He symbolized eating unclean food cooked with cow dung to show Jerusalem's future scarcity of food and water (4:9-17).

##### He symbolized Jerusalem's division and destruction despite God's warnings by dividing and burning his hair (Ezek 5).

#### Two sermons showed that Judah needs judgment due to disobedience (Ezek 6–7).

##### Prophecies against the mountains of Israel depict judgment for the nation’s idolatry in the high places (Ezek 6).

##### Prophecies against the people of the land show judgment that was certain, soon, complete, and continuous (Ezek 7).

#### Four visions showing God as just to judge Judah due to its disobedience culminate in the exit of God's glory (Ezek 8–11).

##### Idolatry in the temple worship of the jealousy idol, paintings, Tammuz, and the sun depicted God’s hatred of idolatry (Ezek 8).

##### The execution of the godless in Jerusalem while sparing the righteous showed that God will end open rebellion (Ezek 9).

##### God's glory departing the temple depicted how God cannot dwell among wicked and idolatrous people (Ezek 10).

##### Jerusalem would be judged for its wicked rulers and the captives restored after the removal of God's glory (Ezek 11).

### Jerusalem's fate was sealed so optimism was futile (Ezek 12–19).

#### Two signs showed judgment as inescapable (12:1-20).

##### Ezekiel packed and carried his bags as a sign of the exile so that the people would know that YHWH is the LORD (12:1-16).

##### Ezekiel trembled while he ate as a sign of the nearness of the judgment (12:17-20).

#### Five messages on the certainty of God's judgment removed any doubt about whether Ezekiel spoke for God (12:21–14:23).

##### His message of doom would come true despite the people's skepticism (12:21-25).

##### The fulfillment of the predicted judgment would be soon and not far as the people had supposed (12:26-28).

##### The false peace proclaimed by false prophets was exposed to keep the people from basing their security on lies (Ezek 13).

##### Ezekiel preached against the elders engaged in idolatry to warn them either to repent or suffer judgment (14:1-11).

##### Ezekiel comforted the righteous with a promise of escape for them but judgment for the wicked (14:12-23).

#### Three parables stressed the impossibility of deliverance for Israel (Ezek 15–17).

##### The fruitless vine parable depicted God's certain judgment on Jerusalem for its lack of spiritual fruit (Ezek 15).

##### The adulterous wife parable depicted God's care for Jerusalem but even her judgment for idolatry would be restored (Ezek 16).

##### The eagles and vine parable depicted God's judgment for trusting Egypt instead of him, yet even still he would restore them (Ezek 17).

#### God holds each individual liable for his sin to encourage each person to repent and escape judgment (Ezek 18).

#### Two parables lament the false optimism of Judah’s kings in Jerusalem that led them into captivity (Ezek 19).

##### The parable of two lions lamented the evil rule of Jehoahaz and Jehoiakim ending in exile in Egypt and Babylon (19:1-9).

##### The withered vine parable lamented Zedekiah's rule that would end with the nation (vine) in exile in Babylon (19:10-14).

### Nebuchadnezzar laid siege because Jerusalem deserved judgment (Ezek 20–24).

#### God's righteous judgment was fair due to Judah's history of corruption but afterward, he would restore them (Ezek 20).

##### Israel's history of unfaithfulness in Egypt, the wilderness, and the Promised Land proves God’s fair judgment (20:1-31).

##### God would keep Judah from imitating its idolatrous neighbors and restore them in the future (20:32-44).

##### The “fire” in Judah was God’s judgment so that all would see it as God's doing (20:45-49).

#### The coming judgment under Nebuchadnezzar would be God's sword against the nation and Ammon (Ezek 21).

#### Three messages revealed Jerusalem's sins, God’s discipline by Nebuchadnezzar and the people to be judged (Ezek 22).

#### The parable of the two harlot sisters depicted God's upright judgment due to the sins of Samaria and Jerusalem (Ezek 23).

#### The parable of the cooking pot signified that on that very day Nebuchadnezzar began his siege of Jerusalem (24:1-14).

#### The death of Ezekiel's wife signified that everyone would lose close relatives in Jerusalem’s siege (24:15-27).

# The way the exiles could expect the glory of the LORD to return was by God destroying their enemies (Ezek 25–32).

## God would judge Ammon for rejoicing at the temple’s destruction to show his sovereignty (25:1-7).

## God would judge Moab for thinking that Israel was like all of the other nations to show God's sovereignty (25:8-11).

## God would judge Edom for avenging Judah to show God's sovereignty (25:12-14).

## God would judge Philistia for avenging Judah to show God's sovereignty (25:15-17).

## Tyre took pride in its beauty, power, trade, and leaders (26:1–28:19).

### In 573/72 after a 13-year siege, Nebuchadnezzar and others would ruin Tyre so that it would not be found or rebuilt (Ezek 26; 585-573/72 BC).

### Tyre's beauty, might, and trade would be lamented after its fall to show the awesome sovereignty of God (Ezek 27).

### The prince of Tyre would be overthrown for his claim to be God in order to prove God's sovereignty (28:1-10).

### As Satan was cast to the earth at his fall, so the king of Tyre would be overthrown to prove God's sovereignty (28:11-19).

## Sidon showed maliciousness against Judah (28:20-26).

## Egypt showed violence and pride (Ezek 29–32; fulfilled in 571 BC).

### Egypt would be exiled for 40 years due to her violence and pride but then restored to a weak standing among the nations (29:1-16).

### Egypt would be plundered by Nebuchadnezzar unlike Tyre that gave him no reward but both Egypt and Israel would be restored (29:17-21).

### The destruction of Egypt was foretold in a lament to show God's sovereign workings in poetic form (30:1-19).

### God would break Pharaoh through Babylon as his instrument to show his sovereignty (30:20-26).

### As Assyria was cut down by Babylon (612-605 BC), so Nebuchadnezzar would ruin Pharaoh’s pride to show God's sovereignty (Ezek 31).

### God lamented the downfall of Pharaoh by Babylon to show his sovereign workings in poetic form (32:1-16).

### Babylon would destroy Egypt as it did Assyria, Persia (Elam), Meshech, Tubal, Edom, and Sidon to show God's sovereignty (32:17-32).

# The way the exiles could expect the glory of the LORD to return was by God restoring them to a new life and order in the millennium (Ezek 33–48).

## God will restore Israel to the land in a new life with new millennial leaders and destroy enemies to prepare for God's glory to return (Ezek 33–39).

### God appointed Ezekiel as a watchman to declare Jerusalem’s fall so Judah would repent of idolatry, immorality, and greed (Ezek 33).

### New life will come by replacing Judah’s false, self-serving shepherds with God as the true, selfless Shepherd after his glory returns (Ezek 34).

### New life will come to Judah by God judging her enemies, represented by Edom, who pridefully opposed Israel (Ezek 35).

### God will restore the united nation by blessing, cleansing, and restoring them to the land to show his holiness and sovereignty (Ezek 36–37).

#### Judah will be restored to the land in national blessing and cleansing under the New Covenant to show God's holy character (Ezek 36).

#### Judah’s "deadness" will be restored to fulfill the Land Covenant (Deut. 30:1-10) that began in AD 1948 in the State of Israel (37:1-14).

#### Messiah will rule Judah and Israel together to fulfill the Davidic Covenant (2 Sam. 7:13-14) and show God's holiness (37:15-28).

### God will protect Israel against an attack by the area of Gog and its allies in the Tribulation to show his sovereignty (Ezek 38–39).

#### The area of Gog and her allies (a northern Arab alliance) will attack Israel with great might that will reveal God's power (38:1-16).

\*Many dispensationalists argue that Magog is Russia, but many Bible atlases equate this area with modern-day Turkey (e.g., Beitzel, 76, 78). J. Paul Tanner, “Daniel’s ‘King of the North’: Do We Owe Russia an Apology?” *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 35 (September 1992): 315-28 claims it is a group of northern Arab nations.

#### God will destroy these enemies by natural setbacks and fire in the Tribulation to protect Israel and show his sovereignty (38:17–39:29).

## Israel’s new, millennial order will prove God faithful to the Abrahamic and New Covenants when his promised glory returns to his people (Ezek 40–48).

### *The millennial temple* filled with God's glory and with sacrifices will show Israel’s new covenant bond with God (Ezek 40–43).

#### In 573 BC Ezekiel had a vision of a stunning temple to encourage Judah when the temple lay in ruins (40:1-4).

#### The inner and outer courts will form perfect squares (40:5-47).

##### The outer court will form a square with many gates and chambers (40:5-27).

##### The inner court will also form a square with its gates, slaughtering tables, and priests' chambers (40:28-47).

#### The temple will have a rectangular nave, most holy place, a rectangular separate building, and interior galleries of carvings (40:48–41:26).

#### Two sets of chambers will enable the changing and dining of the priests (42:1-14).

#### The wall surrounding the entire complex will form another square separating the holy from the profane (42:15-20).

#### The glory of the LORD will fill the temple where God will dwell with his people in fulfillment of his promise (43:1-12).

#### Sin offerings will commemorate the death of Christ to show Israel in fellowship with God (43:13-27).

### *A new service* of worship including priests, Levites, and Jewish rituals will be followed in the millennium (Ezek 44–46).

#### The duties and land of the priests and Levites will reveal the standards for temple ministers (44:1–45:8).

##### The priests will lead temple affairs and the sons of Zadok will offer sacrifices and teach the people (Ezek 44).

##### The land of the priests and Levites will comprise two separate rectangles with the temple in the middle of the priests (45:1-8).

#### Princes must be honest and offerings, feasts, the Sabbath, and the Year of Jubilee will recall the death of Christ in the millennium (45:9–46:24).

##### The princes must be honest in their dealings with the people (45:9-12).

##### All the people must present sacrifices for David, the prince of Israel, as memorials to the death of Christ (45:13-17).

##### Feasts, Sabbath worship, and the Year of Jubilee will be reinstituted in the millennium (45:18–46:24).

### *New land boundaries* equal for each tribe and a renewed city will fulfill the Abrahamic Covenant and show God’s returned glory (Ezek 47–48).

#### A river flowing eastward from the temple to make the Dead Sea fresh water with fish will show the temple’s cleansing power (47:1-12).

#### New, equal allotments for each tribe with Gentile lands among them will prove the Abrahamic Covenant fulfilled (47:13-23; cf. Gen. 15:18).

#### Land inheritances with the firstborn sons of Jacob in the center will also have lots for priests, Levites, the city, and the prince (48:1-29).

#### Twelve gates (one per tribe) will surround the city for access from any side (48:30-34).

#### The circumference around the city will be 18,000 cubits [about two miles] (48:35).

#### The city named "the LORD is there" will feature the return of God’s glory to dwell with his millennial people (48:36).

# Tentative Subject/Complement Statements

Text

# Possible Illustrations

### Text

# Possible Applications

### Text

**Allow God to Judge**

***Ezekiel 25–32***

**Exegetical Outline (Steps 2-3)**

# *Exegetical Idea*:

# The way the exiles could expect the glory of the LORD to return was by God destroying their enemies (Ezek 25–32).

## God would judge Ammon for rejoicing at the temple’s destruction to show his sovereignty (25:1-7).

## God would judge Moab for thinking that Israel was like all of the other nations to show God's sovereignty (25:8-11).

## God would judge Edom for avenging Judah to show God's sovereignty (25:12-14).

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**Purpose or Desired Listener Response (Step 4)**

The listeners will wait for God to judge those who rebel against him.

**Homiletical Outline** (Cyclical inductive form)

# Introduction

### Interest: We often feel like we are the weak ones with Satan in control.

### Need: How is God doing? One says that God is a terrible judge.

### Subject: How should we act when we feel we’re on the losing side?

### Background: Israel was at its lowest point ever, having been kicked out of their land. What hope was there for exiled Israel?

### Preview: Today we will see how God would deal with all Israel’s rivals on every side—and then we will see how he will do the same in our lives also.

### Text: We will see God’s judgments of the nations from Ezekiel 25–32.

(What hope was there for exiled Israel? What should Israel do?)

# I. See God’s glory in his reasons for destroying their enemies (Ezek 25–32)

## Ammon rejoiced at the temple’s destruction (25:1-7).

## Moab thought that Israel was like all of the other nations (25:8-11).

## Edom avenged Judah (25:12-14).

## Philistia avenged Judah (25:15-17).

## Tyre took pride in its beauty, power, trade, and leaders (26:1–28:19).

## Sidon showed maliciousness against Judah (28:20-26).

## Egypt showed violence and pride (Ezek 29–32; fulfilled in 571 BC).

(How should we handle our “no glory” times? How should we act when we feel like we’re on the losing side? How can we be expectant of God’s glory! Admit that it left and…)

# II. Allow God to handle all rivals (Main Idea).

## God still judges nations because they are still responsible.

## God is still just (fair)—so there must be judgment.

(How should we handle our “no glory” times?)

# Conclusion

### Allow God to handle all rivals (Main Idea). In other words, accept his judgment.

### Don’t put in the microwave what God has in the crockpot!

### Prayer

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Message 3 of 5

**Allow God to Judge**

***Ezekiel 25–32***

# Introduction

Subject with a blank for the key word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ blank answer in hidden text

# I. MP has a blank for the key word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ answer (verses).

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## SP has a blank for the key word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ answer (verses).

# II. MP has a blank for the key word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ answer (verses).

## SP has a blank for the key word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ answer (verses).

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# Conclusion

### Main Idea has a blank for the key word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ answer (verses).

### Application question

**Thought Questions**

1. Read the passage aloud. Contrast:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Issue** | **Contrast** |
| Text | Text |
| Text | Text |
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1. Text-based question

Text

Text

Text

Text

1. Application to your own Christian experience

Text

Text

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