

Ezekiel Study 4

We are now skipping over a large section of Ezekiel (Chapter 11 to Chapter 34). This is because the book is so big and we don't have enough time. Furthermore this study was only meant to introduce us to OT prophecy, it's not a detailed study.

So what did we miss? (Group Leaders please take note to show and explain this part) In Chapters 12 to 33 God condemns Israel and Judah for failing to keep the covenant. They have betrayed God by turning to idols. There are many horrifying and sad events in these chapters which show how terrible it is to disobey God. God does not only judge Israel but also the other nations as well. In the midst of all this is Ezekiel's life. His life mirrors God's message. For example, his wife dies and he is not allowed to mourn for her because the same judgment awaits Judah. The people are not allowed to mourn for Judah when God punishes her. How terrible it was for them. Just imagine what it would have been like to be God's prophet. How difficult it was for Ezekiel. I would be really scared too.

From Chapter 33 onwards there's a change in the tone of the book and the prophecies which Ezekiel receives. Now, there is hope and God promises restoration.

Read Chapter 34.

Who are the shepherds of Israel (34:1-2)?

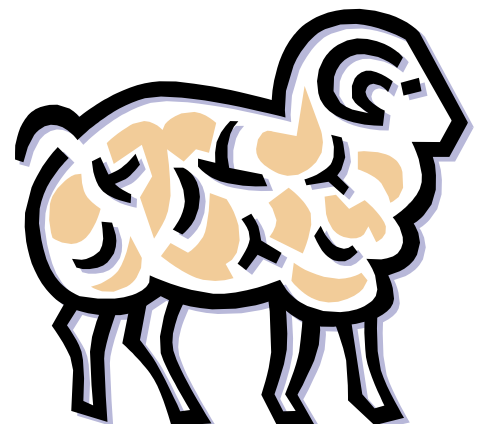
How have the Shepherds failed ?

V2

V3

V4

V5-6



What will God do to them? V7-10

How will God replace the shepherds?
V11-13

V14-16

V17-19

V20-31

Before you look at the NT passage , can you think how God has fulfilled this promised?

Read John 10:1-21

What does Jesus say about :

The Thief? 10:1-6

The Gate? V7- 10

The Good Shepherd ? v11-18

Significance.

Ezekiel's prophecy looked far into the future for its hope. Isn't it amazing that God doesn't completely destroy the entire nation? He promises to restore them and sends Jesus to fulfil those promises.

How does the image of shepherds and sheep give you comfort when you think of God in this way? How do Jesus' words give you comfort?

What is the right response to Jesus ? What do we need to do?