

# Lessons from Ezekiel: History, Promises, and Warnings<sup>1</sup>

## Ezekiel 20–22

### **A History of Israel’s Rebellion (Ezekiel 20:1–32)**

“God’s second judgment was abandoning the people to their sin. He gave them over to statutes that were not good and laws they could not live by (v. 25) ... [These were] commandments of the pagan religions to which Israel had turned ... Because they refused to follow His righteous ways, God would abandon them to the consequences of their actions (cf. Rom. 1:24, 26, 28).”<sup>2</sup>

### **A Promise of Restoration (Ezekiel 20:33–38)**

“God’s ideal for Israel will finally be realized in the millennial kingdom. She will serve the Lord, He will accept her, and the people will offer Him their choicest offerings ... in sincere worship [vv. 40–41] ... As a result, God will show Himself holy. Israel had profaned her God by debasing her worship with sin and idolatry (20:39). In the future, however, she will set God apart so all the nations will sense God’s holiness.”<sup>3</sup>

### **A Warning of Coming Judgment (Ezekiel 21:1–22:31)**

- Chapter 21 conveys four messages involving an unsheathed “sword” wielded by the Lord:

**Lesson:** God’s motives, methods, and means of judgment are always \_\_\_\_\_.

“God’s plan for reaching ungodly people and nations is still the same. He uses godly men and women to stand in the breaches in morality and spirituality and make the difference by calling the nation and individuals to repentance, faith, righteousness, and commitment to God in Christ.”<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from *Ezekiel: Redemption for God’s People* (2024) by John MacArthur.

<sup>2</sup> Dyer, C. H. (1985). [Ezekiel](#). In *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, 1:1265).

<sup>3</sup> Dyer, C. H. (1985). [Ezekiel](#). In *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, 1:1266.

<sup>4</sup> Cooper, L. E. (1994). [Ezekiel](#) (Vol. 17, p. 224). Broadman & Holman Publishers.