

"The Eagles"  
Ezekiel 17

Note: This is the last of the three allegories: The worthless vine (15), the adulterous wife (16), and now, the eagles (17).

Note: The allegory describes the history of Judah from the first exile in 605 B.C. to the second in 597 B.C. The third and last deportation was in 586 with the destruction of Jerusalem.

Note: The parable covers verses 3-10 and the explanation is found in verses 11-18. Verses 19 – 21 deal with the breaking of the covenant with God. And verses 22 -24 are prophetic and deal with the restoration of the Jews to the land and a coming Messiah.

vv. 1-2      Q.      What was Ezekiel called to do?

A.      Set forth an \_\_\_\_\_ (a symbolic representation of an abstract or spiritual meaning using a concrete object, i.e. this represents that); tell the house of Israel a \_\_\_\_\_ (a short story with a single emphasis).

v. 3a      Q.      What living thing is used as the initial description?

A.

Q.      How is it described?

A.

1.

2.

3.

4.

Note: The \_\_\_\_\_ was often referred to by Jews as, "Lebanon" because it was built with cedars from Lebanon.

vv. 3b – 4 Q. What did the eagle do?

A.

v. 3b 1. It took hold of the \_\_\_\_\_ of a cedar tree

v. 4 2. It broke off its topmost \_\_\_\_\_

3. It carried it away to a land of \_\_\_\_\_

4. It planted the shoot in a \_\_\_\_\_ of traders.

v. 5 Q. What did the eagle do next?

A.

1. The eagle took some of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the land and put it in fertile soil.

2. He planted it like a \_\_\_\_\_ by abundant water.

v. 6 Q. What was the result?

A.

1. It \_\_\_\_\_ and became a low-spreading vine.

2. Its branches turned \_\_\_\_\_ the eagle, but its roots remained \_\_\_\_\_ it.

3. So, it became a \_\_\_\_\_ and produced branches and put out leafy boughs.

v. 7a Q. What showed up next?

A.

Q. How is described?

A.

1.

2.

v. 7b Q. What did the vine of verse 6 do?

A.

1. the vine sent out its roots \_\_\_\_\_ him from the plot where it was planted.
2. It stretched out its branches to him for \_\_\_\_\_ (help).

V. 8 Q. What is meant by this?

A. It had everything it needed to be \_\_\_\_\_, but it left for another source.

v. 9 Q. God offers four questions about "the vine." What are they?

A.

v. 9a 1.

v. 9b 2. Will it not be \_\_\_\_\_ and stripped of its fruit.

v. 9c Interjection:  
All its new growth will \_\_\_\_\_.

v. 9d It will not take a \_\_\_\_\_ arm or many people to pull it up by The roots.

v. 10a 3. Even if it's \_\_\_\_\_, will it thrive?

v. 10b 4. Will it not \_\_\_\_\_ completely when the east wind strikes it – wither away in the plot where it grew?

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vv. 11-12a Q. What is the subsequent question from the Lord?

A.

v. 12b Q. What is the explanation?

A.

1. The king of \_\_\_\_\_ (Nebuchadnezzar) is the eagle.
  2. Lebanon is the place of the mighty \_\_\_\_\_ and represents Jerusalem/the \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. The topmost shoot was the king of \_\_\_\_\_ (Jehoiachin) and the nobles were the wealthy land owners and \_\_\_\_\_ leaders.
  4. They were brought back to the land of merchants, i.e. \_\_\_\_\_.
- v. 13a
5. The “seed of the land” included one of the \_\_\_\_\_ family members who Nebuchadnezzar put in place as a puppet king (\_\_\_\_\_).
  6. Nebuchadnezzar put Zedekiah under \_\_\_\_\_ of loyalty.
- v. 13b
7. Other leading men such as \_\_\_\_\_, Azariah, Hananiah, and Mishaël and...Ezekiel were also transplanted.
- v. 14
8. The purpose was to \_\_\_\_\_ everyone that would rise against the Babylonians – to make it \_\_\_\_\_.
  9. The only way of \_\_\_\_\_ was to keep the treaty. (well-watered)
- v. 15a
10. But Zedekiah \_\_\_\_\_ against Nebuchadnezzar by sending envoys (the roots extending) to \_\_\_\_\_ (the second eagle).

v. 15bcd Q. What are the series of questions that connect to verses 9 and 10?

- A.
- v. 15b 1. Will he \_\_\_\_\_?
- v. 15c 2. Will he who does such things \_\_\_\_\_?
- v. 15d 3. Will he break the \_\_\_\_\_ and yet escape?

v. 16 Q. What is a certainty (prophetically)?

A. Zedekiah will \_\_\_\_\_ in Babylon.

v. 17 Q. What about the Egyptians?

A.

v. 18 Q. What is the reason for Zedekiah's fate?

A. Zedekiah \_\_\_\_\_ the oath, broke the covenant – basically went back on the deal. Nebuchadnezzar actually treated them well until this time.

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Note: The following verses switch to a personal word from the Lord, "I."

v. 19 Q. What is the comparative?

A. Zedekiah made an oath with pagan king, Nebuchadnezzar, and will be punished because of it. However, the greater oath, the greater covenant that was broken was with \_\_\_\_\_. This is why all of this is happening.

v. 20 Q. How do we see the divine hand being executed by a pagan vessel?

A. Nebuchadnezzar is the \_\_\_\_\_, but it is the \_\_\_\_\_ directing the judgment.

v. 21a Q. What other judgment will happen?

A. All Zedekiah's fleeing \_\_\_\_\_ will fall by the sword and those who survive will be scattered like the wind.

v. 21b Q. What is the desired result?

A. That they [those in exile] would \_\_\_\_\_ that the Lord has spoken when they hear of this happening.

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v. 22 Q. What will the Lord do? (Note the comparison with the parable)

A.

1. The Lord will take a \_\_\_\_\_ from the very top of the cedar and plant it.
2. The Lord will break off a tender \_\_\_\_\_ from its topmost shoots and plant it on a high and lofty mountain.

v. 23a

3. The Lord will plant it on the mountain \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel.
4. It will produce branches and bear \_\_\_\_\_ and become a splendid cedar.

v. 23b

5. Birds of every kind will nest in it; they will find \_\_\_\_\_ in the shade of its branches.

Q. The question becomes, "Who is this new sprig?"

A.

Note the comparison of this with King Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 4:11-12.

Note the connection to Jesus and the Kingdom of God in Matthew 13:31-32.

Compare with Isaiah 53:1-2

Compare with Jeremiah 23:5-6.

v. 24a Q. What allegory does the Lord use now?

A.

Q. What is the meaning of this?

A. A tree represents a \_\_\_\_\_. God can bring down the greatest kingdom and He can elevate the lowest. He can take a vibrant kingdom and bring it to nothing, and He can take a lifeless kingdom and make it flourish.

v. 24b Q. What is the conclusion of the matter?

A. The Lord has \_\_\_\_\_ and everything \_\_\_\_\_ will come to pass.

Application Questions:

Q. Why is it so important for God to reveal his future plans to His chosen people?

A.

Q. Read Acts 17:24-31. How does Paul use the above ideas as part of his gospel presentation?

A.