Interesting Facts About Ezekiel

**MEANING:** “God Strengthens” or Strengthened by God.”

**AUTHOR:** Ezekiel

**TIME WRITTEN:** Probably completed by 565 B.C.

**POSITION IN THE BIBLE:**
- 26th Book in the Bible
- 26th Book in the Old Testament
- 4th of 17 books of Prophecy (Isaiah - Malachi)
- 4th of 5 major prophets (Isaiah-Daniel)
- 40 Books to follow it.

**CHAPTERS:** 48

**VERSES:** 1,273

**WORDS:** 39,407

**OBSERVATIONS ABOUT EZEKIEL:**
- Ezekiel was a prophet during the seventy-year period of Babylonian Captivity.
- Ezekiel was taken to Babylon before Babylon’s final assault on Jerusalem.
- Ezekiel used four things to dramatize his message:
  - Prophecies
  - Signs
  - Parables
  - Symbols
- The vision of the Valley of Dry Bones (37) demonstrates that God can breathe new life into Judah again.
- Like Jeremiah, Ezekiel was a priest who was called to be a prophet of the Lord.
- A probable chronology would suggest that Jeremiah:
  - Was born in 622 B.C.
  - Was deported to Babylon in 597 B.C.
  - Prophesied from 592 B.C. to at least 570 B.C. (an active ministry of some 22 years.
- Ezekiel was 25 years old when he was taken to Babylon.
- He was 17 when Daniel was taken to Babylon in 605 B.C.

- Ezekiel received his prophetic commission when he was 30
- Ezekiel overlapped the end of Jeremiah’s ministry and the beginning of Daniel’s ministry.
- A part of Ezekiel’s work was to remind the generation born during the Babylonian Captivity:
  - The cause of Judah’s current destruction.
  - Of God’s coming judgment on the Gentile nations.
  - The people being restored back to Jerusalem.
- Ezekiel shows the full circle of judgment upon the nations that surround Judah. In a clockwise circuit, they were:
  - Ammon
  - Tyre
  - Moab
  - Sidon
  - Philistia
- In 572 B.C. some 14 years after the destruction of Jerusalem, Ezekiel returns in a vision to the fallen city (40-48) where he is given specific specifications for:
  - The reconstruction of the Temple.
  - The reconstruction of the city of Jerusalem.
  - The reconstruction of the land.
- Nebuchadnezzar destroyed Jerusalem in three stages:
  - 1st - In 605 B.C., he overcame Jehoiakim and carried off key hostages, including Daniel and his friends.
  - 2nd - In 597 B.C., the rebellion of Jehoiakim and Jehoiachin brought further punishment.
    - He made Jerusalem submit a second time.
    - He carried 10,000 more hostages, including Jehoiakin and Ezekiel.
  - 3rd - in 586 B.C., after a one-year and 17-month long siege, Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the city of Jerusalem and brought ravage and destruction to all of Judah.