# THE SON OF MAN

## Ezekiel's Commission and Christ's Perfect Obedience

*"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."*
***Luke 19:10 (KJV)***

# Purpose and Method

The book of Ezekiel repeatedly addresses the prophet as "son of man." In the KJV text, the expression appears ninety-four times in Ezekiel. The title continually reminds Ezekiel that he is a human servant standing before the glorious God, yet it also marks the prophet as God's appointed messenger, watchman, sign, intercessor, judge of wickedness, herald of restoration, and witness of a coming sanctuary.

Jesus Christ did not merely repeat Ezekiel's title. In the Gospels He called Himself "the Son of man," joining true humanity with the heavenly authority revealed in Daniel 7:13-14. Ezekiel was a mortal servant who received the word; Christ is the Word made flesh. Ezekiel acted out signs; Christ became the saving sign. Ezekiel warned of judgment; Christ bore judgment for His people and will execute righteous judgment. Ezekiel saw glory depart and return; in Christ, the glory of God came to dwell among men.

**Important interpretive note**

This study does not claim that every "son of man" verse in Ezekiel is a direct prediction of one separate event in Jesus' life. Rather, every occurrence belongs to a divine commission or prophetic setting. Those commands and settings form patterns that Christ, as the perfect and final Son of Man, fulfilled in a greater, sinless, and complete way.

All Scripture quotations are from the King James Version. The language has been preserved. Explanations are written in plain terms so that the reader can follow the argument without needing technical theological training.

# Contents


1. 1. The Meaning of "Son of Man"
2. 2. Stand, Hear, Receive, and Speak
3. 3. Sent to a Rebellious People
4. 4. Fearless Before Thorns and Scorpions

5. 5. The Word Eaten and Lived
6. 6. The Watchman Who Warns
7. 7. The Prophet as a Living Sign
8. 8. Exposing Hidden Sin and False Shepherds
9. 9. Bearing Reproach, Sorrow, and Judgment
10. 10. Proclaiming Responsibility, Repentance, and Life
11. 11. Shepherd, Resurrection, and Restoration
12. 12. Temple, River, and the Return of Glory
13. 13. The Perfect Obedience of Christ
14. Appendix: All 94 Occurrences in Ezekiel

# 1. The Meaning of “Son of Man”

> ***Ezekiel 2:1 (KJV)***
> *And he said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee.*

Ezekiel’s first experience was not ordinary. He saw the likeness of the glory of the LORD, fell upon his face, and heard a voice. Against that immense vision, the address “Son of man” emphasized his creaturely weakness. He was not the source of revelation. He was a man summoned, strengthened, and sent by God.

> ***Ezekiel 1:28 (KJV)***
> *As the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud in the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness round about. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw it, I fell upon my face, and I heard a voice of one that spake.*

Jesus also truly became man, but His humanity was unique. He was not merely another prophet raised from the dust. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, and lived among us without sin. The Gospel of John states both His eternal identity and His real incarnation:

> ***John 1:1, 14 (KJV)***
> *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, ( and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*

When Jesus called Himself “the Son of man,” He identified Himself with humanity, suffering, service, and death. At the same time, He claimed the authority of the heavenly figure in Daniel who receives everlasting dominion. This is why His title can speak of humble service in one passage and glorious judgment in another.

> ***Matthew 20:28 (KJV)***
> *Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.*
>
> ***Matthew 26:64 (KJV)***
> *Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.*

Thus Ezekiel provides the pattern of the obedient human messenger, while Jesus reveals the perfection of that pattern. Ezekiel was addressed by God as son of man; Jesus knowingly presented Himself as the Son of Man who came from heaven, served on earth, died, rose again, and will return in glory.

# 2. Stand, Hear, Receive, and Speak

> ***Ezekiel 2:1-2 (KJV)***
> *1 And he said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee. 2 And the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me.*
>
> ***Ezekiel 3:10-11 (KJV)***
> *10 Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, all my words that I shall speak unto thee receive in thine heart, and hear with thine ears. 11 And go, get thee to them of the captivity, unto the children of thy people, and speak unto them, and tell them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear.*

The first duty of the son of man is to stand before God and listen. Ezekiel could not raise himself by courage alone; the Spirit entered him and set him upon his feet. His authority began with dependence. Before he could speak to Israel, he had to receive the words of the LORD into his own heart and ears.

Christ followed this pattern perfectly. Throughout His earthly life, He spoke as the One sent by the Father. He did not shape His message to win approval, avoid conflict, or flatter hearers. His words were the Father's words, spoken with perfect understanding and wholehearted agreement.

> ***John 8:26-29 (KJV)***
> *26 I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him. 27 They understood not that he spake to them of the Father. 28 Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. 29 And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.*
>
> ***John 12:49-50 (KJV)***
> *49 For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. 50 And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.*

The obedience of Jesus went deeper than verbal accuracy. He lived in continuous fellowship with the Father. He rose early to pray, withdrew from crowds, gave thanks, and submitted His will. In Gethsemane He prayed, "nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done" (Luke 22:42). The perfect Son of Man heard, received, and obeyed even when obedience led to the cross.

Ezekiel was told to set his heart upon all that God showed him (Ezekiel 40:4). Jesus likewise kept the Father's purpose before Him. He "stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem" (Luke 9:51). He did not drift into sacrifice; He knowingly walked toward the work appointed to Him.

# 3. Sent to a Rebellious People

> ***Ezekiel 2:3-5 (KJV)***
> *3 And he said unto me, Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against me: they and their fathers have transgressed against me, even unto this very day. 4 For they are impudent children and stiffhearted. I do send thee unto them; and thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD. 5 And they, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear, (for they are a rebellious house,) yet shall know that there hath been a prophet among them.*
>
> ***Ezekiel 3:4-7 (KJV)***
> *4 And he said unto me, Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Israel, and speak with my words unto them. 5 For thou art not sent to a people of a strange speech and of an hard language, but to the house of Israel; 6 Not to many people of a strange speech and of an hard language, whose words thou canst not understand. Surely, had I sent thee to them, they would have hearkened unto thee. 7 But the house of Israel will not hearken unto thee; for they will not hearken unto me: for all the house of Israel are impudent and hardhearted.*

God did not send Ezekiel to a receptive audience. He was sent to "a rebellious nation," people with hard foreheads and stiff hearts. Success was not measured by applause. Whether they heard or refused, they were to know that a prophet had been among them.

Jesus came unto His own, and His own received Him not. He taught in synagogues, in houses, beside the sea, in the temple, and on mountains. He healed the sick, cleansed lepers, fed multitudes, and raised the dead. Yet religious leaders accused Him, crowds misunderstood Him, disciples deserted Him for a time, and Jerusalem rejected its visitation.

> ***John 1:10-11 (KJV)***
> *10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. 11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.*
>
> ***Matthew 23:37 (KJV)***
> *O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how*

> *often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!*

Christ never used rejection as permission to become bitter. He wept over Jerusalem. He answered hostility with truth, exposed hypocrisy without personal malice, and continued inviting sinners to repentance. His faithfulness shows that divine love is not sentimental softness. Love tells the truth to rebellious people because silence would leave them unwarned.

Ezekiel's commission explains the sorrowful tension in Christ's ministry: an open invitation from God met by the stubborn refusal of many hearers. Jesus fulfilled the servant's responsibility completely. No one could say that the light had not come. The tragedy was that men "loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil" (John 3:19).

# 4. Fearless Before Thorns and Scorpions

> ***Ezekiel 2:6-7 (KJV)***
> *6 And thou, son of man, be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns be with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions: be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house. 7 And thou shalt speak my words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear: for they are most rebellious.*
>
> ***Ezekiel 3:8-9 (KJV)***
> *8 Behold, I have made thy face strong against their faces, and thy forehead strong against their foreheads. 9 As an adamant harder than flint have I made thy forehead: fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.*

The son of man was commanded not to fear words, faces, thorns, briers, or scorpions. These figures describe painful opposition. God did not promise Ezekiel an easy reception; He promised sufficient strength. The prophet's forehead would be made harder than flint because the message belonged to God.

Jesus displayed holy courage without reckless bravado. Threats did not control His calendar. When warned that Herod would kill Him, He continued His work. When officers came to arrest Him, He stepped forward. When questioned by rulers, He bore witness to the truth. He was never trapped into panic, yet neither did He seek danger merely to prove courage.

> ***Luke 13:31-33 (KJV)***
> *31 The same day there came certain of the Pharisees, saying unto him, Get thee out, and depart hence: for Herod will kill thee. 32 And he said unto them, Go ye, and tell that fox, Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures to day and to morrow, and the third day I shall be perfected. 33 Nevertheless I must walk to day, and to morrow, and the day following: for it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem.*
>
> ***John 18:4-6 (KJV)***
> *4 Jesus therefore, knowing all things that should come upon him, went forth, and said unto them, Whom seek ye? 5 They answered him, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus saith unto them, I am he. And Judas also, which betrayed him, stood with them. 6 As soon then as he had said unto them, I am he, they went backward, and fell to the ground.*

Christ's fearlessness came from certainty about the Father's hour. Earlier attempts to seize Him failed because His hour was not yet come. When the hour arrived, He freely yielded Himself. This was not weakness. The soldiers fell backward when He identified Himself, and He declared that more than twelve legions of angels were available. Nevertheless He submitted so that the Scriptures might be fulfilled.

The repeated instruction “fear not” in Ezekiel reaches mature expression in Jesus. The Son of Man did not soften hard sayings, retreat from hostile leaders, or abandon His disciples. His courage was obedient, purposeful, and sacrificial.

# 5. The Word Eaten and Lived

> ***Ezekiel 2:8-3:3 (KJV)***
> *8 But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee. 9 And when I looked, behold, an hand was sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book was therein; 10 And he spread it before me; and it was written within and without: and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe. 1 Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel. 2 So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat that roll. 3 And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness.*
>
> ***Matthew 4:4 (KJV)***
> *But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*

Ezekiel was ordered to eat the roll before speaking. The image teaches that God’s message must enter the messenger. The roll contained lamentations, mourning, and woe, yet it tasted sweet because receiving God’s word is good even when the message itself announces painful judgment.

Jesus did not merely memorize Scripture; He lived by it. In temptation He answered, “It is written.” In worship He read Scripture. In controversy He explained Scripture. On the cross His words echoed the Psalms. He treated the written word as final truth and carried out the Father’s will as His food.

> ***John 4:34 (KJV)***
> *Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.*
>
> ***John 6:63 (KJV)***
> *It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.*

This inward union between message and messenger was perfect in Christ because He is the Word made flesh. There was no contradiction between His teaching and His character. He taught mercy and showed mercy. He commanded love for enemies and prayed for those who crucified Him. He taught self-denial and gave Himself. He spoke of resurrection and rose from the dead.

Where Ezekiel symbolically consumed a scroll, Christ embodied the revelation of God. His life interpreted His words, and His words explained His life. Therefore the hearer is not invited merely to admire a teacher, but to receive the living bread sent from heaven.

# 6. The Watchman Who Warns

> ***Ezekiel 3:17-19 (KJV)***
> *17 Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. 18 When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. 19 Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.*
>
> ***Ezekiel 33:7-9 (KJV)***
> *7 So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the*

> *word at my mouth, and warn them from me. 8 When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. 9 Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.*

Twice Ezekiel is formally appointed a watchman. A watchman sees danger and sounds the warning. He is not responsible for creating the danger, nor can he force the city to respond. He is responsible to speak clearly. Silence would make him accountable for blood.

Jesus warned with unmatched clarity. His first public message announced the kingdom and commanded repentance. He warned about hypocrisy, covetousness, unbelief, empty profession, coming judgment, and the danger of gaining the world while losing the soul. His warnings were not cruel interruptions of a message of love; they were essential expressions of love.

> ***Mark 1:14-15 (KJV)***
> *14 Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.*
>
> ***Luke 13:3 (KJV)***
> *I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.*

Christ also wept while warning. He lamented over Jerusalem and described the destruction that would follow its rejection. He warned Peter of coming failure, warned the disciples of persecution, and warned hearers that not everyone saying “Lord, Lord” would enter the kingdom of God. He spoke because eternal realities mattered more than temporary comfort.

Unlike every ordinary watchman, Jesus also placed Himself between the threatened people and judgment. At Calvary the Watchman became the sacrifice. He warned of sin’s wages and then, though sinless, bore sin in His own body on the tree. The warning and the remedy meet in Him.

# 7. The Prophet as a Living Sign

> ***Ezekiel 12:2-7 (KJV)***
> *2 Son of man, thou dwellest in the midst of a rebellious house, which have eyes to see, and see not; they have ears to hear, and hear not: for they are a rebellious house. 3 Therefore, thou son of man, prepare thee stuff for removing, and remove by day in their sight; and thou shalt remove from thy place to another place in their sight: it may be they will consider, though they be a rebellious house. 4 Then shalt thou bring forth thy stuff by day in their sight, as stuff for removing: and thou shalt go forth at even in their sight, as they that go forth into captivity. 5 Dig thou through the wall in their sight, and carry out thereby. 6 In their sight shalt thou bear it upon thy shoulders, and carry it forth in the twilight: thou shalt cover thy face, that thou see not the ground: for I have set thee for a sign unto the house of Israel. 7 And I did so as I was commanded: I brought forth my stuff by day, as stuff for captivity, and in the even I digged through the wall with mine hand; I brought it forth in the twilight, and I bare it upon my shoulder in their sight.*
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> ***Ezekiel 12:11 (KJV)***
> *Say, I am your sign: like as I have done, so shall it be done unto them: they shall remove and go into captivity.*

Ezekiel did not only preach sermons. God made his conduct a sign. He portrayed siege, measured food, carried baggage as an exile, trembled while eating, and endured personal sorrow. These acted messages forced the people to see truth they preferred to ignore.

Jesus declared that His death, burial, and resurrection would be the decisive sign. As Jonah was three days and three nights in the great fish, so the Son of Man would be in the heart of the earth. The resurrection was not an entertaining wonder added to His teaching; it was God’s public vindication of His identity and saving work.

***Matthew 12:38-40 (KJV)***
*38 Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee. 39 But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: 40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.*

***Luke 11:29-30 (KJV)***
*29 And when the people were gathered thick together, he began to say, This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it, but the sign of Jonas the prophet. 30 For as Jonas was a sign unto the Ninevites, so shall also the Son of man be to this generation.*

Christ's whole incarnate life was also a sign of God's kingdom. He touched lepers, forgave sins, ate with publicans, welcomed children, gave sight to the blind, and released those oppressed by the devil. These acts displayed what His reign means: cleansing, forgiveness, restoration, fellowship, and liberty.

Ezekiel said, "I am your sign." Jesus could say something greater: to see Him was to see the Father's works and character revealed. His signs demanded a response. They were not spectacles for curiosity; they called observers to believe.

# 8. Exposing Hidden Sin and False Shepherds

***Ezekiel 8:6, 12, 15, 17 (KJV)***
*He said furthermore unto me, Son of man, seest thou what they do? even the great abominations that the house of Israel committeth here, that I should go far off from my sanctuary? but turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations. Then said he unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen what the ancients of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the chambers of his imagery? for they say, The LORD seeth us not; the LORD hath forsaken the earth. Then said he unto me, Hast thou seen this, O son of man? turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations than these. Then he said unto me, Hast thou seen this, O son of man? Is it a light thing to the house of Judah that they commit the abominations which they commit here? for they have filled the land with violence, and have returned to provoke me to anger: and, lo, they put the branch to their nose.*

***Ezekiel 34:2-4 (KJV)***
*2 Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto the shepherds; Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks? 3 Ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed: but ye feed not the flock. 4 The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them.*

In Ezekiel 8 the son of man is repeatedly asked, "Hast thou seen?" God showed him abominations hidden in the temple chambers. Leaders imagined that the LORD did not see. The vision uncovered secret idolatry beneath religious appearance.

Jesus likewise exposed inward corruption. He knew what was in man. He described religious leaders who appeared beautiful outwardly but were full of hypocrisy and iniquity within. He did not accept ceremony as a substitute for justice, mercy, faith, purity, and love for God.

***Matthew 23:25-28 (KJV)***
*25 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. 26 Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also. 27 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but*

*are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. 28 Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.*

***John 10:11-14 (KJV)***
*11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. 12 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. 13 The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.*

Ezekiel also denounced shepherds who fed themselves instead of the flock. They failed to strengthen the diseased, heal the sick, bind the broken, restore the wandering, or seek the lost. Jesus stood as their opposite. He called Himself the good shepherd and laid down His life for the sheep.

The contrast is exact and practical. False shepherds use people to preserve themselves; Christ gave Himself to save people. False shepherds neglect the weak; Christ sought the lost. False shepherds flee when danger comes; Christ faced the wolf, the cross, and death. He followed the shepherding charge not merely by instruction but by self-sacrifice.

# 9. Bearing Reproach, Sorrow, and Judgment

***Ezekiel 24:16-18 (KJV)***
*16 Son of man, behold, I take away from thee the desire of thine eyes with a stroke: yet neither shalt thou mourn nor weep, neither shall thy tears run down. 17 Forbear to cry, make no mourning for the dead, bind the tire of thine head upon thee, and put on thy shoes upon thy feet, and cover not thy lips, and eat not the bread of men. 18 So I spake unto the people in the morning: and at even my wife died; and I did in the morning as I was commanded.*

***Ezekiel 21:6-7 (KJV)***
*6 Sigh therefore, thou son of man, with the breaking of thy loins; and with bitterness sigh before their eyes. 7 And it shall be, when they say unto thee, Wherefore sighest thou? that thou shalt answer, For the tidings; because it cometh: and every heart shall melt, and all hands shall be feeble, and every spirit shall faint, and all knees shall be weak as water: behold, it cometh, and shall be brought to pass, saith the Lord GOD.*

Ezekiel's ministry entered his home and body. He sighed with bitterness, lay bound, ate restricted food, and lost "the desire" of his eyes. His grief became part of the sign to Israel. The messenger was not detached from the message of judgment.

Jesus entered sorrow more deeply. He was despised and rejected, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. He wept at Lazarus's tomb, felt compassion for scattered multitudes, groaned over hardness of heart, and agonized in Gethsemane. Yet He did not use suffering as an excuse for disobedience.

***Isaiah 53:3-5 (KJV)***
*3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. 4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.*

***Luke 22:41-44 (KJV)***
*41 And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, 42 Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done. 43 And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. 44 And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.*

At the cross, the Son of Man bore what Ezekiel could only announce symbolically. He was numbered with transgressors, mocked, wounded, and forsaken to death. His suffering was voluntary and redemptive. He “came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:28).

Ezekiel’s enacted sorrow demonstrated that judgment was real. Christ’s passion demonstrated both judgment and grace: sin is so serious that the Holy One suffered under its penalty, and love is so great that He willingly suffered for sinners.

# 10. Proclaiming Responsibility, Repentance, and Life

> ***Ezekiel 18:20-23 (KJV)***
> *20 The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him. 21 But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die. 22 All his transgressions that he hath committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him: in his righteousness that he hath done he shall live. 23 Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return from his ways, and live?*
>
> ***Ezekiel 18:30-32 (KJV)***
> *30 Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. 31 Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? 32 For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.*

Ezekiel was commanded to confront excuses. The people could not hide behind a proverb that blamed the fathers while ignoring their own sin. Each person stood morally accountable before God. Yet the purpose of warning was not to deny hope. God called them to turn and live.

Jesus called individuals to respond. He told Nicodemus, “Ye must be born again.” He told the woman taken in adultery, “go, and sin no more.” He told hearers that unless they repented they would perish. He promised that whoever heard His word and believed on the Father had everlasting life.

> ***John 5:24 (KJV)***
> *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.*
>
> ***John 8:24 (KJV)***
> *I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.*

Christ rejected both self-righteousness and fatalism. The self-righteous needed repentance because outward religion could not erase inward sin. The despairing were invited because the Son of Man came to seek and save the lost. Responsibility and grace meet in the command to believe.

The life offered by Jesus is more than extended earthly existence. It is reconciliation with God, release from condemnation, a new heart, the indwelling Spirit, and resurrection at the last day. Ezekiel proclaimed, “make you a new heart and a new spirit.” Christ secured the new covenant by His blood and sends the Holy Spirit.

# 11. Shepherd, Resurrection, and Restoration

> ***Ezekiel 34:11-16 (KJV)***
> *11 For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out. 12 As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day. 13 And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country. 14 I will feed them in a good pasture, and upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be: there shall they lie in a good fold, and in a fat pasture shall they feed upon the mountains of Israel. 15 I will feed my flock, and I will cause them to lie down, saith the Lord GOD. 16 I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick: but I will destroy the fat and the strong; I will feed them with judgment.*
>
> ***Ezekiel 37:3-6 (KJV)***
> *3 And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord GOD, thou knowest. 4 Again he said unto me, Prophesy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. 5 Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live: 6 And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.*

The later “son of man” commissions turn from exposure and judgment toward restoration. God promises to search for His sheep, gather them, feed them, bind the broken, and set one shepherd over them. In the valley of dry bones, the son of man is told to prophesy until bones live and breath enters them.

Jesus openly assumed these works. As the good shepherd He knows His sheep, calls them, gives them eternal life, and protects them. He sought Zacchaeus, restored Peter, welcomed repentant sinners, and gathered a people from Israel and the nations.

> ***John 10:27-28 (KJV)***
> *27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: 28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.*
>
> ***John 11:25-26 (KJV)***
> *25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: 26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?*

He also claimed authority over death. Before raising Lazarus, He said, “I am the resurrection, and the life.” His own resurrection then became the firstfruits and guarantee of the resurrection to come. The dry bones vision displays God’s power to restore a people beyond human hope; Christ’s empty tomb proves that death itself cannot defeat God’s promise.

The Son of Man therefore does more than speak to dead bones from a distance. His voice will call the dead from their graves. He gives spiritual life now to believers and bodily resurrection in the last day. What Ezekiel saw in vision, Christ grounds in His person and victory.

# 12. Temple, River, and the Return of Glory

***Ezekiel 40:4 (KJV)***
*And the man said unto me, Son of man, behold with thine eyes, and hear with thine ears, and set thine heart upon all that I shall shew thee; for to the intent that I might shew them unto thee art thou brought hither: declare all that thou seest to the house of Israel.*

***Ezekiel 43:7 (KJV)***
*And he said unto me, Son of man, the place of my throne, and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel for ever, and my holy name, shall the house of Israel no more defile, neither they, nor their kings, by their whoredom, nor by the carcases of their kings in their high places.*

In the final vision, the son of man must see, hear, set his heart, declare the pattern, and measure the house. The glory of the LORD returns. A river flows from the sanctuary, deepens as it goes, heals the waters, and brings life wherever it comes.

Jesus identified His own body as the true temple that would be destroyed and raised in three days. In Him God dwelt among humanity. His cleansing of the temple showed zeal for His Father's house, while His resurrection showed that access to God would center in His crucified and risen body.

***Ezekiel 47:6-9 (KJV)***
*6 And he said unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen this? Then he brought me, and caused me to return to the brink of the river. 7 Now when I had returned, behold, at the bank of the river were very many trees on the one side and on the other. 8 Then said he unto me, These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea: which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed. 9 And it shall come to pass, that every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither: for they shall be healed; and every thing shall live whither the river cometh.*

***John 2:19-21 (KJV)***
*19 Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. 20 Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? 21 But he spake of the temple of his body.*

***John 7:37-39 (KJV)***
*37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. 38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. 39 ( But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)*

Jesus also stood at the feast and invited the thirsty to come unto Him and drink. John explains that He spoke of the Spirit. The life-giving river of Ezekiel provides a powerful pattern: divine life flows from God's dwelling place, reaches what is barren, and produces abundant life.

In Christ, glory returns not merely to a building but to a people joined to Him by the Spirit. The final biblical vision carries Ezekiel's imagery forward: a river of water of life proceeds from the throne of God and of the Lamb, and the tree of life bears fruit for healing (Revelation 22:1-2).

# 13. The Perfect Obedience of Christ

When the ninety-four addresses to Ezekiel are read together, a unified portrait emerges. The son of man must stand before God, receive the word, go where he is sent, speak to rebels, refuse fear, bear rejection, warn the wicked, expose secret sin, act as a sign, lament judgment, confront nations, shepherd the flock, proclaim restoration, witness resurrection, and declare the holy dwelling of God. Ezekiel performed these duties faithfully but as a limited and suffering human servant.

Jesus fulfilled the pattern without defect. He heard the Father perfectly. He spoke the Father's words. He went to the lost sheep of Israel and extended salvation to the nations. He feared no ruler. He exposed

hypocrisy. He warned of judgment. He became the sign of death and resurrection. He bore sorrow, carried sin, defeated death, gathered sheep, poured out the Spirit, and opened the way into God's presence.

> ***Philippians 2:7-11 (KJV)***
> *7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

The downward path and upward exaltation of Christ explain the full force of His chosen title. The Son of Man came in humility, taking the form of a servant. He went lower still, becoming obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Then God highly exalted Him. The One rejected on earth is Lord over all.

> ***Luke 19:10 (KJV)***
> *For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*
>
> ***Mark 10:33-34 (KJV)***
> *33 Saying, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be delivered unto the chief priests, and unto the scribes; and they shall condemn him to death, and shall deliver him to the Gentiles: 34 And they shall mock him, and shall scourge him, and shall spit upon him, and shall kill him: and the third day he shall rise again.*
>
> ***Matthew 25:31-32 (KJV)***
> *31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:*

These texts hold together the three great movements of the title: mission, suffering, and glory. The Son of Man seeks the lost. The Son of Man is betrayed, condemned, mocked, killed, and raised. The Son of Man returns in glory and judges the nations. No part can be removed without weakening the biblical portrait.

**The central conclusion**

Ezekiel shows what a faithful human messenger must do under the word of God. Christ shows the perfect Messenger who is also the saving Message, the good Shepherd, the atoning Sacrifice, the risen Lord, and the coming King.

For the average reader, the application is direct. Hear Christ's warning. Receive His invitation. Do not hide behind outward religion or inherited excuses. Turn from sin, believe the gospel, and follow the Son of Man. The same Jesus who warned of judgment gave Himself for sinners and rose again. He is not merely an example to imitate; He is the Saviour to trust.

# Appendix: All 94 “Son of Man” Occurrences in Ezekiel

The following reference map includes every KJV verse in Ezekiel containing the expression “son of man.” The “Christ connection” is a concise thematic link, not a claim that every verse is a direct one-to-one prophecy. The full wording of each Ezekiel verse is provided.

**1. Ezekiel 2:1**

*And he said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee.*

**Christ connection:** Christ receives the Father’s word, goes to the resistant, and speaks without fear.

**2. Ezekiel 2:3**

*And he said unto me, Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against me: they and their fathers have transgressed against me, even unto this very day.*

**Christ connection:** Christ receives the Father’s word, goes to the resistant, and speaks without fear.

**3. Ezekiel 2:6**

*And thou, son of man, be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns be with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions: be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.*

**Christ connection:** Christ receives the Father’s word, goes to the resistant, and speaks without fear.

**4. Ezekiel 2:8**

*But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee.*

**Christ connection:** Christ receives the Father’s word, goes to the resistant, and speaks without fear.

**5. Ezekiel 3:1**

*Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel.*

**Christ connection:** Christ internalizes and speaks God’s word, serves as the faithful watchman, and endures restraint.

**6. Ezekiel 3:3**

*And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness.*

**Christ connection:** Christ internalizes and speaks God’s word, serves as the faithful watchman, and endures restraint.

**7. Ezekiel 3:4**

*And he said unto me, Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Israel, and speak with my words unto them.*

**Christ connection:** Christ internalizes and speaks God’s word, serves as the faithful watchman, and endures restraint.

**8. Ezekiel 3:10**

*Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, all my words that I shall speak unto thee receive in thine heart, and hear with thine ears.*

**Christ connection:** Christ internalizes and speaks God’s word, serves as the faithful watchman, and endures restraint.

**9. Ezekiel 3:17**

*Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.*

**Christ connection:** Christ internalizes and speaks God’s word, serves as the faithful watchman, and endures restraint.

**10. Ezekiel 3:25**

*But thou, O son of man, behold, they shall put bands upon thee, and shall bind thee with them, and thou shalt not go out among them:*

**Christ connection:** Christ internalizes and speaks God's word, serves as the faithful watchman, and endures restraint.

**11. Ezekiel 4:1**

*Thou also, son of man, take thee a tile, and lay it before thee, and pourtray upon it the city, even Jerusalem:*

**Christ connection:** Christ gives visible signs and warns Jerusalem of coming judgment and deprivation.

**12. Ezekiel 4:16**

*Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, behold, I will break the staff of bread in Jerusalem: and they shall eat bread by weight, and with care; and they shall drink water by measure, and with astonishment:*

**Christ connection:** Christ gives visible signs and warns Jerusalem of coming judgment and deprivation.

**13. Ezekiel 5:1**

*And thou, son of man, take thee a sharp knife, take thee a barber's razor, and cause it to pass upon thine head and upon thy beard: then take thee balances to weigh, and divide the hair.*

**Christ connection:** Christ announces judgment with holiness and distinguishes a faithful remnant.

**14. Ezekiel 6:2**

*Son of man, set thy face toward the mountains of Israel, and prophesy against them,*

**Christ connection:** Christ confronts idolatry and calls worshipers back to God.

**15. Ezekiel 7:2**

*Also, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD unto the land of Israel; An end, the end is come upon the four corners of the land.*

**Christ connection:** Christ declares that the appointed end and righteous judgment will come.

**16. Ezekiel 8:5**

*Then said he unto me, Son of man, lift up thine eyes now the way toward the north. So I lifted up mine eyes the way toward the north, and behold northward at the gate of the altar this image of jealousy in the entry.*

**Christ connection:** Christ sees hidden sin, exposes false worship, and cleanses the temple.

**17. Ezekiel 8:6**

*He said furthermore unto me, Son of man, seest thou what they do? even the great abominations that the house of Israel committeth here, that I should go far off from my sanctuary? but turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations.*

**Christ connection:** Christ sees hidden sin, exposes false worship, and cleanses the temple.

**18. Ezekiel 8:8**

*Then said he unto me, Son of man, dig now in the wall: and when I had digged in the wall, behold a door.*

**Christ connection:** Christ sees hidden sin, exposes false worship, and cleanses the temple.

**19. Ezekiel 8:12**

*Then said he unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen what the ancients of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the chambers of his imagery? for they say, The LORD seeth us not; the LORD hath forsaken the earth.*

**Christ connection:** Christ sees hidden sin, exposes false worship, and cleanses the temple.

**20. Ezekiel 8:15**

*Then said he unto me, Hast thou seen this, O son of man? turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations than these.*

**Christ connection:** Christ sees hidden sin, exposes false worship, and cleanses the temple.

**21. Ezekiel 8:17**

*Then he said unto me, Hast thou seen this, O son of man? Is it a light thing to the house of Judah that they commit the abominations which they commit here? for they have filled the land with violence, and have returned to provoke me to anger: and, lo, they put the branch to their nose.*

**Christ connection:** Christ sees hidden sin, exposes false worship, and cleanses the temple.

**22. Ezekiel 11:2**

*Then said he unto me, Son of man, these are the men that devise mischief, and give wicked counsel in this city:*

**Christ connection:** Christ discerns corrupt counsel, judges evil, and promises a new heart and Spirit.

**23. Ezekiel 11:4**

*Therefore prophesy against them, prophesy, O son of man.*

**Christ connection:** Christ discerns corrupt counsel, judges evil, and promises a new heart and Spirit.

**24. Ezekiel 11:15**

*Son of man, thy brethren, even thy brethren, the men of thy kindred, and all the house of Israel wholly, are they unto whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, Get you far from the LORD: unto us is this land given in possession.*

**Christ connection:** Christ discerns corrupt counsel, judges evil, and promises a new heart and Spirit.

**25. Ezekiel 12:2**

*Son of man, thou dwellest in the midst of a rebellious house, which have eyes to see, and see not; they have ears to hear, and hear not: for they are a rebellious house.*

**Christ connection:** Christ becomes the decisive sign, exposes spiritual blindness, and foretells judgment.

**26. Ezekiel 12:3**

*Therefore, thou son of man, prepare thee stuff for removing, and remove by day in their sight; and thou shalt remove from thy place to another place in their sight: it may be they will consider, though they be a rebellious house.*

**Christ connection:** Christ becomes the decisive sign, exposes spiritual blindness, and foretells judgment.

**27. Ezekiel 12:9**

*Son of man, hath not the house of Israel, the rebellious house, said unto thee, What doest thou?*

**Christ connection:** Christ becomes the decisive sign, exposes spiritual blindness, and foretells judgment.

**28. Ezekiel 12:18**

*Son of man, eat thy bread with quaking, and drink thy water with trembling and with carefulness;*

**Christ connection:** Christ becomes the decisive sign, exposes spiritual blindness, and foretells judgment.

**29. Ezekiel 12:22**

*Son of man, what is that proverb that ye have in the land of Israel, saying, The days are prolonged, and every vision faileth?*

**Christ connection:** Christ becomes the decisive sign, exposes spiritual blindness, and foretells judgment.

**30. Ezekiel 12:27**

*Son of man, behold, they of the house of Israel say, The vision that he seeth is for many days to come, and he prophesieth of the times that are far off.*

**Christ connection:** Christ becomes the decisive sign, exposes spiritual blindness, and foretells judgment.

**31. Ezekiel 13:2**

*Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel that prophesy, and say thou unto them that prophesy out of their own hearts, Hear ye the word of the LORD;*

**Christ connection:** Christ opposes false prophets, deceptive peace, and religious fraud.

**32. Ezekiel 13:17**

*Likewise, thou son of man, set thy face against the daughters of thy people, which prophesy out of their own heart; and prophesy thou against them,*

**Christ connection:** Christ opposes false prophets, deceptive peace, and religious fraud.

**33. Ezekiel 14:3**

*Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their heart, and put the stumblingblock of their iniquity before their face: should I be enquired of at all by them?*

**Christ connection:** Christ answers hypocritical inquirers and exposes cherished idols of the heart.

**34. Ezekiel 14:13**

*Son of man, when the land sinneth against me by trespassing grievously, then will I stretch out mine hand upon it, and will break the staff of the bread thereof, and will send famine upon it, and will cut off man and beast from it:*

**Christ connection:** Christ answers hypocritical inquirers and exposes cherished idols of the heart.

**35. Ezekiel 15:2**

*Son of man, What is the vine tree more than any tree, or than a branch which is among the trees of the forest?*

**Christ connection:** Christ teaches that fruitlessness leads to judgment and that life must abide in Him.

**36. Ezekiel 16:2**

*Son of man, cause Jerusalem to know her abominations,*

**Christ connection:** Christ exposes covenant unfaithfulness while extending covenant mercy.

**37. Ezekiel 17:2**

*Son of man, put forth a riddle, and speak a parable unto the house of Israel;*

**Christ connection:** Christ teaches in parables, explains divine purposes, and embodies the righteous Branch.

**38. Ezekiel 19:10**

*Thy mother is like a vine in thy blood, planted by the waters: she was fruitful and full of branches by reason of many waters.*

**Christ connection:** Christ fulfills the role of God's obedient messenger and righteous judge.

**39. Ezekiel 20:3**

*Son of man, speak unto the elders of Israel, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Are ye come to enquire of me? As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I will not be enquired of by you.*

**Christ connection:** Christ recounts rebellion, calls for repentance, and reveals God's holy name.

**40. Ezekiel 20:4**

*Wilt thou judge them, son of man, wilt thou judge them? cause them to know the abominations of their fathers:*

**Christ connection:** Christ recounts rebellion, calls for repentance, and reveals God's holy name.

**41. Ezekiel 20:27**

*Therefore, son of man, speak unto the house of Israel, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Yet in this your fathers have blasphemed me, in that they have committed a trespass against me.*

**Christ connection:** Christ recounts rebellion, calls for repentance, and reveals God's holy name.

**42. Ezekiel 20:46**

*Son of man, set thy face toward the south, and drop thy word toward the south, and prophesy against the forest of the south field;*

**Christ connection:** Christ recounts rebellion, calls for repentance, and reveals God's holy name.

**43. Ezekiel 21:2**

*Son of man, set thy face toward Jerusalem, and drop thy word toward the holy places, and prophesy against the land of Israel,*

**Christ connection:** Christ announces the sword of judgment and sorrows over the consequences of sin.

### 44. Ezekiel 21:6

*Sigh therefore, thou son of man, with the breaking of thy loins; and with bitterness sigh before their eyes.*

**Christ connection:** Christ announces the sword of judgment and sorrows over the consequences of sin.

### 45. Ezekiel 21:9

*Son of man, prophesy, and say, Thus saith the LORD; Say, A sword, a sword is sharpened, and also furbished:*

**Christ connection:** Christ announces the sword of judgment and sorrows over the consequences of sin.

### 46. Ezekiel 21:12

*Cry and howl, son of man: for it shall be upon my people, it shall be upon all the princes of Israel: terrors by reason of the sword shall be upon my people: smite therefore upon thy thigh.*

**Christ connection:** Christ announces the sword of judgment and sorrows over the consequences of sin.

### 47. Ezekiel 21:14

*Thou therefore, son of man, prophesy, and smite thine hands together, and let the sword be doubled the third time, the sword of the slain: it is the sword of the great men that are slain, which entereth into their privy chambers.*

**Christ connection:** Christ announces the sword of judgment and sorrows over the consequences of sin.

### 48. Ezekiel 21:19

*Also, thou son of man, appoint thee two ways, that the sword of the king of Babylon may come: both twain shall come forth out of one land: and choose thou a place, choose it at the head of the way to the city.*

**Christ connection:** Christ announces the sword of judgment and sorrows over the consequences of sin.

### 49. Ezekiel 21:28

*And thou, son of man, prophesy and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD concerning the Ammonites, and concerning their reproach; even say thou, The sword, the sword is drawn: for the slaughter it is furbished, to consume because of the glittering:*

**Christ connection:** Christ announces the sword of judgment and sorrows over the consequences of sin.

### 50. Ezekiel 22:2

*Now, thou son of man, wilt thou judge, wilt thou judge the bloody city? yea, thou shalt shew her all her abominations.*

**Christ connection:** Christ exposes bloodshed, corruption, and failed leadership, seeking righteousness.

### 51. Ezekiel 22:18

*Son of man, the house of Israel is to me become dross: all they are brass, and tin, and iron, and lead, in the midst of the furnace; they are even the dross of silver.*

**Christ connection:** Christ exposes bloodshed, corruption, and failed leadership, seeking righteousness.

### 52. Ezekiel 22:24

*Son of man, say unto her, Thou art the land that is not cleansed, nor rained upon in the day of indignation.*

**Christ connection:** Christ exposes bloodshed, corruption, and failed leadership, seeking righteousness.

### 53. Ezekiel 23:2

*Son of man, there were two women, the daughters of one mother:*

**Christ connection:** Christ uncovers spiritual adultery and the ruin produced by unfaithfulness.

### 54. Ezekiel 23:36

*The LORD said moreover unto me; Son of man, wilt thou judge Aholah and Aholibah? yea, declare unto them their abominations;*

**Christ connection:** Christ uncovers spiritual adultery and the ruin produced by unfaithfulness.

**55. Ezekiel 24:2**

*Son of man, write thee the name of the day, even of this same day: the king of Babylon set himself against Jerusalem this same day.*

**Christ connection:** Christ makes judgment plain and bears profound personal sorrow as a sign.

**56. Ezekiel 24:16**

*Son of man, behold, I take away from thee the desire of thine eyes with a stroke: yet neither shalt thou mourn nor weep, neither shall thy tears run down.*

**Christ connection:** Christ makes judgment plain and bears profound personal sorrow as a sign.

**57. Ezekiel 24:25**

*Also, thou son of man, shall it not be in the day when I take from them their strength, the joy of their glory, the desire of their eyes, and that whereupon they set their minds, their sons and their daughters,*

**Christ connection:** Christ makes judgment plain and bears profound personal sorrow as a sign.

**58. Ezekiel 25:2**

*Son of man, set thy face against the Ammonites, and prophesy against them;*

**Christ connection:** Christ judges nations that rejoice at the suffering of God's people.

**59. Ezekiel 26:2**

*Son of man, because that Tyrus hath said against Jerusalem, Aha, she is broken that was the gates of the people: she is turned unto me: I shall be replenished, now she is laid waste:*

**Christ connection:** Christ announces the fall of proud commercial power and worldly security.

**60. Ezekiel 27:2**

*Now, thou son of man, take up a lamentation for Tyrus;*

**Christ connection:** Christ exposes the fragility of wealth, trade, and human glory.

**61. Ezekiel 28:2**

*Son of man, say unto the prince of Tyrus, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thine heart is lifted up, and thou hast said, I am a God, I sit in the seat of God, in the midst of the seas; yet thou art a man, and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God:*

**Christ connection:** Christ judges proud rulers and promises holiness and secure dwelling to His people.

**62. Ezekiel 28:12**

*Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.*

**Christ connection:** Christ judges proud rulers and promises holiness and secure dwelling to His people.

**63. Ezekiel 28:21**

*Son of man, set thy face against Zidon, and prophesy against it,*

**Christ connection:** Christ judges proud rulers and promises holiness and secure dwelling to His people.

**64. Ezekiel 29:2**

*Son of man, set thy face against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and prophesy against him, and against all Egypt:*

**Christ connection:** Christ confronts imperial pride and rules over the rise and fall of kingdoms.

**65. Ezekiel 29:18**

*Son of man, Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon caused his army to serve a great service against Tyrus: every head was made bald, and every shoulder was peeled: yet had he no wages, nor his army, for Tyrus, for the service that he had served against it:*

**Christ connection:** Christ confronts imperial pride and rules over the rise and fall of kingdoms.

**66. Ezekiel 30:2**

*Son of man, prophesy and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Howl ye, Woe worth the day!*

**Christ connection:** Christ declares the day of the LORD against worldly power.

**67. Ezekiel 30:21**

*Son of man, I have broken the arm of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and, lo, it shall not be bound up to be healed, to put a roller to bind it, to make it strong to hold the sword.*

**Christ connection:** Christ declares the day of the LORD against worldly power.

**68. Ezekiel 31:2**

*Son of man, speak unto Pharaoh king of Egypt, and to his multitude; Whom art thou like in thy greatness?*

**Christ connection:** Christ warns that greatness and beauty cannot save the proud from judgment.

**69. Ezekiel 32:2**

*Son of man, take up a lamentation for Pharaoh king of Egypt, and say unto him, Thou art like a young lion of the nations, and thou art as a whale in the seas: and thou camest forth with thy rivers, and troubledst the waters with thy feet, and fouledst their rivers.*

**Christ connection:** Christ laments fallen rulers and reveals the final humiliation of violent nations.

**70. Ezekiel 32:18**

*Son of man, wail for the multitude of Egypt, and cast them down, even her, and the daughters of the famous nations, unto the nether parts of the earth, with them that go down into the pit.*

**Christ connection:** Christ laments fallen rulers and reveals the final humiliation of violent nations.

**71. Ezekiel 33:2**

*Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man of their coasts, and set him for their watchman:*

**Christ connection:** Christ is the faithful watchman who calls sinners to turn and exposes empty hearing.

**72. Ezekiel 33:7**

*So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me.*

**Christ connection:** Christ is the faithful watchman who calls sinners to turn and exposes empty hearing.

**73. Ezekiel 33:10**

*Therefore, O thou son of man, speak unto the house of Israel; Thus ye speak, saying, If our transgressions and our sins be upon us, and we pine away in them, how should we then live?*

**Christ connection:** Christ is the faithful watchman who calls sinners to turn and exposes empty hearing.

**74. Ezekiel 33:12**

*Therefore, thou son of man, say unto the children of thy people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him in the day of his transgression: as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall thereby in the day that he turneth from his wickedness; neither shall the righteous be able to live for his righteousness in the day that he sinneth.*

**Christ connection:** Christ is the faithful watchman who calls sinners to turn and exposes empty hearing.

**75. Ezekiel 33:24**

*Son of man, they that inhabit those wastes of the land of Israel speak, saying, Abraham was one, and he inherited the land: but we are many; the land is given us for inheritance.*

**Christ connection:** Christ is the faithful watchman who calls sinners to turn and exposes empty hearing.

**76. Ezekiel 33:30**

*Also, thou son of man, the children of thy people still are talking against thee by the walls and in the doors of the houses, and speak one to another, every one to his brother, saying, Come, I pray you, and hear what is the word that cometh forth from the LORD.*

**Christ connection:** Christ is the faithful watchman who calls sinners to turn and exposes empty hearing.

**77. Ezekiel 34:2**

*Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto the shepherds; Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks?*

**Christ connection:** Christ condemns false shepherds and is Himself the good Shepherd and Davidic King.

### 78. Ezekiel 35:2

*Son of man, set thy face against mount Seir, and prophesy against it,*

**Christ connection:** Christ judges perpetual hatred against God's people.

### 79. Ezekiel 36:1

*Also, thou son of man, prophesy unto the mountains of Israel, and say, Ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the LORD:*

**Christ connection:** Christ vindicates God's holy name and gives cleansing, a new heart, and a new spirit.

### 80. Ezekiel 36:17

*Son of man, when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own way and by their doings: their way was before me as the uncleanness of a removed woman.*

**Christ connection:** Christ vindicates God's holy name and gives cleansing, a new heart, and a new spirit.

### 81. Ezekiel 37:3

*And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord GOD, thou knowest.*

**Christ connection:** Christ speaks life to the dead, unites His people, and reigns as the one Shepherd.

### 82. Ezekiel 37:9

*Then said he unto me, Prophesy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.*

**Christ connection:** Christ speaks life to the dead, unites His people, and reigns as the one Shepherd.

### 83. Ezekiel 37:11

*Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts.*

**Christ connection:** Christ speaks life to the dead, unites His people, and reigns as the one Shepherd.

### 84. Ezekiel 37:16

*Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions:*

**Christ connection:** Christ speaks life to the dead, unites His people, and reigns as the one Shepherd.

### 85. Ezekiel 38:2

*Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him,*

**Christ connection:** Christ reveals and defeats the final hostile assault against God's people.

### 86. Ezekiel 38:14

*Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord GOD; In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know it?*

**Christ connection:** Christ reveals and defeats the final hostile assault against God's people.

### 87. Ezekiel 39:1

*Therefore, thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:*

**Christ connection:** Christ overthrows Gog and displays God's holiness before the nations.

### 88. Ezekiel 39:17

*And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood.*

**Christ connection:** Christ overthrows Gog and displays God's holiness before the nations.

### 89. Ezekiel 40:4

*And the man said unto me, Son of man, behold with thine eyes, and hear with thine ears, and set thine heart upon all that I shall shew thee; for to the intent that I might shew them unto thee art thou brought hither: declare all that thou seest to the house of Israel.*

**Christ connection:** Christ perfectly sees, hears, and declares the pattern of God's dwelling.

### 90. Ezekiel 43:7

*And he said unto me, Son of man, the place of my throne, and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel for ever, and my holy name, shall the house of Israel no more defile, neither they, nor their kings, by their whoredom, nor by the carcases of their kings in their high places.*

**Christ connection:** Christ brings the glory of God, reveals the true temple, and provides atoning blood.

### 91. Ezekiel 43:10

*Thou son of man, shew the house to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities: and let them measure the pattern.*

**Christ connection:** Christ brings the glory of God, reveals the true temple, and provides atoning blood.

### 92. Ezekiel 43:18

*And he said unto me, Son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; These are the ordinances of the altar in the day when they shall make it, to offer burnt offerings thereon, and to sprinkle blood thereon.*

**Christ connection:** Christ brings the glory of God, reveals the true temple, and provides atoning blood.

### 93. Ezekiel 44:5

*And the LORD said unto me, Son of man, mark well, and behold with thine eyes, and hear with thine ears all that I say unto thee concerning all the ordinances of the house of the LORD, and all the laws thereof; and mark well the entering in of the house, with every going forth of the sanctuary.*

**Christ connection:** Christ honors the holiness and ordered worship of God's house.

### 94. Ezekiel 47:6

*And he said unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen this? Then he brought me, and caused me to return to the brink of the river.*

**Christ connection:** Christ gives the Spirit as living water that brings healing and life.

# Summary of the Major Patterns

| Ezekiel's Commission | Christ's Greater Fulfillment | Representative KJV References |
|---|---|---|
| Stand and hear God | Perfect fellowship and obedience to the Father | Ezekiel 2:1-2; John 8:28-29 |
| Speak to the rebellious | Preached truth to His own despite rejection | Ezekiel 2:3-7; John 1:11 |
| Eat and receive the word | Lived by every word and is the Word made flesh | Ezekiel 3:1-3; Matthew 4:4; John 1:14 |
| Serve as watchman | Warned of judgment and offered salvation | Ezekiel 3:17; Mark 1:15 |
| Become a sign | Death and resurrection became the supreme sign | Ezekiel 12:11; Matthew 12:40 |
| Expose hidden abominations | Revealed inward hypocrisy and cleansed the temple | Ezekiel 8:12; Matthew 23:27 |
| Condemn false shepherds | Gave His life as the good Shepherd | Ezekiel 34:2; John 10:11 |
| Prophesy to dry bones | Gives spiritual life and bodily resurrection | Ezekiel 37:4-6; John 11:25 |
| Declare the holy temple | Is the true temple raised from death | Ezekiel 40:4; John 2:19-21 |
| See the river of life | Pours out the Holy Ghost as living water | Ezekiel 47:6-9; John 7:37-39 |

# Text and Source Note

Scripture quotations throughout this document are from the King James Version (KJV). The KJV biblical text used for verse extraction was checked programmatically against the public-domain KJV data package. The book of Ezekiel and the full King James Bible are also available as public-domain texts from Project Gutenberg. Interpretive explanations are original narrative synthesis.

- Project Gutenberg, The Bible, King James Version, Book 26: Ezekiel, eBook No. 8026.
- Project Gutenberg, The King James Version of the Bible, eBook No. 10.
- Bible Gateway, King James Version passages in Ezekiel and the Gospels.