

May 11, 1997
1st-6th Grades

Ezekiel Chapters 40-48
3EZE34

Accept God's Word, Don't Resist Him

Ezekiel



Materials I Need:

****Please note that lesson plans will now include options in the each section, for grades 1-6, so that you may teach to the different skill levels of your group of Bible students.**

Memory Work: 1st - 2nd : Ezekiel 18:32
3rd - 6th : Ezekiel 18:30-32

Prophet: Ezekiel
People: Exiles in Babylon
Prophecy: God's Glory Won't Mix With Your Sin
Principle: Accept God's Word, Don't Resist Him

Aim Questions:

1. Did some or all of Ezekiel's prophecies come true? What if they hadn't? (*Yes. Ezekiel wouldn't have been a true prophet.*)
2. At the end of Ezekiel's vision, water begins to flow, what happens and what does it represent?
3. How does the book of Ezekiel end? (*This book ends with a glimpse into the future of Israel*)
4. If I were to see the things that Ezekiel saw, how would my attitude toward God change?
5. What does it mean in my daily life that His glory and my sin will not mix? How should you be preparing to meet the Lord of Glory?



Hook:



REVIEW. Games/Relays. Use the Temple of Doom board game, the Pit Game, and any relays you've used during the book of Ezekiel.



RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT. Object Lesson. Bring in a dishpan with sand in the bottom. Put Ezekiel the Lego man in it. Begin pouring a small stream of water from a gallon container and slowly work up to filling the dishpan. **Debrief:**



FIND THE TRUE PROPHET. Game. A true prophet of God predicts the future without ever making an error. The following game will show students how impossible it would be for a prophet to keep this standard without God's help. Instructions: Before each roll of the dice, have kids predict which number will come up. Eliminate kids that are wrong after each roll. All kids will be eliminated after a few rolls.



MEASURE UP. Bring in measuring tapes, yardsticks, etc. Ask students to measure the classroom. Or, measure a model of a building such as Legos, 3-D puzzles, etc.



THE END. Hold up a book. Ask students if they have ever skipped to the back of a book to see how a story ends. Be honest! In this last section of Ezekiel, God takes Ezekiel in a vision to the end of the nation of Israel's "story". Even though the story continues to unfold today, Ezekiel has told us how it's going to end. Do you think God's people "live happily ever after"?



Book:

Presentation Ideas -



EZEKIEL. Role-play/Narration. Have "Ezekiel" tell the story today. He can be writing on a scroll as he begins to impart the conclusion to the book of Ezekiel.

Bible Adventure -

Do you ever wonder about the future? What will it be like? How will the world change? How will God show Himself to the world? There are people who claim that they can see into the future. The Bible tells us that anyone who makes this claim, and yet is not 100% accurate in all they predict, is a false prophet. Ezekiel was not a false prophet. Already in his book we have seen that he was shown the future, and then it came to pass. He told of the destruction of Jerusalem, and it was destroyed. He talked about how King Zedekiah would attempt to escape and fail (Ezekiel 12:12-14). What Ezekiel said exactly happened. Why? Because God was the one who showed and told him what to say.

In Ezekiel Chapter 37, God and Ezekiel viewed a valley of dried bones. Ezekiel watched as the bones came together, and as life came back into them. God showed Ezekiel this to teach him and the exiles about His future plans for the nation of Israel. God is planning to restore them. That means He is going to bring the Jewish people back together as a nation. They will live on the land that was promised to Abraham by God hundreds of years ago. That has not yet happened, though it may be close. In your life time, you may see the fulfillment of some of Ezekiel's prophecy. Do you know what to look for? Here is a simple chart to help you know what we believe the Bible teaches about these times:

We are living in the time of the Church. Right now, God is calling men to Himself through Jesus Christ. The Church is God's plan to do that. At the second coming of Christ, Jesus will take control of this earth, and set up His kingdom for 1,000 years. During that 1,000 years, there will be a new temple built. The nation of Israel will come back to the land of Palestine, and they will be blessed more than all other nations.

Now think for a minute. In our study of Ezekiel, we have summarized his prophecy with this phrase, "God's Glory won't mix with your sin." What has been happening with the glory of God throughout this book? Do you remember? In chapter one, Ezekiel witnessed God's Glory, and was so impressed that he fell on his face in worship and fear. In chapter 10, Ezekiel witnessed God's Glory leaving the temple in Jerusalem and heading East. Remember? God's Glory and Israel's sin could never mix. God was punishing Israel for their sinful rebellion. His Glory left, and they were sent as slaves to Babylon. The holiness of God will never mix with our sin. God is more than a man. His character and nature is so pure that our flaws and rebellion cannot even stand in His presence except for the blood of Jesus who took the punishment that we deserved.

The book of Ezekiel ends with a glimpse into the future of Israel. God's Glory will return. Take a glance at the chart above. When Jesus sets up His kingdom for 1,000 years here on earth, God's Glory will return. Where? When? How? Many of these questions are answered in Ezekiel chapters 40 through 48. A new temple will be built in those days. God took Ezekiel into the future to see this temple and all that was going on in it. Ezekiel 40:1-4 tells us that God brought Ezekiel to a mountain in the land of Israel, probably Mount Zion in Jerusalem. A man who looked like bronze began to measure out this future temple before Ezekiel's eyes. (See Fig.1) The description of this new temple goes from Ezekiel 40:5 clear up to Ezekiel 43:1. Then, it happens. From the East, God's Glory comes back. It returns the same way it left in Ezekiel chapter 10. With Jesus as their king, Israel will no longer rebel against God. They will be ready for His Glory to return to live among them. Listen to these words from God, "Son of man, this is the place of my throne and the place for the soles of my feet. This is where I will live among the Israelites forever. The house of Israel will never again defile my holy name - neither they nor their kings." (Ezekiel. 43:7&8) Some day in our future, God will bring all of the Jews back to live in Palestine. Christ will return and set up His kingdom on this earth for 1,000 years. All of the nations of the earth will come to this temple to worship God.

In Ezekiel 45, God tells Ezekiel how He will portion out the land to all the tribes of Israel. Apparently there will still be offerings at this temple, but they cannot be offerings that replace the offering of Jesus on the cross. They will be offerings to remember what great things God has done just as we celebrate communion to remember Jesus going to the cross in our place. Since Jesus will be there to rule over

this millennial kingdom, the sacrifices will be made to help the people remember the greatest sacrifice made by the Lamb of God. Priests only from the family of Zadok will be allowed to offer up these sacrifices for the people. (Ezekiel 44:15) Zadok was appointed chief priest when Solomon was king and the priests in his line stayed faithful to God all through the years. Because of this God will restore them to their position of honor and allow only the those priests to enter the sanctuary and minister there.

At the end of Ezekiel's vision, he is taken to the entrance of the temple where water is beginning to flow. As Ezekiel walks through the water it grows into a river. It is a very special river because it gives new life to the land much like the rivers that sprang from the garden of Eden back in Genesis. This river has so much life in it that it actually transforms the Dead Sea into a sea full of fish.

God had shown Ezekiel a great glimpse into Israel's future. Even though the exiles were undergoing punishment for their sin, they could turn to God for hope. He is true to all of His promises to the children of Israel. Ezekiel wrote this down for them and for us. We can know that God is not finished. The end of Ezekiel's book gives a name to this new city that Ezekiel had seen. It is "The Lord Is There." God will live with His people. He is true to His word.

What does all of this mean to you? We have seen in all of the prophets that God punishes our sin and that He cannot tolerate our rebellion. It is good to recheck your understanding of God. Does God, in your mind, have all of these wonderful characteristics? Is His Glory something to be feared and honored? It is easy for people to think of God in ways that do not reflect His true character. Often we think that God exists only to serve us--that His love for us means that He is anxious to do whatever we think we need done. That is not God. Certainly not the God that Ezekiel saw. Think about the following questions as we review what Ezekiel the prophet has shown us:

1. If I were to see the things that Ezekiel saw, how would my attitude toward God change?
2. What does it mean in my daily life that His glory and my sin will not mix?
3. How should you be preparing to meet the Lord of Glory?



Look:



MEMORY PAGES. Illustration/Craft. The book of Ezekiel is represented on this page with pictures. In your groups re-discover what each picture represents. Teachers, here is your challenge: do you remember what each picture represents? To also be used for the following craft. **3EZE34.GF4**



GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE. Craft/Visual. You will need 1 empty 1/2 gallon carton of milk or juice, glue, and crayons or colored pencils. Precut the carton down one seam. Cover the carton with construction paper. Have the students color the bronze man a golden color and cut out. The cloud representing God's Glory can be cut out and outlined in gold or silver glitter. Cut out the temple. Glue each of these items in the appropriate places noted on the sheet. **3EZE34.GF5** Cut and glue memory picture items to the construction paper on the outside. **3EZE34.GF4** This project provides a visual overview of Ezekiel - a diorama of sorts!



DRAW THE PLAN. Drawing. Ezekiel described the temple in great detail - measurements and all. Just for fun, give students a blank piece of paper and have them attempt to draw the altar from the description given in Ezekiel 43:13-17. Tell them the measurements are not critical.



TEMPLE TALK. Discussion. Compare diagrams of the temple Ezekiel saw in his first vision and the millennial temple. Though they are very similar, what are the differences? There are some other differences that diagrams can't show. See Ezekiel 40:46 (the sons of Zadok are the only Levites who may minister before the LORD), Ezekiel 43:7 (the LORD will be present forever and the house of Israel will be faithful), Ezekiel 44:1,2 (the east gate will remain shut), and Ezekiel 45:17 (the prince will provide the offerings).



RIVER OF LIFE. Color page/Craft. Pre-slit a 2 inch line in the river where students will place the Ezekiel figure. Have students color the picture and the figure of Ezekiel. Glue the picture (around the edges only) to a plain sheet of paper. Cut out the Ezekiel figure and put him in the water by placing him in the slit. Water appears deeper as Ezekiel gets lower. **3EZE34.GF1**

- HOW LONG?.** Worksheet. Measure all the sides of the shape. Add all measurements together to find out how many years the millennial kingdom will last. **Option 1: 3EZE34.GF2**
Option 2: 3EZE34.GF3
 - A GOOD SIZED NAME.** Worksheet. Decode the new name for the city where God's temple is.
Option 1: 3EZE34.GF6 Option 2: 3EZE34.GF7
 - TIMELINE.** Worksheet. Put the cutouts in the proper place on the timeline. **3EZE34.GF8**
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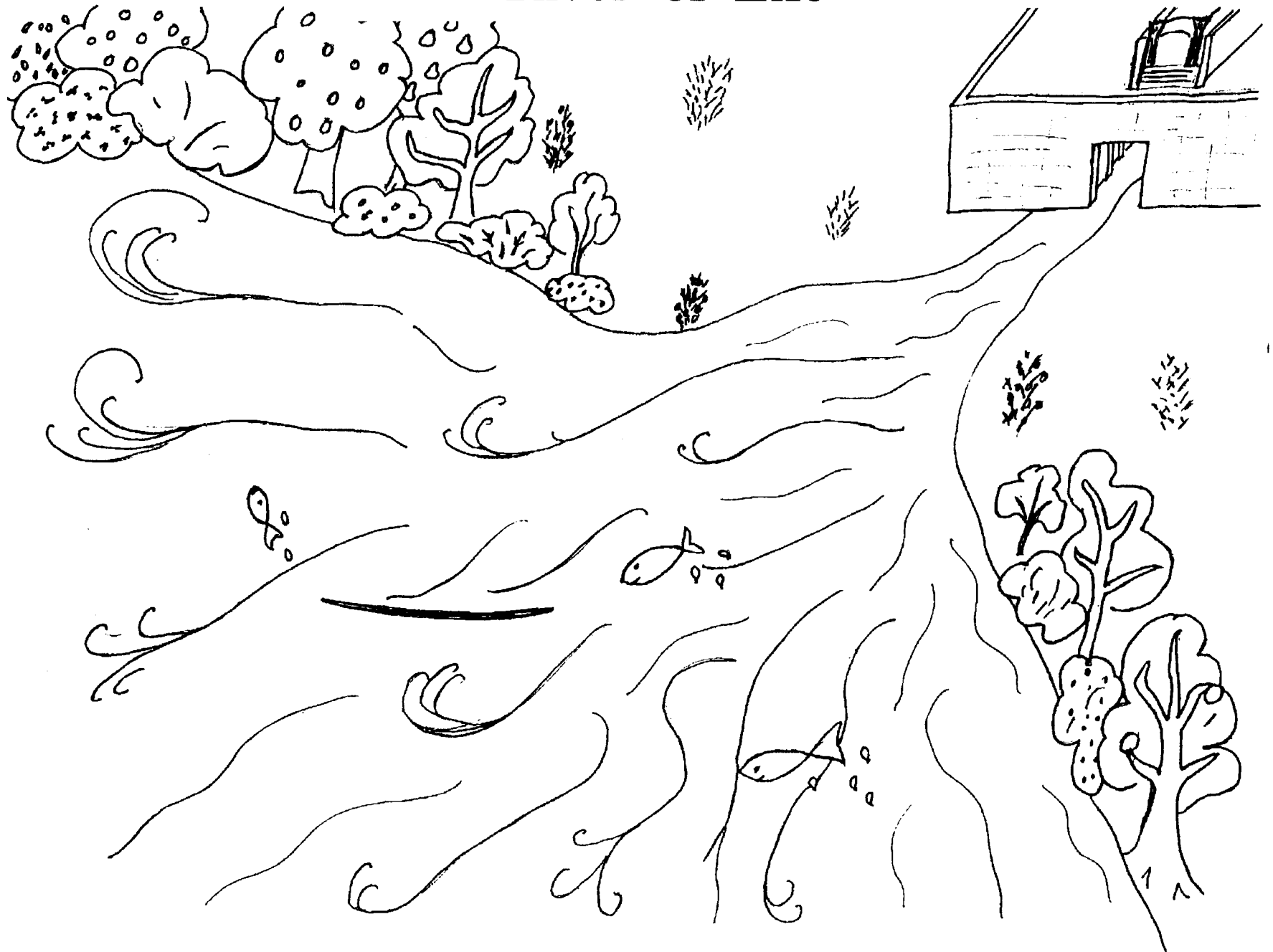
Took:

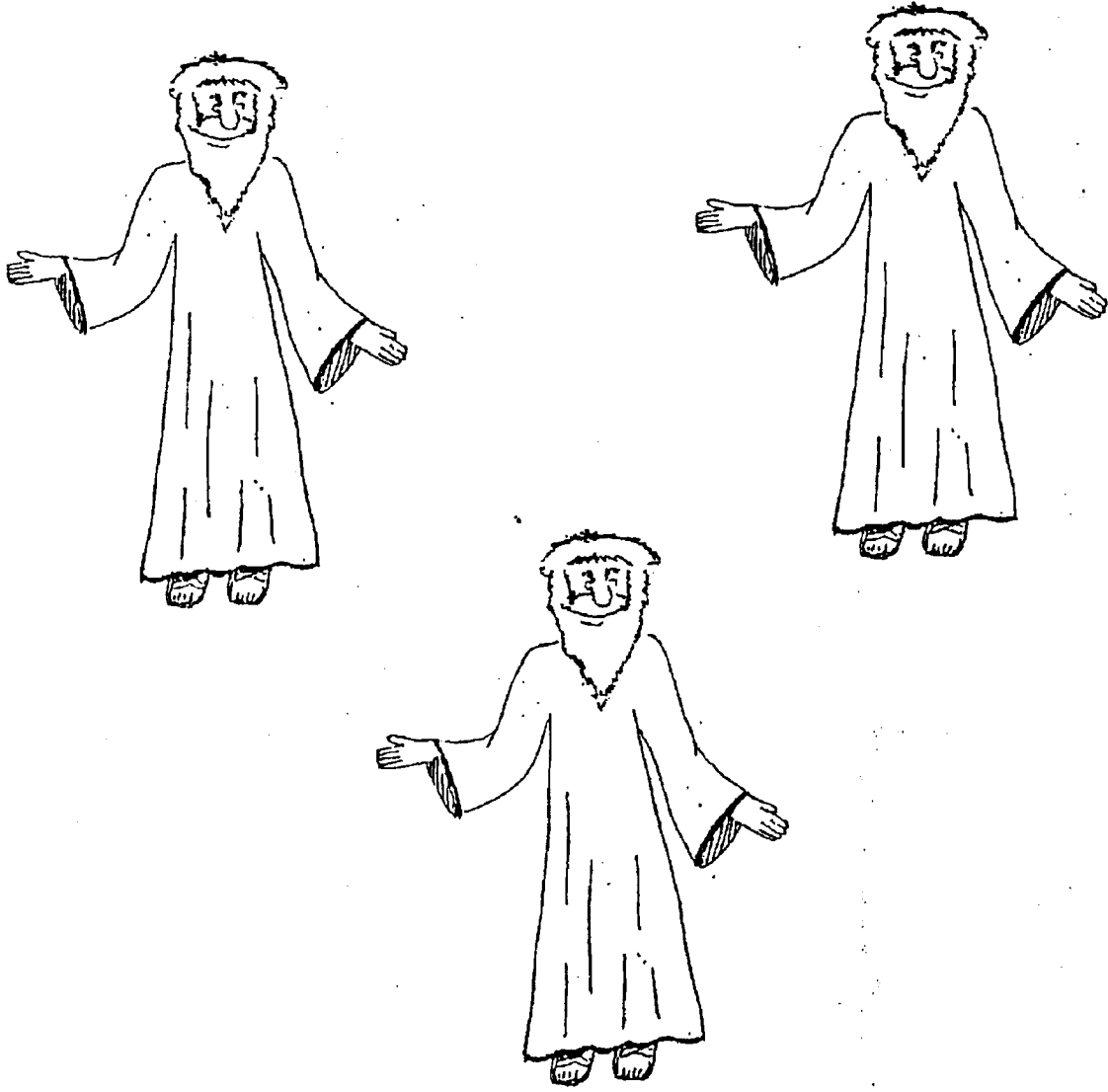
- JUMPIN' 4 P'S.** This is the continued jump rope ditty to help the Bible students remember the Old Testament Prophets. Practice saying this ditty to the rhythm of the rope hitting the ground. This can be fun!

The Prophet's name's Ezekiel
 The People--Exiles in Babylon
 The Prophecy---God's Glory Won't Mix
 With your Sin
 The Principle---Accept God's Word
 Don't re-sist Him.
 These are the 4 P's
 Got 'em from Ezekiel
 Now it's time to jump out!

- READ IT.** Discussion. Read Ezekiel 45. How will the land of Israel be portioned out to the tribes of Israel? What were the offerings for? Which family are the priests from that are allowed to offer sacrifices. Will Jesus be there?
- EAT IT.** Snack. God's Glory and our sin won't mix. Discuss this as you eat layered Jell-O. Prepare a dark color of Jell-O in a pan. When set, add lemon Jell-O on top. Include fruit or whipped topping in either layer.
- SING IT.** Songs. Sing "Dem Bones, Dem Bones, Dem Dry Bones." **3EZE33.GF** Sing "River of Life."
- WHY?** Discussion. **Why** did God send prophets to His people with messages about what would happen in the future? (*So that when these things happened, the people would know that He caused them, and they would know the reason.*) **Why** do you think God revealed the end of the story and made it available to us today?
- THE CUBIT WALK.** Game/Review. Have Bible students stand side by side in a row. Read the review questions and have them answer the "**Yes**" questions (in **BOLD**) by raising their hands. For each correct answer, students can move forward one "cubit" (or step). Winners are the ones who cross over the "finish" line first. Treat them with a reward for their outstanding knowledge of the book of Ezekiel! **3EZE34.GF9**
- WORSHIP BOOKLET.** Devotional. **Option 1:** This concludes our last week of the "Daily Walks"; continue to reinforce the importance of "eating" God's Word on a daily basis. Explain the practices for the week with the half-sheet symbols in display. **3EZE34.GF10**
Half-sheet symbols. **3EZE34.GF10.1-9**

River of Life

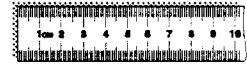




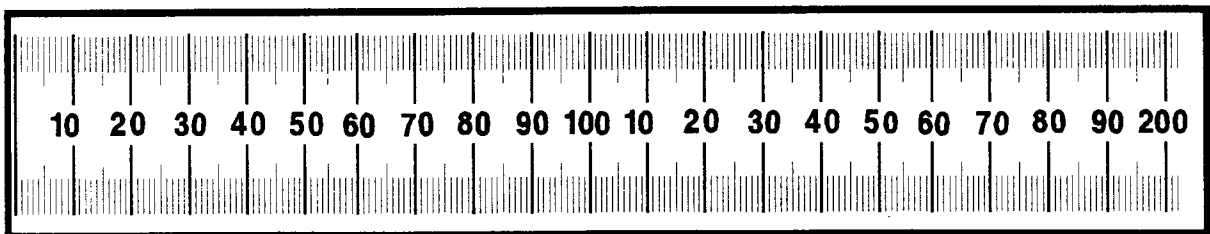
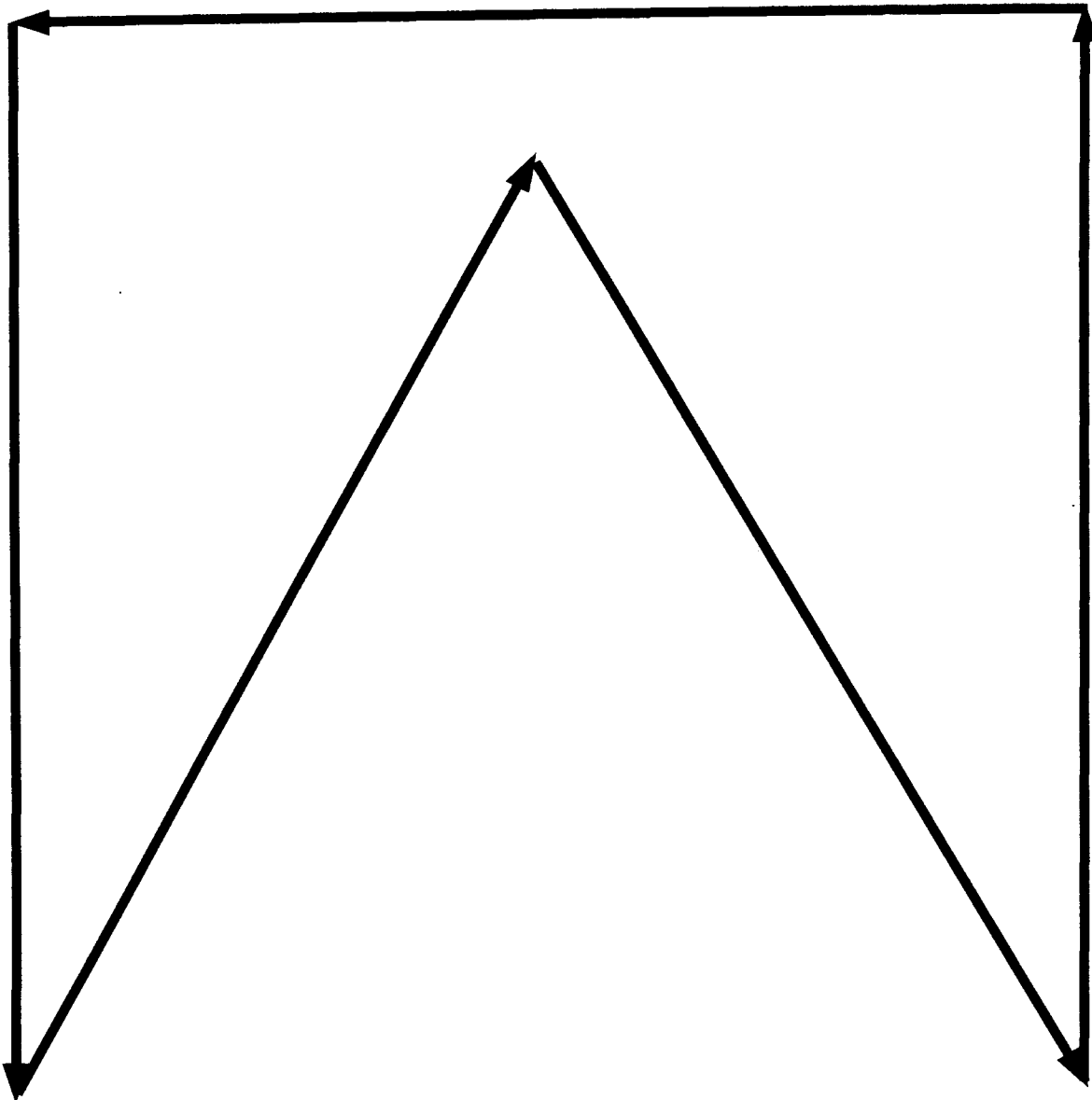
3EZE34.GF1



How Long?



Cut the "ruler" from the bottom of this page. Measure all sides of the shape. Add your numbers together to find how long Christ will rule as King over the earth.

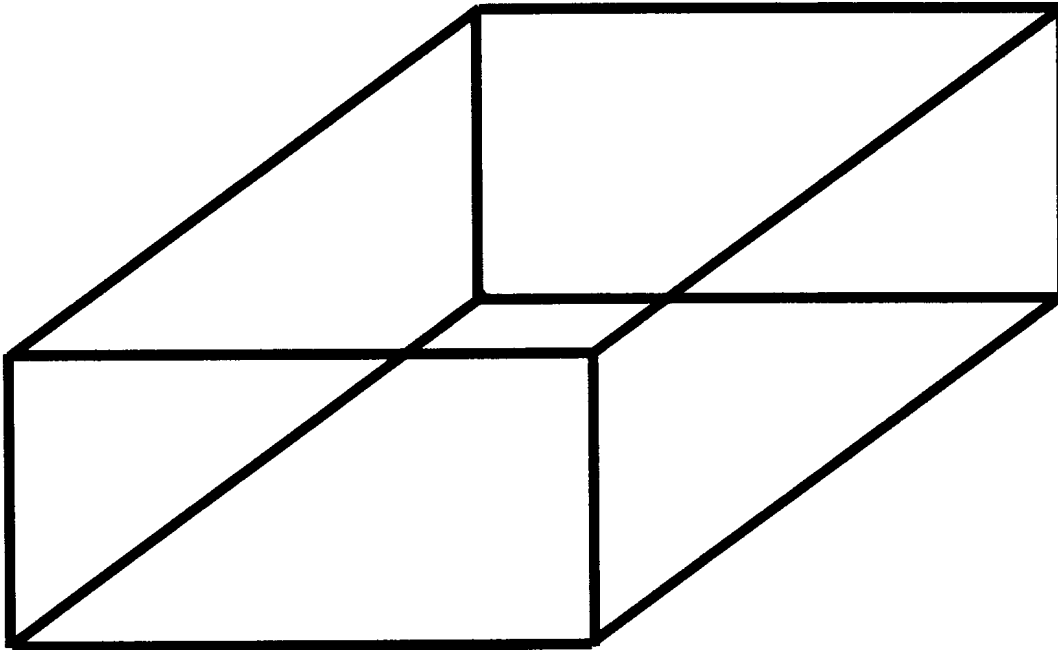




How Long?

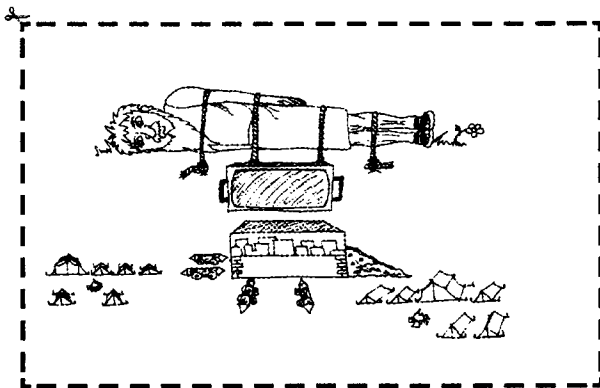
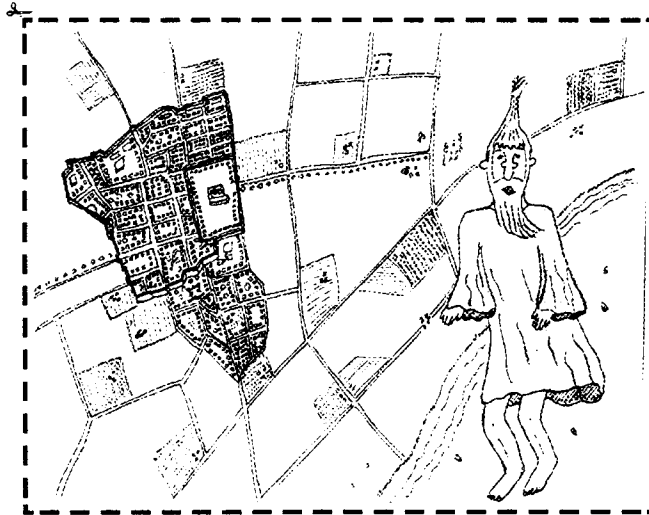
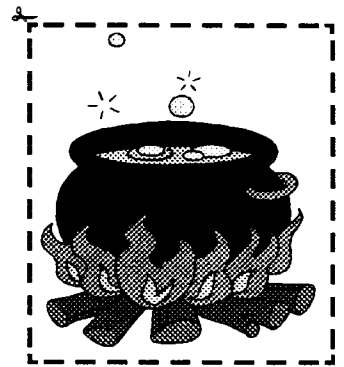
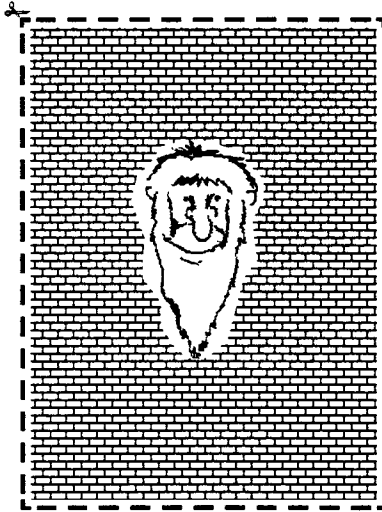
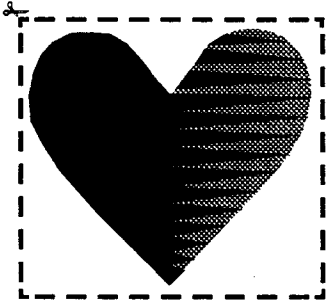


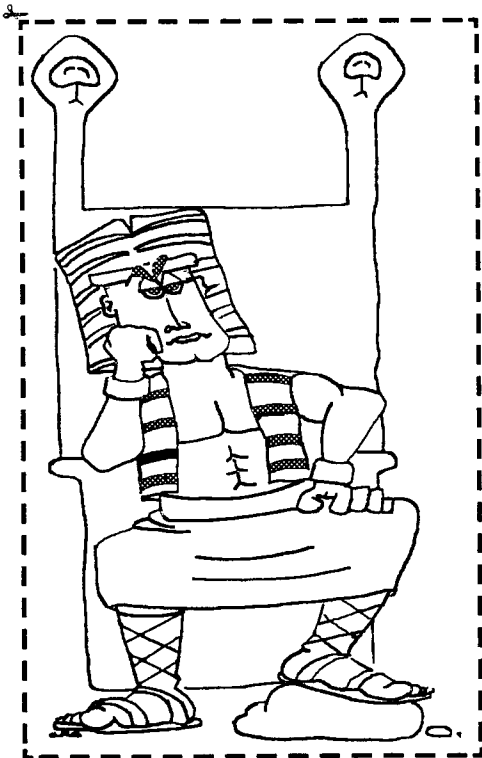
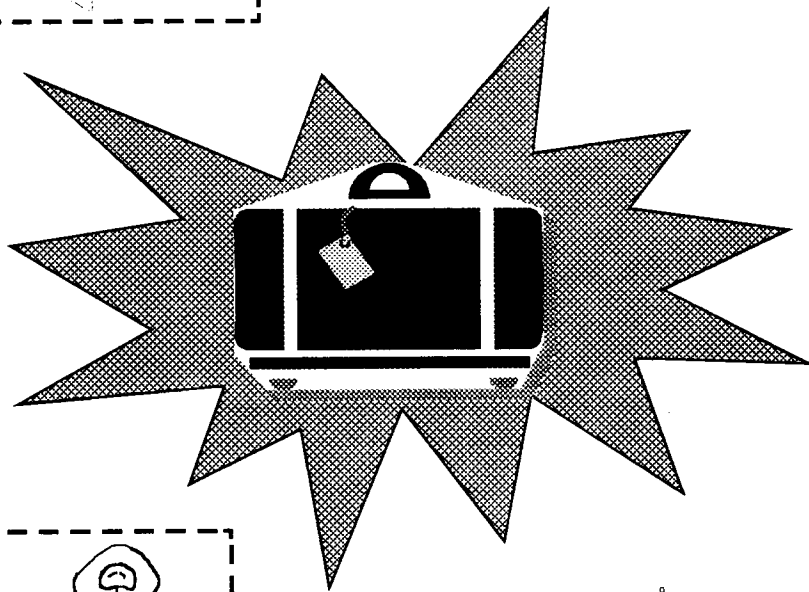
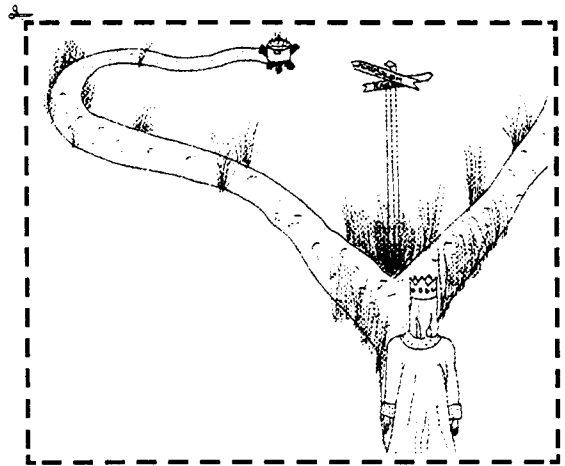
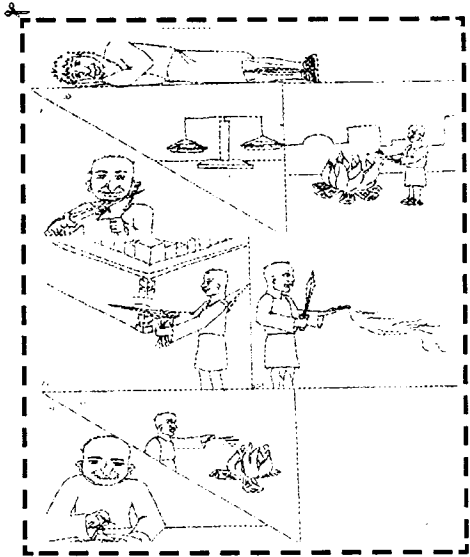
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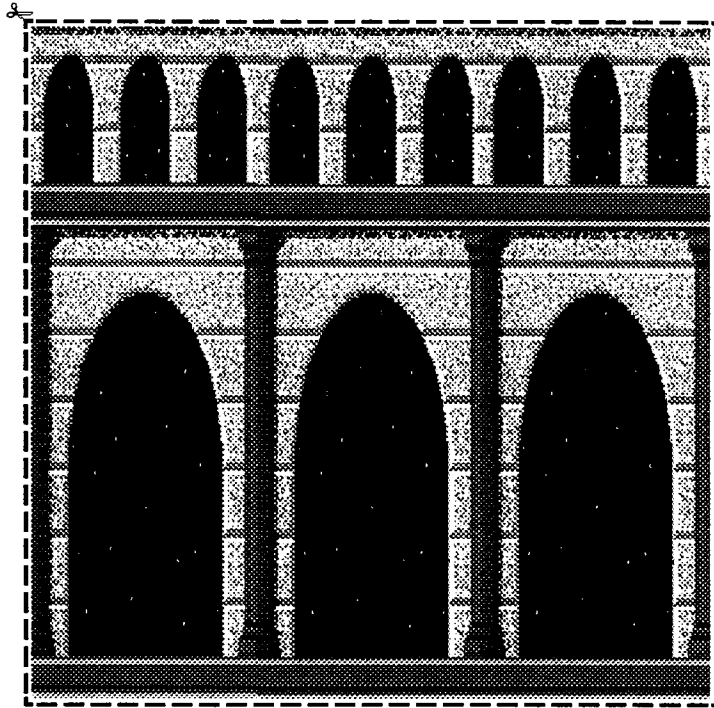
Memory Page

Do you remember what each picture represents?





GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE

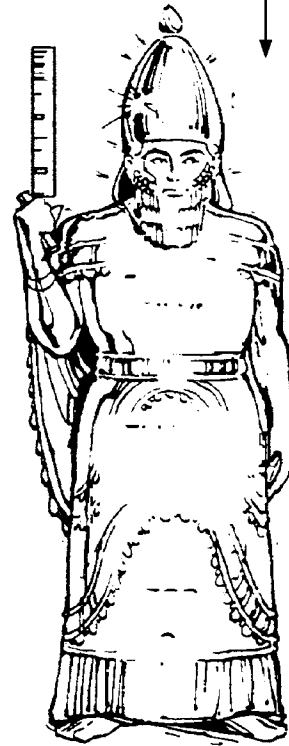


←
Temple: Place on
bottom of milk carton.

↓
Bronze man with
measuring stick:
Place on left-hand
side of milk carton.



↑
God's Glory: Place on
right-hand side of milk
carton



3EZE34.GF5

A GOOD-SIZED NAME

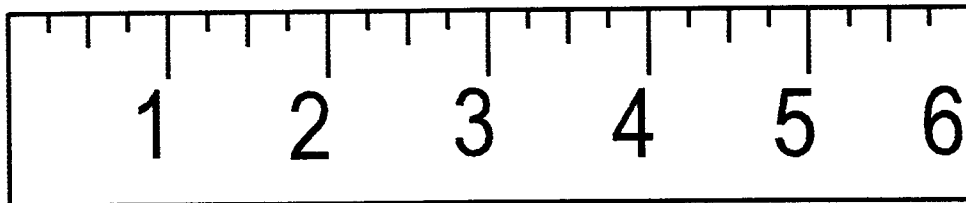
Find out the new name for the city where the temple is. Using the ruler from the bottom of the page measure each line. Write the corresponding word on each line that matches its length.

2 inches = IS

3 inches = THE

4 inches = LORD

5 inches = THERE



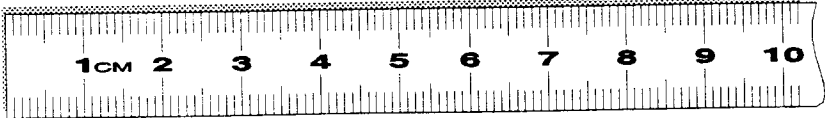
Cut this ruler out to measure each line.

A GOOD- SIZED NAME

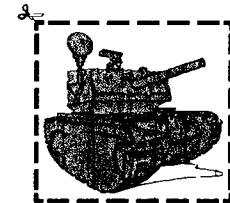
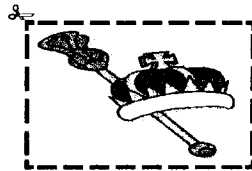
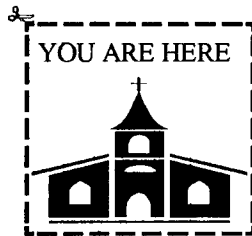
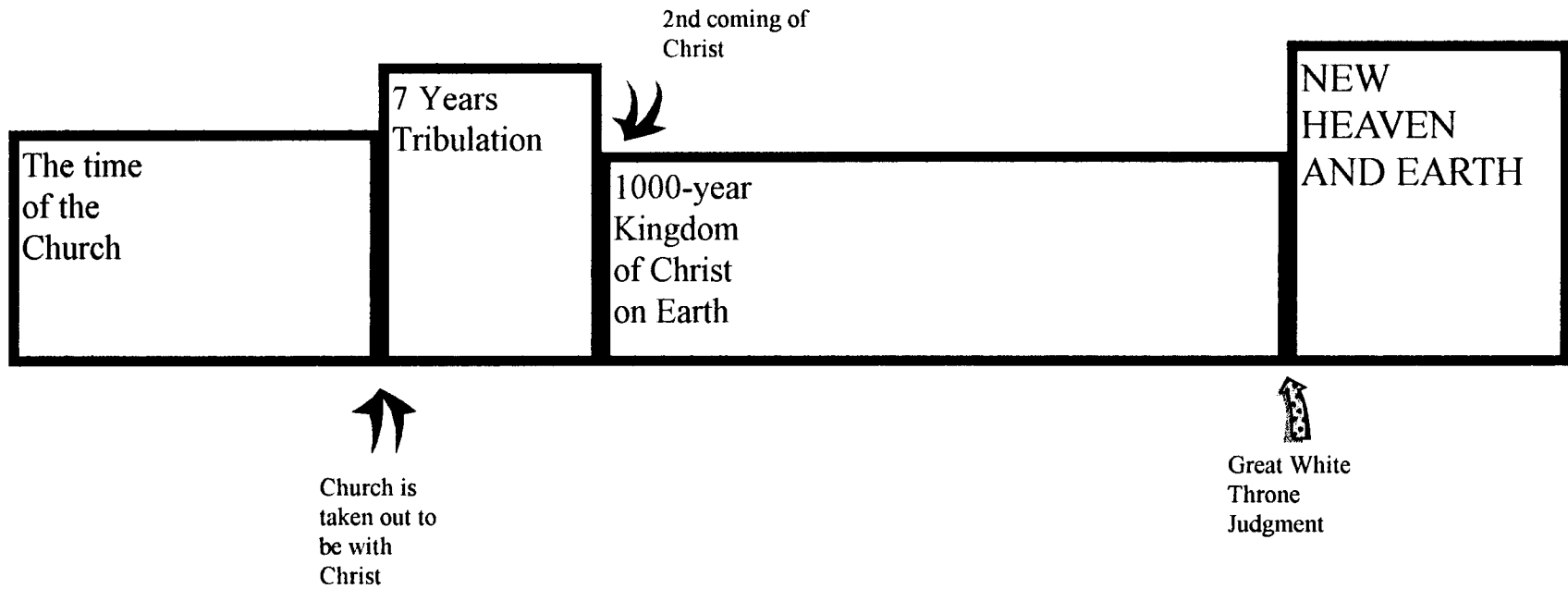
De-code the new name for the city where the temple is. Use the ruler on the bottom of the page. Measure each horizontal line and fill in the corresponding letter.

1cm = D 2cm = E 3cm = H 4cm = I 5cm = L 6 cm = O
7cm = R 8cm = S 9cm = T

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TIME-LINE Cut out the pictures below and glue them in place to complete the timeline.



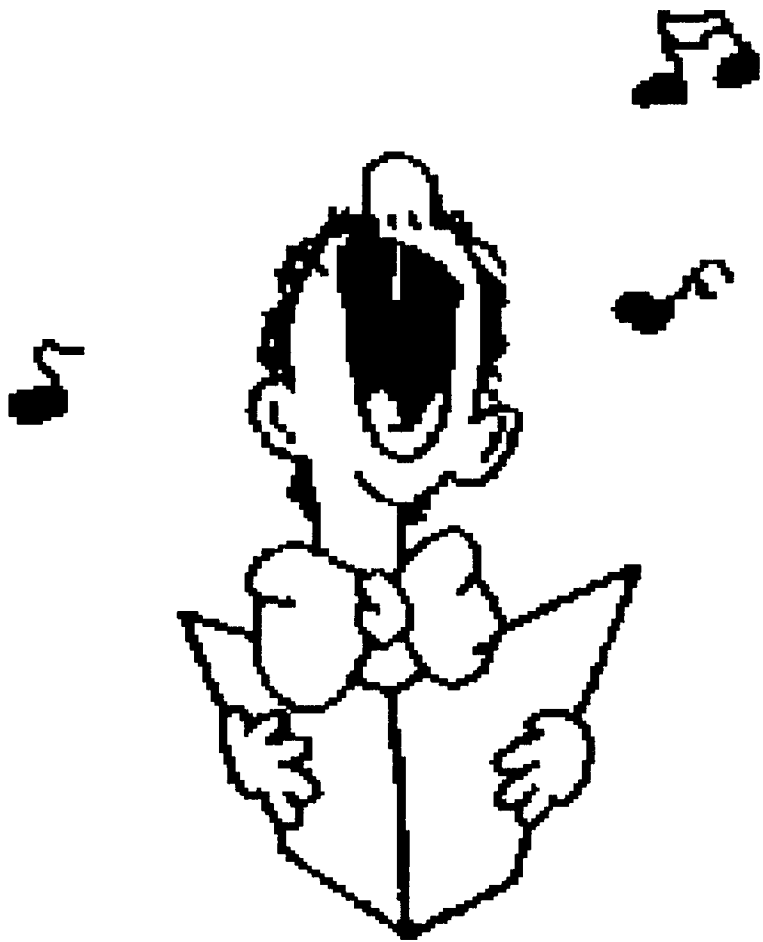
The Cubit Walk

Ezekiel Review Questions

Have Bible students stand side by side in a row. Read the review questions and have them answer the “**Yes**” questions (in **BOLD**) by raising their hands. For each correct answer students may move forward one “cubit” (or step). Winners are the ones who cross over the “finish” line first. Treat them to a reward for their knowledge of the book of Ezekiel!

1. Does God’s Glory mix with our sin?
2. **Did Ezekiel eat a scroll?**
3. Did Ezekiel prophesy to the people in Jerusalem?
4. **Did Jeremiah live at the same time?**
5. Was Hezekiah the king at this time?
6. **Did the people in exile plan to go home right away?**
7. In Ezekiel’s first vision, was God seated on a mountain?
8. **Did the scroll taste like honey?**
9. Did God tell Ezekiel to lay tied up on his back?
10. **Did God tell Ezekiel to cut off all his hair?**
11. Did God tell Ezekiel to burn half of it?
12. Did the hair in the fold of his garment represent people who would be lost?
13. **Did the people like to hear Ezekiel’s prophecies?**
14. Did the people obey what God told them to do?
15. Did God tell the people what would happen so they could try to escape?
16. Did God take Ezekiel by the hand to the Temple in Jerusalem?
17. **Was there an idol of Jealousy in the Temple?**
18. Did Ezekiel see Tammuz through a hole in the wall?
19. Were the women crying because their husbands were worshipping the sun?
20. Did the angels kill the people in Jerusalem who were sorry for their sin?
21. When Ezekiel went out through a hole in the wall, was he captured by Babylonians?
22. **Were the false prophets like a rotten wall with fresh white paint?**
23. Does God punish people for the sins of their parents?
24. Did Ezekiel cry when his wife died?
25. **Did God make the king of Babylon decide to go to Jerusalem?**
26. Was God happy to see His people suffering?
27. Did the king of Tyre think he was a prophet?
28. **Were the people of Tyre glad to see Jerusalem’s suffering?**
29. Did God bless the city of Tyre because it was wealthy and beautiful?
30. **Will God restore His people just like the dry bones that came to life?**
31. Did Ezekiel call himself the Good Shepherd?
32. **Does God want His people to know that He is the LORD?**





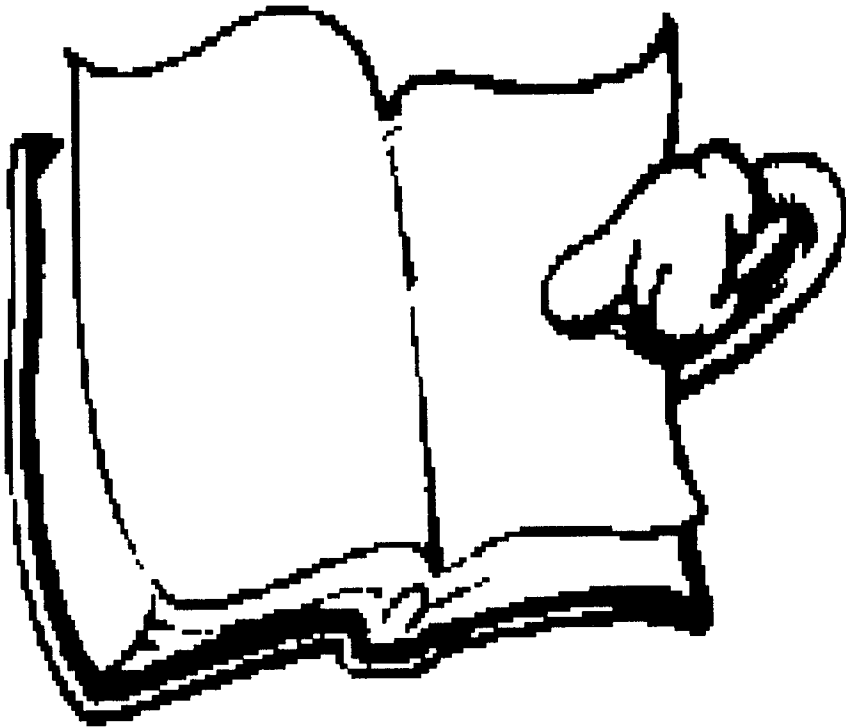
PRAISE

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PRAYER

3EZE34.GF10.2



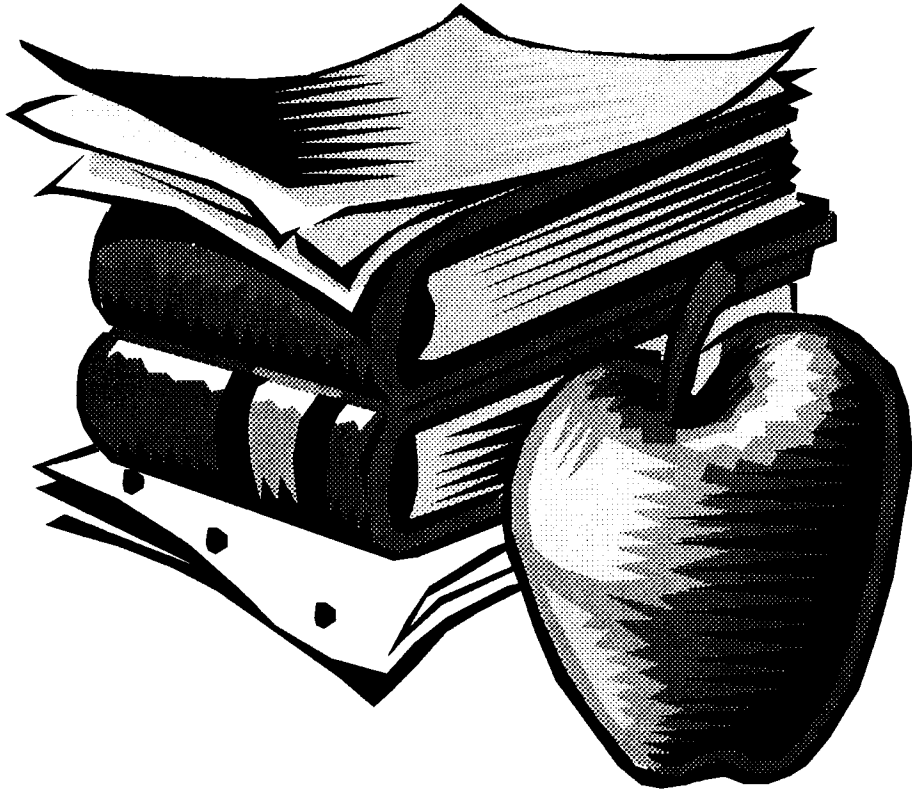
PASSAGE

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My Attitude

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My Homework

3EZE34.GF10.5



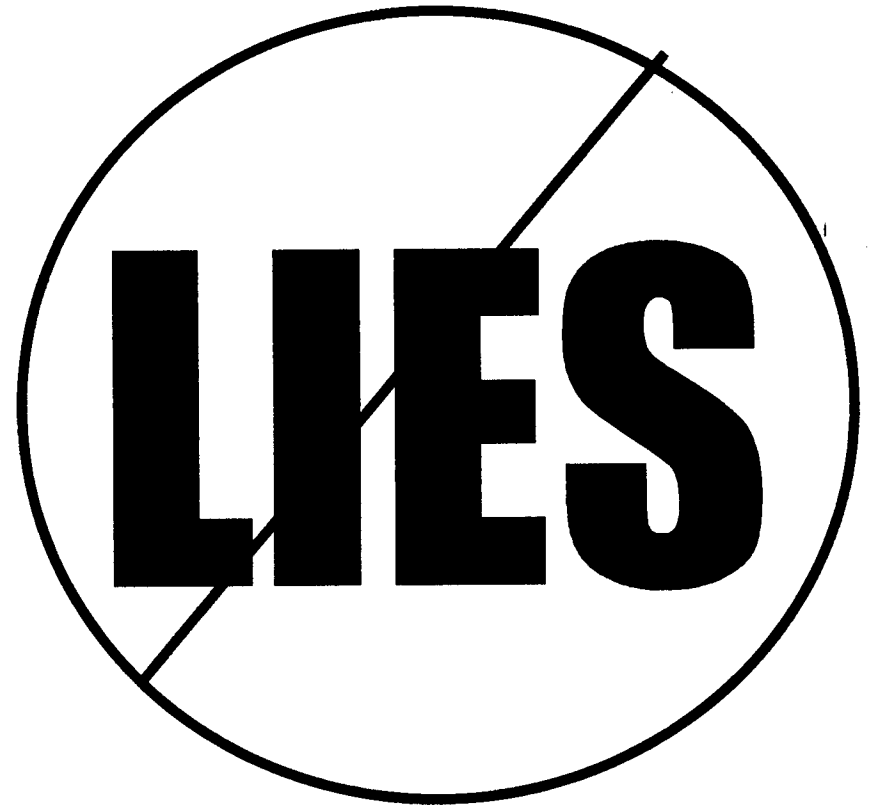
My Chores

3EZE34.GF10'6

*Thank
You*

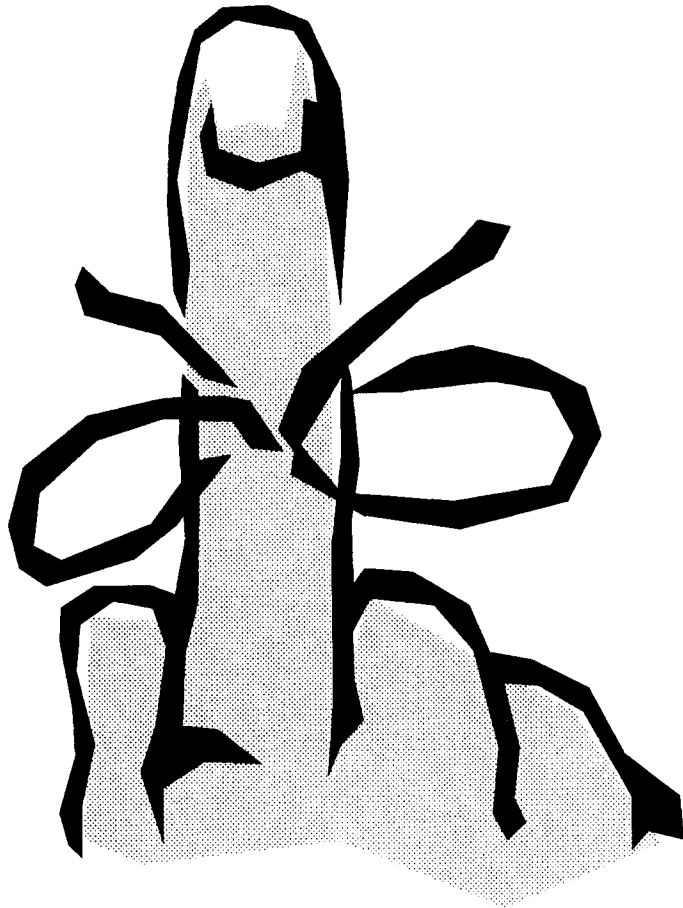
Thankfulness

3EZE34.GF10.7



Tell the Truth

3EZE34.GF10.8



***Remember God. What
has He done for you?***