

Redeemer C.S.I. Church Kansas Bible study

Ezekiel Chapter 36 on 02/20/2025 (7 P.m. to 8 P.m.) Rev. SureshKumar Nelson

Ezekiel 36 highlights key Hebrew words and their meanings

Ezekiel 36:1 “And you, son of man, prophesy to the mountains of Israel and say, ‘O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord.’”

- **Son of man** (בֶּן-אָדָם, ben-adam) – A term used by God for Ezekiel, emphasizing his humanity in contrast to God’s divinity.
- **Prophecy** (הִנְבִּיאָה, hinnāvē’) – A divine command to speak God’s message.
- **Mountains of Israel** (הַרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, harei Yisrael) – A metaphor for the land, representing the people and nation.

Ezekiel 36:2 “Thus says the Lord God: Because the enemy has said of you, ‘Aha! The ancient heights have become our possession,’”

- **Enemy** (אֹיֵב, oyev) – Refers to surrounding nations (like Edom and Babylon) who took advantage of Israel’s downfall.
- **Ancient heights** (בְּמוֹת עוֹלָם, bamot olam) – High places of worship, either for God or pagan deities, also symbolizing Israel’s spiritual heritage.

Ezekiel 36:5 “Surely in the fire of My jealousy I have spoken against the rest of the nations and against all Edom, who gave My land to themselves as a possession with wholehearted joy and scorn of soul, to drive it out for plunder.”

- **Fire of My jealousy** (אֵשׁ קִנְיָתִי, esh qin’āti) – A metaphor for God’s intense passion and protective love.
- **Edom** (אֶדוֹם, Edom) – A nation descending from Esau, often hostile to Israel.
- **Scorn of soul** (שְׂאֵט נַפְשׁ, sha’at nefesh) – Deep contempt, treating Israel with disdain.

Ezekiel 36:8 “But you, O mountains of Israel, you shall shoot forth your branches and yield your fruit to My people Israel, for they are about to come.”

- **Shoot forth** (תִּתְנַחֵם, tittenah) – A verb implying active renewal and growth.

- **Yield your fruit** (פְּרִיְכֶם תִּשְׂאוּ, piryekhem tissā'ū) – Symbolizing agricultural and spiritual restoration.

Ezekiel 36:11 “I will multiply upon you man and beast; and they shall increase and bear young; I will make you inhabited as in former times and do better for you than at your beginnings. Then you shall know that I am the Lord.”

- **Multiply** (הִרְבֵּיתִי, hirbēti) – A sign of divine blessing and reversal of exile.
- **Know that I am the Lord** (וַיַּדְעֶתֶם כִּי-אֲנִי יְהוָה, viyadatem ki-ani YHWH) – A key phrase in Ezekiel, emphasizing God’s self-revelation through acts of restoration and judgment.

Ezekiel 36:16-17 “Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying: ‘Son of man, when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own ways and deeds; to Me their way was like the uncleanness of a woman in her customary impurity.’”

- **Defiled** (טִמְּאוּ, timmū) – Impurity, both moral and ceremonial, caused by Israel’s sins.
- **Uncleanness** (טִמְּאַה, tum’ah) – Used metaphorically for spiritual impurity, often linked to idolatry and injustice.

Ezekiel 36:22-23 “Thus says the Lord God: ‘I do not do this for your sake, O house of Israel, but for My holy name’s sake, which you have profaned among the nations where you went. And I will sanctify My great name...’”

- **For My holy name’s sake** (לְמַעַן שֵׁם-קֹדְשִׁי, lema’an shem-qodshī) – God’s motivation is His reputation, not Israel’s merit.
- **Profaned** (חִלַּלְתֶּם, chilaltém) – To desecrate or dishonor, referring to Israel’s actions misrepresenting God to the nations.

Ezekiel 36:25 “Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.”

- **Sprinkle** (וַזְרַקְתִּי, vezaraqti) – A reference to ritual purification, foreshadowing spiritual renewal.
- **Clean** (טָהוֹר, tahor) – Spiritual purity, contrasting with earlier defilement.

- **Idols** (גִּלּוּלִים, gillulim) – Literally “dung objects,” a derogatory term for false gods.

Ezekiel 36:26 “I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.”

- **New heart** (לֵב חֲדָשׁ, lēv chādāsh) – A transformed inner being, symbolizing spiritual renewal.
- **Heart of stone** (לֵב הַאֲבֶן, lēv ha’even) – A hardened, rebellious heart.
- **Heart of flesh** (לֵב בָּשָׂר, lēv bāsār) – A responsive, obedient heart.

Ezekiel 36:27 “I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.”

- **My Spirit** (רוּחִי, rūchī) – Refers to the Holy Spirit, signifying divine empowerment.
- **Walk in My statutes** (בְּחֻקַי תֵּלְכּוּ, bechukkai telechu) – Obedience enabled by God’s transformative work.

Ezekiel 36:33-35 “Thus says the Lord God: ‘On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will also enable you to dwell in the cities, and the ruins shall be rebuilt. The desolate land shall be tilled instead of lying desolate...’”

- **Cleanse** (טִּהַרְתִּי, tihartī) – Spiritual purification.
- **Ruins shall be rebuilt** (הַחֲרֵבוֹת תִּבְנוּ, hecharevot tibanu) – Symbolizes national restoration.
- **Desolate land** (הָאֶרֶץ הַשְּׁמֵמָה, ha’aretz hashememah) – A reference to the destruction Israel had suffered.

Summary of Key Themes

1. **Restoration of the Land** – The physical renewal of Israel is a sign of God’s favor.
2. **Spiritual Transformation** – A new heart and spirit symbolize a renewed relationship with God.
3. **God’s Sovereignty** – Restoration is for His name’s sake, displaying His holiness to the world.
4. **Cleansing from Sin** – A shift from impurity to purity through divine intervention.