



A SERMON SERIES ABOUT
COMING HOME

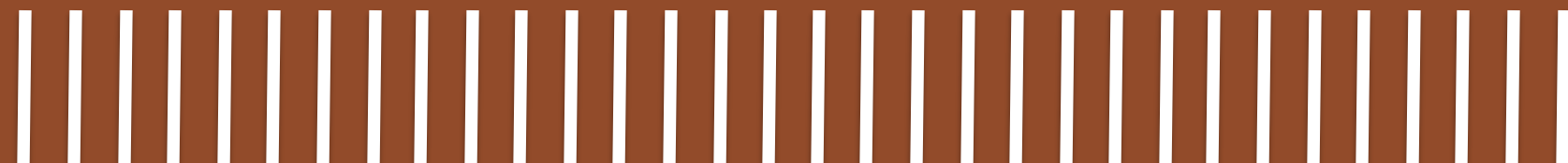
Episode 43 – Exilic Prophets
Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Isaiah



GOD'S PEOPLE RETURNED – EXILIC PROPHETS

BEGINNING WITH A RECAP

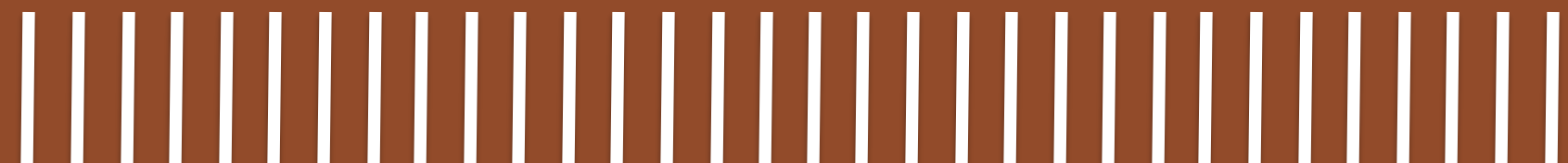
- Last week...
- We saw life in exile from God is a constant theme in the Bible.
- Exile is a biblical condition-separation from God due to sin.
- We saw that Daniel and his friends became a blessing to their captors.
- They did this by maintaining their relationship with God despite their situation.
- By doing this, they were able to change their situation.



GOD'S PEOPLE RETURNED – EXILIC PROPHETS

ISRAEL IN BABYLON - EZEKIEL

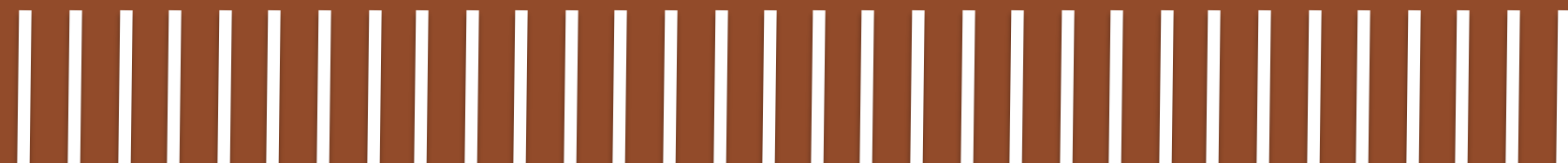
- Ezekiel – Is a priest during the exile in Babylon
- Called to be a prophet to the Israelites.
- He demonstrates a heart for God as he takes the message to the people.
- Let's look at the heart of a prophet who has to speak life to the dead.
- Jeremiah 17:9-10 The heart of the matter.
- God searches both heart and mind.



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ISRAEL IN BABYLON - EZEKIEL

- When God picks a prophet, he has searched the heart and mind. Both must be good.
- Ezekiel 2:1-5 - The challenge defines the heart.
- The call is similar for all prophets. Sent with an unpopular message to people with unreceptive hearts.
- Ezekiel 3:16-19 - Called to be a watchman. He must do his part. Be his bother's keeper...
- We've been called to this as well.



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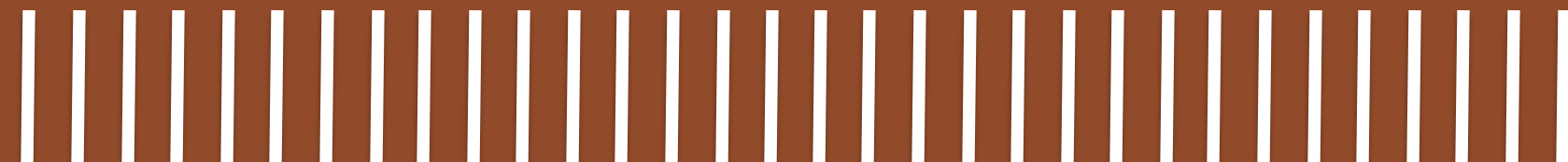
- Ezekiel must warn the people. Remind them of God's words...
- Deuteronomy 28:58-64 - God warns them many times of the consequences of their actions.
- Jeremiah 19:4-5 - The people are doing things that are evil.
- Ezekiel 5:6-8 - They are more wicked than the surrounding nations and countries. It is clear the people didn't know God...
- Ezekiel records the phrase,
 "Then they will know that I am the Lord" 34 times (NIV)
- God wants us to know him.



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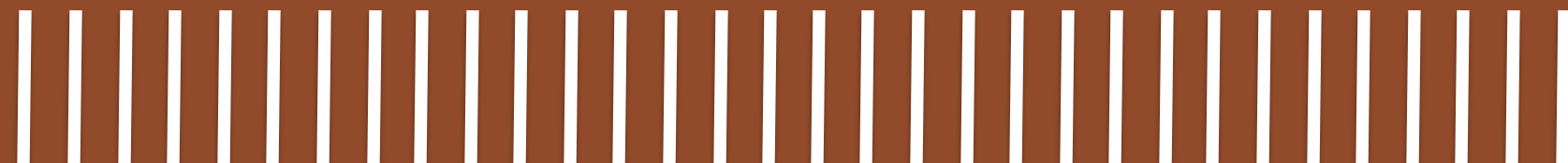
- Not everything Ezekiel said was all doom and gloom...
- Twice he declared a new heart was coming...
- Ezekiel 11:18-20 and Ezekiel 36:25-27 - Will remove their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh.
- Ezekiel 37:1-14 – The power of God's word to bring life to the dead. God will bring his people home.
- Restored relationship between God and his people...



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ISRAEL IN BABYLON - EZEKIEL

- Promises fulfilled...
- 2 Corinthians 5:10-11, 14-20
- Understanding of Judgement. Role of the watchman!
- Moved to respond to God's love... Christ's Love Compels us.
- God provided the sacrifice. Not counting our sins against us.
- We have his spirit in us. The ministry of reconciliation.
- New heart of flesh. A new creation! Christ's Ambassadors.
- Eternal life ahead... Be reconciled!



GROW

GROW

GROW

NEXT TIME

Rebuilding the temple

