



THE BIBLE IN VERSE

... by Alvy E. Ford

EZEKIEL

CHAPTERS 1 TO 48

Chapter 1

Vision of visions Ezekiel sees,
Wafted along on the northerly breeze.
Four living creatures with faces and wings,
Wheels within wheels with terrible rings.

Chapter 2

Voice of all voices Ezekiel hears,
Telling the prophet to preach without fears.
He to a house of rebellion is sent,
Told to exhort and to never relent.

Chapter 3

Meal of meals Ezekiel eats;
Roll of the Lord is the sweetest of sweets.
Prophet is given a charge to the lost;
He must deliver or suffer the cost.

Chapter 4

Takes up a tile and builds a mock town,
Sets up an army to batter it down;
Lies on his left side, and then on his right,
Cooking with dung; doing all in plain sight.

Chapter 5

Uses examples instead of vain words;
Shaves off his hair and divides it in thirds.
This is a type of the fate of the land.
God will destroy with His bitter command.

Chapter 6

Speaks to the mountains prophetically plain;
They shall be desolate, broken and slain.
Some shall escape to return and take root.
Smites with the hand as he stamps with the foot.

Chapter 7

Now is the end and destruction is here.
Trouble and famine and fury are near.
Multitudes fall in the pathway of wrath.
None shall find peace in the things that he hath.

Chapter 8

Caught to Jerusalem, quickly, with ease.
Wicked idolatry prophet now sees.
Image of jealousy, hole in the wall,
Ancients of Israel, foulest of all.

Chapter 9

Slaughter is ready; the warriors come forth.
Mark of protection on people of worth.
Prophet is grieved at Jerusalem's fate.
God will not hearken; their sin is too great.

Chapter 10

Prophet now visions a scene to inspire,
Man going forth bearing embers of fire,
Glory and cherubim, brightness and sound,
Wheels, living creatures united are found.

Chapter 11

Twenty-five men lay entangling mesh.
City is caldron; the people are flesh.
Then Pelatiah dies; prophet on face.
Glory of God departs out of the place.

Chapter 12

Prophet now packs his belongings to move,
Digs through the wall his intentions to prove,
Packs in the daytime but goes when it's late.
This is the prince of Jerusalem's fate.

Chapter 13

Prophet rebukes all the false of his kind;
Out of their hearts they have mischief divined.
Likened to building with untempered mud,
Wall will collapse with an earth-shaking thud.

Chapter 14

Elders of Israel come with pretense;
This, says the Lord, is a grievous offense.
Noah and Daniel and Job being right,
Could not deliver the land from its plight.

Chapter 15

Vine tree is useless for peg or for tool,
Scarcely is fit for consumption as fuel.
Thus shall Jerusalem, once God's desire,
Be overrun and consumed in the fire.

Chapter 16

Prophet now pictures Jerusalem's life;
Cast out at birth; later taken as wife.
Richly bedecked, but then sunken in gore;
Vilest of women, and worse than a whore.

Chapter 17

Riddle of eagle and low-spreading vine.
Vine seeks a second bird, there to recline.
Eagle is Babylon, picked of the Lord.
Vine is rebellious and suffers the sword.

Chapter 18

Souls that are sinful most surely are lost.
One for another will not bear the cost.
Wicked or righteous must stand on his own.
God's hand is equal; His justice is known.

Chapter 19

Prophet now makes lamentation divine.
Nation is pictured as lioness and lion.
Young lions are trained, but are then taken prey.
One goes to Egypt, one Babylon's way.

Chapter 20

Elders of land of the Lord would inquire;
Prophet's forbidden to grant their desire.
God then relates their pollution and shame.
Prophet addresses the forest to flame.

Chapter 21

Prophet now speaks to the land of the Lord.
God in His anger will draw out the sword.
Righteous and wicked, the sword will abuse,
Sharpened and furbished and ready to use.

Chapter 22

City is infamous, sodden with blood.
Wickedness flows in the streets like a flood.
Israel's house is now sunken to dross.
God in His anger will render them loss.

Chapter 23

Nation is likened to two sister whores,
Steeped in adultery, foul to their cores,
Practicing lewdness though called of the Lord;
Thus they must die by their own lover's sword.

Chapter 24

Set on a pot, with the choicest therein.
City and people must perish for sin.
Prophet now suffers the loss of his mate;
This is a type of Jerusalem's fate.

Chapter 25

Prophecies now of the Ammonites' fate,
Moab and Edom because of their hate.
Seir and Philistia get their reward.
All must encounter the hand of the Lord.

Chapter 26

Tyrus has mocked at Jerusalem's fate.
Prophet her judgment begins to relate.
She in her might will be crushed to regrets,
Left as a place for the spreading of nets.

Chapter 27

Tyrus is like to a beautiful ship,
Searching the nations her hull to equip;
Yet she shall sink in the depths of the sea,
Hissing and terror, no longer to be.

Chapter 28

King of old Tyrus is higher than men;
Yet he must fall to arise not again.
Zidon is next to encounter the sword,
Judgments performed at the hand of the Lord.

Chapter 29

Egypt is next for the wrath that must be,
Likened to dragon and fish of the sea.
Forty full years she must suffer God's rage.
Babylon's king will receive her as wage.

Chapter 30

More woe to Egypt and terrible shame.
Neighbors and cities are listed by name.
Nebuchadrezzar shall crush them to earth.
Never again shall they boast of their worth.

Chapter 31

Pharaoh gets preview of things that shall be.
King of Assyria likened to tree,
Mighty and lofty and heady and strong;
Yet he is crushed, a reward for his wrong.

Chapter 32

Egypt is like to a whale and a lion.
She shall be snared, and the vultures shall dine.
Land shall be soaked and defiled with her blood.
Nations shall fear when she falls with a thud.

Chapter 33

Now must Ezekiel speak to his own.
He is the watchman protecting their home.
Mouth now is opened; no longer is dumb;
People shall know that a prophet is come.

Chapter 34

Woe to the shepherds that feed not the flock;
God will replace them and utterly mock.
He the Good Shepherd will search for the sheep,
Bring to His pasture to feed and to keep.

Chapter 35

Prophet's commanded to speak to mount Seir;
Her desolation and trouble are near.
She had made Israel suffer the sword;
Now she must suffer the hand of the Lord.

Chapter 36

Mountains of Israel now are addressed;
They shall be seeded and builded and blessed.
She had gone down in idolatrous shame;
God will redeem her to honor His name.

Chapter 37

Prophet now speaks to the valley of bones,
Sees them arise without effort or moans.
Thus shall all Israel live in the land,
Two nations blended as one in God's hand.

Chapter 38

Magog and Gog are now called to account;
God is against them; His fury will mount.
They at the last shall encompass the saints;
There shall be crushed under bitter complaints.

Chapter 39

Gog shall be torn in a battle most cruel.
Weapons of war shall be gathered as fuel.
Birds shall be called to drink blood and be fed.
Seven months needed to bury the dead.

Chapter 40

Now with the Spirit Ezekiel flies,
Lands on a mountain in Israel's skies.
Man like to brass meets the prophet at gate.
He must take stock then return and relate.

Chapter 41

Temple is measured and stated with care:
Chambers and windows and pillars and stair;
Palm trees and cherubim, faces and planks;
Walls and foundations, and porches and ranks.

Chapter 42

Outer court measured the way toward the north;
Inner court measured and stated by course.
Priests given chambers to care for their needs.
Wall is foursquare and is five hundred reeds.

Chapter 43

Glory now comes from the way of the east.
Prophet is given the law of the priest.
He must recount all the things he has seen.
Blood on the altar makes everything clean.

Chapter 44

No man shall enter the gate to the east.
Much more is said of the law of the priest.
Children of Zadok shall minister yet,
Wearing no garment to cause them to sweat.

Chapter 45

Part of the land is reserved for the Lord.
Priests get a portion to bring in accord.
People shall render fair measures and weights.
Feasts shall be kept on the specified dates.

Chapter 46

Rules of procedure for worship and praise:
Things must be done in the specified ways;
Bullock and ephah and flour and hin;
Way to go forth, and a way to come in.

Chapter 47

Rivers of water from under the door,
Up to the ankles and kneecaps and more.
Fish in abundance and wonderful trees,
Borders of nation the prophet now sees.

Chapter 48

Each tribe is mentioned and given his lot,
Temple of God in the midst of the plot.
City is measured and found to be square.
Name of the city, THE LORD HE IS THERE.