

"The Longest Sermon Ever"
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Q: Have you ever read a passage in the Bible that left you asking, "What, that's in the Bible? What the heck does that mean?"

I. Jerusalem will be Destroyed.

"Now you son of man, get yourself a brick, place it before you and inscribe a city on it,
Jerusalem. Then lay siege against it, build a siege wall, raise up a ramp, pitch camps and
place battering rams against it all around. Then get yourself an iron plate and set it up as an
iron wall between you and the city, and set your face toward it so that it is under siege, and
besiege it. This is a sign to the house of Israel. As for you, lie down on your left side and lay
the iniquity of the house of Israel on it; you shall bear their iniquity for the number of days
that you lie on it."

Ezekiel 4:1-4 (NASB)

II. This is God's Judgment of Israel's Sin.

"For I have assigned you a number of days corresponding to the years of their iniquity, three hundred and ninety days; thus you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Israel. When you have completed these, you shall lie down a second time, but on your right side and bear the iniquity of the house of Judah; I have assigned it to you for forty days, a day for each year. Then you shall set your face toward the siege of Jerusalem with your arm bared and prophesy against it. Now behold, I will put ropes on you so that you cannot turn from one side to the other until you have completed the days of your siege."

Ezekiel 4:5-8 (NASB)

III. Bread and Water will be Scarce.

"But as for you, take wheat, barley, beans, lentils, millet and spelt, put them in one vessel and make them into bread for yourself; you shall eat it according to the number of the days that you lie on your side, three hundred and ninety days. Your food which you eat shall be twenty shekels a day by weight; you shall eat it from time to time. The water you drink shall be the sixth part of a hin by measure; you shall drink it from time to time. You shall eat it as a barley cake, having baked it in their sight over human dung."

Then the LORD said, "Thus will the sons of Israel eat their bread unclean among the nations where I will banish them." But I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I have never been defiled; for from my youth until now I have never eaten what died of itself or was torn by beasts, nor has any unclean meat ever entered my mouth." Then He said to me, "See, I will give you cow's dung in place of human dung over which you will prepare your bread." Moreover, He said to me, "Son of man, behold, I am going to break the staff of bread in Jerusalem, and they will eat bread by weight and with anxiety, and drink water by measure and in horror, because bread and water will be scarce; and they will be appalled with one another and waste away in their iniquity.

Ezekiel 4:9-17 (NASB)

3 Lessons from the World's Longest Sermon:

I.	Sin has						

II. Sin _____ from God's Will.

III. God will ______.

- 1. Ezekiel 1-24 God's judgment on Israel and Jerusalem for their sin.
- 2. Ezekiel 25-32 God's judgment on all the nations for their sin.
- 3. Ezekiel 33-48 God's promised restoration and redemption.

"My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd; and they will walk in My ordinances and keep My statutes and observe them. They will live on the land that I gave to Jacob My servant, in which your fathers lived; and they will live on it, they, and their sons and their sons' sons, forever; and David My servant will be their prince forever. I will make a covenant of peace with them; it will be an everlasting covenant with them. And I will place them and multiply them, and will set My sanctuary in their midst forever. My dwelling place also will be with them; and I will be their God, and they will be My people.

Ezekiel 37:24-27 (NASB)

Point:

Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!

1. What resolutions (decision or commitments) have you made for the New Year? Where does Christ and His Church fit into your 2022 hopes and plans?



- 2. What is one simple change you can make to put Christ and His Church more in the center of your 2022?
- 3. How have you experienced the consequences of sin in your life?
- 4. How have you experienced Christ's redemption in your life? How could you avail yourself to Christ's new life?

ANSWER KEY:

- I. Sin has **CONSEQUENCES**.
- II. Sin **REMOVES US** from God's Will.
- III. God will **REDEEM.**

Point: SIN HAS CONSEQUENCES – BUT GOD REDEEMS