

# Readings from the Word of God

## 21 March 2021

### **Ezekiel 4:1-6 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> “You also, son of man, take a clay tablet and lay it before you, and portray on it a city, Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> Lay siege against it, build a siege wall against it, and heap up a mound against it; set camps against it also, and place battering rams against it all around. <sup>3</sup> Moreover take for yourself an iron plate, and set it as an iron wall between you and the city. Set your face against it, and it shall be besieged, and you shall lay siege against it. This will be a sign to the house of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> “Lie also on your left side, and lay the iniquity of the house of Israel upon it. According to the number of the days that you lie on it, you shall bear their iniquity. <sup>5</sup> For I have laid on you the years of their iniquity, according to the number of the days, three hundred and ninety days; so you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Israel. <sup>6</sup> And when you have completed them, lie again on your right side; then you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days. I have laid on you a day for each year.

### **Ezekiel 1:1-3 (NKJV, modified)**

<sup>1</sup> Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the River Chebar, that the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God. <sup>2</sup> On the fifth day of the month, which was in the fifth year of King Jehoiachin’s captivity, <sup>3</sup> the word of Jehovah came expressly to Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the River Chebar; and the hand of Jehovah was upon him there.

### **Luke 19:43-44 (NKJV)**

<sup>43</sup> “[D]ays will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, <sup>44</sup> and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation.”

### **Luke 19:45-46 (NKJV)**

<sup>45</sup> Then He went into the temple and began to drive out those who bought and sold in it, <sup>46</sup> saying to them, “It is written, “My house is a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a ‘den of thieves.’ ”

### **Matthew 20:18-19 (NKJV)**

<sup>18</sup> “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death, <sup>19</sup> and deliver Him to the Gentiles to mock and to scourge and to crucify. And the third day He will rise again.”

### **Matthew 24:30 (NKJV)**

“Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.”

### ***The Lord §15:4-5***

The prophet Isaiah was commanded to represent the state of the church by removing the sackcloth from his loins, taking his sandals off his feet, and going naked and barefoot for three years, as a sign and a wonder (Isaiah 20:2-3). ....

The prophet Ezekiel was commanded to represent the state of the church by passing a barber's razor over his head and beard; by then dividing the hair, burning a third in the midst of the city, striking a third with a sword, and scattering a third in the wind; by binding a small number of them in the edges of his garment; and by finally throwing them in the midst of a fire and burning them (Ezekiel 5:1-4).

The same prophet was commanded to represent the state of the church by making containers for departure, by departing to another place in the eyes of the children of Israel, by bringing out the containers by day and digging through a wall at evening and going out through it, and by covering his face so as not to see the ground, so that he was thus a sign to the house of Israel. And by the prophet's saying, "Behold, I am a sign to you. As I have done, so shall it be done to them." (Ezekiel 12:3-7, 11)

### ***True Christianity §129***

The reason why the Lord was willing to undergo temptations even to the point of suffering upon the cross, was that He was the ultimate prophet[.] [P]rophets in ancient times... represented the church in its state at that time by the various unfair, harsh and even criminal acts imposed on them by God. However, since the Lord was the Word itself, by His passion on the cross as the ultimate prophet He represented the way in which the Jewish church profaned the Word.

### **Ezekiel 37:1-14 (NKJV, modified)**

<sup>1</sup> The hand of Jehovah came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of Jehovah, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley;

and indeed they were very dry. <sup>3</sup> And He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?”

So I answered, “O Lord Jehovih, You know.”

<sup>4</sup> Again He said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, ‘O dry bones, hear the word of Jehovah! <sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord Jehovih to these bones: “Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup> I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am Jehovah.””

<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone. <sup>8</sup> Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them.

<sup>9</sup> Also He said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, ‘Thus says the Lord Jehovih: “Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.”” <sup>10</sup> So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.

<sup>11</sup> Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, ‘Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!’ <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophecy and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord Jehovih: “Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> Then you shall know that I am Jehovah, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. <sup>14</sup> I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, Jehovah, have spoken it and performed it,” says Jehovah.””

### **Matthew 5:21-22 (NKJV)**

<sup>21</sup> “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.’

<sup>22</sup> But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment.

### **John 2:19-21 (NKJV)**

<sup>19</sup> “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”

<sup>20</sup> Then the Jews said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?”

<sup>21</sup> But He was speaking of the temple of His body.

### **John 1:14 (NKJV)**

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.