

Putting on a Show!
Dramatizing the Fall of Jerusalem
Ezekiel 4:1–5:4
Veritas Adult Community
November 4, 2018

Introduction

1. The Diverse Functions of Preaching
2. The Structure of Ezekiel 1–24
 - a. Messages of Doom for the City and Land (4–7)
 - b. Messages of Doom for the Temple (8–11)
 - c. Messages of Doom for the King and the People (12:1–24:14)
 - d. The Final Sign of Doom (24:15–27)
3. The Nature and Function of Sign-actions
 - a. A command by God to execute the sign-action
 - b. A report of the execution of the sign action
 - c. An interpretation of the sign action
 - d. A reference to eye-witnesses (note “in their sight” in 4:12)
 - e. A divine promise to carry out the event represented by the sign-action
 - f. A clarification of the relationship between the dramatic presentation and the event represented.

A. The Nature and Purpose of Ezekiel 4

1. The Key text: 5:13:
2. The List of Sign-acts of Ezekiel 4
 - a. The design and siege of the brick (4:1–2)
 - b. The erection of a barrier between Ezekiel and the brick (4:3)
 - c. Ezekiel’s lying on his left and right sides respectively (4:4–6)
 - d. Ezekiel baring his arm (4:7)
 - e. The binding of Ezekiel (4:8)
 - f. Eating rationed food and drinking rationed water (4:9–11)
 - g. Eating cakes baked over feces (4:12,14–15)
 - h. Shaving and disposing of the prophet's hair (5:1–2)
 - i. The isolation of a remnant of hair (5:3–4)

3. The Logic of the Sign-Actions of Ezekiel 4
 - a. Sign-actions relating to *the siege of Jerusalem*
 - b. Sign-actions relating to *the destruction of Jerusalem*
 - c. Sign-actions relating to *the deportation of Jerusalem's population*

B. Exposition

1. The First Act: The Sign of the Brick (4:1–3)
 - Action 1: Drawing the map of Jerusalem on a brick (v. 1)
 - Action 2: Setting up siege forces around the city (v. 2)
 - Action 3: Setting up an iron griddle between himself and the city (v. 3)
2. The Second Act: Bearing the Iniquity of Israel (4:4–8)
 - Action 1: Lying on his left side for 390 days (vv. 4–5)
 - Action 2: Lying on his right side for 40 days (v. 6)
 - Action 3: Baring his arm and prophesying (v. 7)
 - Action 4: Being bound up with ropes by YHWH (v. 8)
3. The Third Act: Food for the Hungry (4:9–17)
 - Action 1: The diet of people under siege (v. 9)
 - Action 2: The rations of people under siege (vv. 10–11, 16–17)
 - Action 3: The food of exiles (vv. 12–15)
4. The Fourth Act: The Fate of the Inhabitants of Jerusalem (5:1–4)

Conclusion and Application