

The Divine Tapestry

PART 88

Ezekiel 34

“A DECLARATION TO SHEEPISH SHEPHERDS”

Presented by
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“Clovis Chappell, the noted authority on preaching, tells in one of his books about the excavation of Pompeii some years ago. The city was destroyed by the eruption of nearby Mount Vesuvius. The huge quantity of falling ash literally fixed people in mid-motion for centuries. Chappell noted that one woman’s feet were turned toward the city gate, but her face had turned back toward something behind her. Excavators discovered that at the moment of her death she was reaching for a bag of pearls. Although her life was at risk, she thought so much of her pearls that she could not bear to live without them. She was literally frozen in an attitude of greed.”

In Ezekiel 34, God’s judgment falls on the rulers of Israel. His words would freeze them in their tracks – exposing their real heart, and would proclaim His answer for their actions.

EZEKIEL

- Ezekiel's prophetic statements reach into our day (Note chapters **38** and **39**, a prophecy regarding Russia).
- Ezekiel 34 is the first message after the **fall** of **Judah**.

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

As we read God's words to the shepherds (leaders) of Israel note:

- The **Reason** for **Rejection**.
 - The shepherds did not **protect** the sheep.
 - The shepherds did not **feed** the sheep.
 - The shepherds did not **love** the sheep.
 - The shepherds were focused on their kingdom ... not **God's**.
- The **Regal Replacement**
 - God said that **He** would **personally** take over the shepherding role!

➤ Notice the “I WILLs:”

1. **Search/Seek** (vv. 11,16)
2. **Care** (vv. 12, 16)
3. Gather (v. 13)
4. Feed (v. 14)
5. **Lead** to **Rest** (v. 15)
6. Judge (vv. 17-21)
7. **Deliver** (v. 22)
8. Set Over Them **“One”** (v. 23)
9. Make a Covenant (v. 25)
10. **Establish** (v. 29)

➤ God wanted His people to know, “I AM **with them**” (v. 31)

- The **Revelation**

➤ In **John 10:14**, Jesus says, **“I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD!”**

THE APPLICATION

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