

STUDY NOTES – March 3, 2019
Sermon Series: “Ezekiel: Time To Grow Up”

Ezekiel 31

1. The pride of the gifted (Vs. 1-8)

Ezekiel 31:1–8 (ESV) — 1 In the eleventh year, in the third month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me: 2 “Son of man, say to Pharaoh king of Egypt and to his multitude: “Whom are you like in your greatness? 3 Behold, Assyria was a cedar in Lebanon, with beautiful branches and forest shade, and of towering height, its top among the clouds. 4 The waters nourished it; the deep made it grow tall, making its rivers flow around the place of its planting, sending forth its streams to all the trees of the field. 5 So it towered high above all the trees of the field; its boughs grew large and its branches long from abundant water in its shoots. 6 All the birds of the heavens made their nests in its boughs; under its branches all the beasts of the field gave birth to their young, and under its shadow lived all great nations. 7 It was beautiful in its greatness, in the length of its branches; for its roots went down to abundant waters. 8 The cedars in the garden of God could not rival it, nor the fir trees equal its boughs; neither were the plane trees like its branches; no tree in the garden of God was its equal in beauty.

- Life lesson: Be aware that **pride is your brutal enemy.**

2. The true source of our gifts (V. 9)

Ezekiel 31:9 (ESV) — 9 I made it beautiful in the mass of its branches, and all the trees of Eden envied it, that were in the garden of God.

- Life lesson: Remember that all you have **comes from God.**

3. The result of pride in our gifts (Vs. 10-13)

Ezekiel 31:10–13 (ESV) — 10 “Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Because it towered high and set its top among the clouds, and its heart was proud of its height, 11 I will give it into the hand of a mighty one of the nations. He shall surely deal with it as its wickedness deserves. I have cast it out. 12 Foreigners, the most ruthless of nations, have cut it down and left it. On the mountains and in all the valleys its branches have fallen, and its boughs have been broken in all the ravines of the land, and all the peoples of the earth have gone away from its shadow and left it. 13 On its fallen trunk dwell all the birds of the heavens, and on its branches are all the beasts of the field.

- Life lesson: Use God’s warnings against pride to **motivate you toward humility.**

Affirmations of humility

(Try reciting these every morning):

1. Without Christ, I was *spiritually bankrupt*.
2. Without Christ, I had no hope of eternal life.
3. Without Christ, I could *accomplish nothing*.
4. Without Christ, I was a complete failure.
5. Without Christ, my father *was the devil*.
6. With Christ, I am more than a conqueror!

S.A.L.T. Group questions

- Have someone read Sunday's passage: Ezekiel 31:1-13
 - What truths stand out to you?
- 1. Why is pride such a brutal enemy?
 - When are you most tempted to be prideful?
 - What are some ways to minimize pride in our lives?
- 2. What are some results of affirming that all we have comes from God?
 - Why do we so often struggle to affirm God's ownership of our lives?
- 3. What are several blessings of humility?
 - What are some ways we can remain humble in a culture obsessed with high self-esteem?
 - What is the difference between humility and low self-esteem?

S.A.L.T. groups ("Sharing And Learning Together") are Camano Chapel's adult small group ministry. To learn more, you can go online at camanochapel.org and click on the ministry tab.

Prayer for salvation

"Lord Jesus, I need You. Thank You for dying on the cross for my sins. I open the door of my life and receive You as my Savior and Lord. Thank You for forgiving my sins and giving me eternal life. Take control of the throne of my life. Make me the kind of person You want me to be."

A more detailed copy of this sermon can be found at our Chapel web link:
www.thebibleexpedition.wordpress.com