SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Ezekiel

Chapter 21

The Sword Unsheathed: Until He Comes

MEMORY VERSE · EZEKIEL 21:27

"A ruin, a ruin, a ruin, I will make it. This also will be no more until He comes whose right it is, and I will give it to Him."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Ezekiel 21

This week God draws His sword, and nothing in Jerusalem can stand against it — not alliances, not omens, not even a king's crown. But in the rubble He makes a promise about a King who has the right to rule. Bring Him the places in your life that feel like ruins, and let the One whose right it is take the crown there.

How to use this journal

1. Each day, read the passage slowly — out loud if you can.
2. Answer the **Observe** question from the text before you write what it means.
3. Write honestly on the **Reflect** questions. No one grades this.
4. Do the **Respond** step today, not someday. Say the memory verse.
5. Bring this journal to the group. The last page is for the table.

The O·I·A study, the slides and the film for this chapter are on the Ezekiel study page.

WHERE I AM AS I START THIS CHAPTER

What is going on in my life right now that I want to bring to God this week?

DAY 1 OF 5

A Sword and a Broken Heart

READ · EZEKIEL 21:1–7

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What does God tell Ezekiel to do in front of the people, and what does he say when they ask him why (vv6–7)?

REFLECT

God wanted His messenger to groan with a breaking heart before he spoke (v6). When you have warned another man about where his life was headed, what did your tone carry — grief or disgust?

REFLECT

The sword "will not return to its sheath again" (v5). What consequences in your life could not be undone, and how has God met you inside them?

RESPOND — TODAY

Think of one man you are worried about. Pray for him by name today before you say anything to him.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 21:27)

DAY 2 OF 5

The Song of the Sword

READ · EZEKIEL 21:8–17

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

List the words used to describe the sword in verses 9–11 and 15. What is it made ready to do?

REFLECT

The sword despised "the rod of My son," the king's scepter (vv10, 13). What protection or position have you leaned on that turned out to be no protection at all?

REFLECT

God says His wrath comes to rest only when justice is done (v17). How does the cross show you where God's wrath against your sin came to rest?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down one thing you trusted to keep you safe instead of God. Give it to Him in prayer, out loud.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 21:27)

DAY 3 OF 5

The Fork in the Road

READ · EZEKIEL 21:18–23

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What three things does the king of Babylon do at the parting of the way, and where does the lot fall (vv21–22)?

REFLECT

The king thought his omens decided the road, but God steered him (v22). Where do you see God working through people or events you thought were against you?

REFLECT

The people waved off the warning because they had sworn oaths and made alliances (v23). What warning have you brushed off because you felt covered?

RESPOND — TODAY

Name one decision in front of you this week. Ask God to steer it, and ask one trusted brother for his counsel.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 21:27)

DAY 4 OF 5

The Crown Taken Off

READ · EZEKIEL 21:24–27

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What does God command about the turban and the crown, and what does He promise at the end of verse 27?

REFLECT

Zedekiah's ruin came after he broke his sworn word (vv24–25; see 17:13–19). What promise have you made and quietly dropped — to God, your wife, your children or your brothers?

REFLECT

God says, "Exalt that which is low and abase that which is high" (v26). Where is pride keeping you high, and what would taking the low place look like this week?

RESPOND — TODAY

Keep one promise today that you have been letting slide, and tell Jesus He has the right to rule that part of your life.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 21:27)

DAY 5 OF 5

No Memory for Ammon

READ · EZEKIEL 21:28–32

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did Ammon's prophets tell them (v29), and how does God end His word to Ammon (v32)?

REFLECT

Ammon had prophets who told them what they wanted to hear (v29). Whose voices in your life tell you only what you want to hear, and whose voices tell you the truth?

REFLECT

Israel had a future King; Ammon would not be remembered (vv27, 32). The difference was God's promise, not Israel's goodness. How does that change the way you think about your own future in Christ?

RESPOND — TODAY

Thank God by name for the grace that gives you a future you did not earn, and share that with one man this week.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 21:27)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

When has God used something you thought was random — or even a bad man's choice — to bring you back to Him (vv21–23)?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

What is the difference between a warning given with grief and one given with contempt, and which do the men around you need from you (v6)?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

What part of your life still looks like "a ruin, a ruin, a ruin," and what would it mean to hand that crown to Jesus (v27)?

MY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, You are the One whose right it is, so today I hand You the crown in…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · EZEKIEL 21:27

"A ruin, a ruin, a ruin, I will make it. This also will be no more until He comes whose right it is, and I will give it to Him."