

## The Grind

## Savor the taste of our previous brew

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Since everything in the Bible leads into and prepares the way for what comes after it, refresh yesterday's Brew to let the previous passage get you ready for today's verses. Though you should have already explored the passage, personally with Jesus, here is the heart of what we saw, together.
In the previous passage, verses 59-63, the LORD offers a new covenant, the final edition of the everlasting covenant.

## Now

this is what the Sovereign LORD says:
I will give you what you deserve,
for you have taken your solemn vows lightly
by breaking your covenant.

to be your daughters,
even though they are not part of our covenant.
And
I will reaffirm my covenant with you,
and you will know
that I am the LORD.
You will remember your sins
and cover your mouth
in silent shame
when I forgive you
of all that you have done.
I, the Sovereign LORD, have spoken!"

Under the present circumstances
Here is what the Unstoppable One has to say:
I, the Unstoppable One will pay you, (I/J/R/E) what you have earned
because you, (I/J/R/E) have belittled the importance of your (I/J/R/E)'s
marriage vows to me, the Unstoppable One
through failing to live up to the terms of your (I/J/R/E)'s marriage to me at Mt. Sinai
But at the same time
I, the Unstoppable One will not forget the marriage vows from Sinai
I, the Unstoppable One inaugurated together with you, (I/J/R/E)
during your earlier days
what's more I, the Unstoppable One will activate
an arrangement intended to last together with you, (I/J/R/E).
At that time
you, ( $I / J / R / E)$ will recall along with a painful feeling of humiliation or distress caused by the consciousness of wrong or foolish behavior every single immoral and wicked thing you, (I/J/R/E) ever did.
I, the Unstoppable One will convert your I/J/R/E)'s female siblings, both the one Assyria dismantled and dispersed as well as the one God buried under the Dead Sea
into your I/J/R/E)'s female descendants destined to inherit your share of the promises
despite the fact that neither one was included in our original arrangement at Mt. Sinai
Furthermore
I, the Unstoppable One will reinstate my, the Unstoppable One's original arrangement intended to last
so that you, (I/J/R/E) will come to appreciate
that I, the Unstoppable One is the same Eternal One who has been looking after you (like a husband providing for and protecting his wife)
At the same time you, (I/J/R/E) will recall your immoral and wicked acts you will also zip your lip
unable to say anything about the humiliation, or dishonor you (I/J/R/E) deserve
at the time I, the Unstoppable One reset the clock to when you (I/J/R/E) prospered, before you (I/J/R/E) provoked My wrath
for everything immoral and wicked you, (I/J/R/E) ever did.
You (I/J/R/E) have my, the Unstoppable One's verbal guarantee.

Let us pour you a fresh cup, ground verse-by-verse from today's passage
In today's passage, verses 1-6, Ezekiel tells a fable about an eagle, a cedar, and a vine. So please open your Bibles to Ezekiel Chapter 17, and let me pour you a hot CuppaJesus from today's brew, starting with v. 1 .


## What to Look for Today

Here are the main items in the text that will lead you to its understanding.

| Parts | Verse 1 | Verse 2 | Verse 3 | Verse 4 | Verse 5 | Verse 6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Links | Then | And | And | And | Also, and, like | And 3x |
| Persons | Me (Zeke), t. LORD | Son of man (Zeke), the people, them ( $1 / J / \mathrm{R} / \mathrm{E}$ ), t. <br> Sovereign LORD |  | Merchants, traders |  |  |
| Places | To (me), from (t. LORD) | To (t. people), Israel, from (t. Sovereign LORD) | To Lebanon | To a city, in a city | From the land, in (fertile soil), beside (river), where | There, into (vine), toward (sky), into the ground |
| Things | This message | This riddle, this story, this message | A great eagle, He , broad wings, long feathers manycolored plumage, the top, a cedar tree | It's, it $2 x$ (cedar), highest branch (top), he $2 x$ (eagle) | He 2x (eagle), a seedling, it $3 x$, fertile soil, a broad river, a willow tree | It (seedling), a low, spreading vine, it('s) 3x, branches, the eagle, roots, strong branches, shoots |
| EWords | Came | Give 2 x , tell | Covered, came, seized | Plucked off, carried away, filled, planted | Took, planted, placed, grow | Took root, grew, turned up, grew down, produced, put out |
| Helpers |  | Of | With $2 x$, of | With, of | Could |  |

Pay careful attention to every item as you follow today's devotional in your study Bible. We have already grouped them by colors under Today's Text, so you can follow the writer's flow of thought for yourself. Capture what he is trying to tell you. Use matching color pencils to draw lines connecting items to others in the same color family. A black pen can cross-link things from different color-families that still have something to do with one another. Utilize circles, boxes, triangles, etc. to identify topics and themes (triangles, for instance, might represent the Trinity). Also, mark the ones you need to look up later for more information or details with asterisks, etc.

## Today's Text

## New Living Translation

${ }^{1}$ Then this message came to me from the LORD:
2 "Son of man, give this riddle, and tell this story to the people of Israel. ${ }^{3}$ Give them this message from the Sovereign LORD:
3 "A great eagle with broad wings and long feathers, covered with many-colored plumage, came to Lebanon. He seized the top of a cedar tree
${ }^{4}$ and plucked off its highest branch. He carried it away to a city filled with merchants. He planted it in a city of traders.
${ }^{5}$ He also took a seedling from the land and planted it in fertile soil. He placed it beside a broad river, where it could grow like a willow tree.
${ }^{6}$ It took root there and grew into a low, spreading vine. Its branches turned up toward the eagle, and its roots grew down into the ground. It produced strong branches and put out shoots.

## The Expanded Bible

${ }^{1}$ The -LORD spoke his word ['word of the Lord came] to me, saying:
2 "•Human ['Son of man; 2:1], give a riddle [allegory] and tell a story [parable] to the •people ['house] of Israel.
${ }^{3}$ Say, 'This is what the Lord GoD says: A giant [great; mighty] eagle with •big [great] wings and long feathers ['feathers and plumage] of many different colors [16:10] came to Lebanon and took hold of the top of a cedar tree.
${ }^{4} \mathrm{He}$ pulled off the top branch [shoot] and brought it to a land of traders [merchants; ${ }^{\text {C Babylon], where he planted it in a city of }}$ traders [ ${ }^{\text {t }}$ the eagle symbolizes King Nebuchadnezzar; v. 12].
5 "'The eagle took some seed [or a seedling] from the land and planted it in •a good field [fertile soil] near plenty of water. He planted it to grow like a willow tree.
${ }^{6}$ It sprouted and became a low vine that spread over the ground. The branches turned toward the eagle, but the roots were under the eagle [or itself; 'it]. So, the seed became a vine, and its branches [shoots] grew, sending out leaves [or branches; boughs].

## The Scriptures 1998/2009

${ }^{1}$ And the word of יהוה came to me, saying,
2 "Son of man, put forth a riddle, and speak a parable to the house of Yisra'ël.
${ }^{3}$ "And you shall say, 'Thus said the Master הוה,, "The great eagle with large wings of long pinions, covered with feathers of various colours, came to Lebanon and took the top of the cedar.
4 "He plucked off the topmost of its young twigs and brought it to a land of traders. In a city of merchants he placed it.
5 "He also took some of the seed of the land and planted it in a field for seed. He took it by many waters, set it like a willow tree.
6 "So it grew and became a low, spreading vine. Its branches turned toward him, and its roots were under it. And it became a vine, and brought forth branches, and sent out shoots.

## The Net Bible

${ }^{1}$ The word of the LORD came to me:
${ }^{2}$ "Son of man, offer a riddle, ${ }^{1}$ and tell a parable to the house of Israel.
${ }^{3}$ Say to them: 'This is what the sovereign LORD says: ${ }^{2}$ A great eagle ${ }^{3}$ with broad wings, long feathers, ${ }^{4}$ with full plumage which was multi-hued, ${ }^{5}$ came to Lebanon ${ }^{6}$ and took the top of the cedar.
${ }^{4}$ He plucked off its topmost shoot; he brought it to a land of merchants and planted it in a city of traders.
${ }^{5} \mathrm{He}$ took one of the seedlings ${ }^{7}$ of the land, placed it in a cultivated plot; ${ }^{8}$ a shoot by abundant water, like a willow he planted it.
${ }^{6}$ It sprouted and became a vine, spreading low to the ground;; its branches turning toward him, ${ }^{10}$ its roots were under itself. ${ }^{11}$
So it became a vine; it produced shoots and sent out branches.

## TODAY's DEVOTIONAL:

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1 Then this message came to me
from the LORD:
"Son of man,
give this riddle,
and tell this story
to the people of Israel. Give them this message from the Sovereign LORD:
"A great eagle with broad wings and long feathers, covered with many-colored plumage, came to Lebanon. He seized the top of a cedar tree
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and plucked off its highest branch.
He carried it away
to a city filled with merchants.
He planted it
in a city of traders.
He also took a seedling
from the land
and planted it
in fertile soil.
He placed it
beside a broad river,
where it could grow
like a willow tree.

## Next

the news about to be announced arrived at Ezekiel, its first recipient
the Eternal One was its author
Ezekiel, descendant of Adam who needs salvation, but not one of the rebels
deliver the upcoming statement
requiring ingenuity to understand its meaning
and narrate the following comparison between real life and nature aimed at the descendants of Jacob who inhabit the Promised Land Bring this news to them
generated by the Unstoppable One
A huge vulture
having wide vans
made of lengthy quills
like a rainbow from tip to tip
arrived in the Mediterranean country famous for its tall trees.
The vulture grabbed the highest point of a large, towering pine tree with spreading branches
in order to pull out the limb closest to the top.
The vulture hauled it off
to a commercial center crammed with store owners.
The vulture embedded the limb
in the midst of a trade center.
Then, the vulture grabbed a young plant
growing out of the ground
to insert it
In the midst of dirt capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops The vulture positioned it
next to a wide rushing stream
a place designed for development
the same way a shade tree with pretty green foliage and long, thin leaves grows near water.
The young plant blossomed and drew nourishment from the ground in that place next to the wide stream
and grew into a low, spreading vine.
Its branches turned up toward the eagle, and its roots grew down into the ground. It produced strong branches and put out shoots.

And as a result, transformed into a ground level wood-stemmed plant for growing grapes extending in all directions.
The vine's above-ground limbs budded toward the sky
in the direction of the vulture
while its support system sank down, deep into the soil underground.
The vine yielded firm above ground limbs as it sprouted suckers from the trunk.

## A Tastier CuppaJ

## Let Jesus pour you a fuller bodied, more flavorful Cuppal from today's brew

Well, we hope you enjoyed this morning's CuppaJ for the Day, brewed verse-by-verse to bring out the full-flavor of the text. Now it's your turn to explore the passage for yourself--to make this study good to the last drop. Remember, you haven't really studied the Bible, God's Written Word--until it connects you with Jesus, God's Living Word. Then Jesus, the true Teacher can customize the text, so every word comes across written just for you.
This morning's CuppaJ is just a taste of what's in the text--the starting point for a deeper learning experience with Jesus. So, go ahead; spend time alone with Him to go over this passage together. Let Jesus pour a tastier CuppaJ from the same brew, for you, today. Use the following form to jot down whatever Jesus shares with you.

## Bible Study



1. Open your Bible to today's passage and Review today's brew.
2. Savor the passage, one verse at a time, listening for God's still small voice.
3. Follow the trail you marked in each verse, PaUSE to look up the terms you flagged for further consideration, and wRITE whatever the Spirit brings to mind.
V. 1
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v. 2 $\qquad$
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