



# The Parable of Two Eagles and a Vine (Ezk 17)

Nov 11

## RECAP: [Ezekiel](#)

**CONTEXT:** Last time Ezekiel was being called to be God’s prophet, to warn His people of judgement. In chs. 4–5 Ezekiel performs some acts to depict this. In chs. 8–11 he sees a vision of what is transpiring back in the Temple, which is not good and why God is going to reject Israel and His glory depart from the Temple. In ch. 11 there is a small glimmer of hope we’ll consider this LD. Chs. 12–24 are all about the coming Judgement on Judah, including our parable today in Ch. 17.

## FIRST, A.M. SERMON RECAP (Generosity):

- What is the hardest material known to man?
- How had Israel shown a hardness of heart? How was this a picture of the human condition?
- What did Ezekiel prophesy that was such good news?
- How can a naturally hard hearted person access this?
- As Christians, how can we keep our hearts tender?

**READ:** Ezekiel 17 (esp. vv. 22–24)

## QUESTIONS:

1. **What is a parable?**<sup>1</sup> Do we speak in parables anymore, why or why not?
2. **Why did Jesus speak in so many parables, often answering a question with a question!?**
3. Use this chart to help understand this parable and its interpretation (note- riddles are meant to be brain teasers):

| Picture (vv. 1–12) | Political Meaning (vv. 11–18) | Spiritual Meaning (vv. 19–21) |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| First Eagle        |                               |                               |
| Cedar              |                               |                               |
| Young Twigs        |                               |                               |

|                     |  |  |
|---------------------|--|--|
|                     |  |  |
| City of Merchants   |  |  |
| Seed                |  |  |
| Fertile Soil/Waters |  |  |
| Vine                |  |  |
| Lesser Eagle        |  |  |
| Vine now            |  |  |

4. **What happens in the parable?**<sup>2</sup>
  - a. **What might its meaning be before you read the interpretations?**
5. **What is its political meaning?**
6. **What is its spiritual meaning?**
7. **In vv. 22–24, the Lord casts another similar parable about the future, what do you think it means?**

| Picture | Meaning |
|---------|---------|
|         |         |

## 8. What about the final statement in v. 24b?

**NEXT WEEK:** Pharaoh’s Pride (Ezk 31)

<sup>1</sup>Answer: a simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson, as told by Jesus in the Gospels. A fable is similar, but uses wildlife as part of the story.