



EZEKIEL 34

Ezekiel ch. 34

A. Against the Shepherds (vv.1-10)

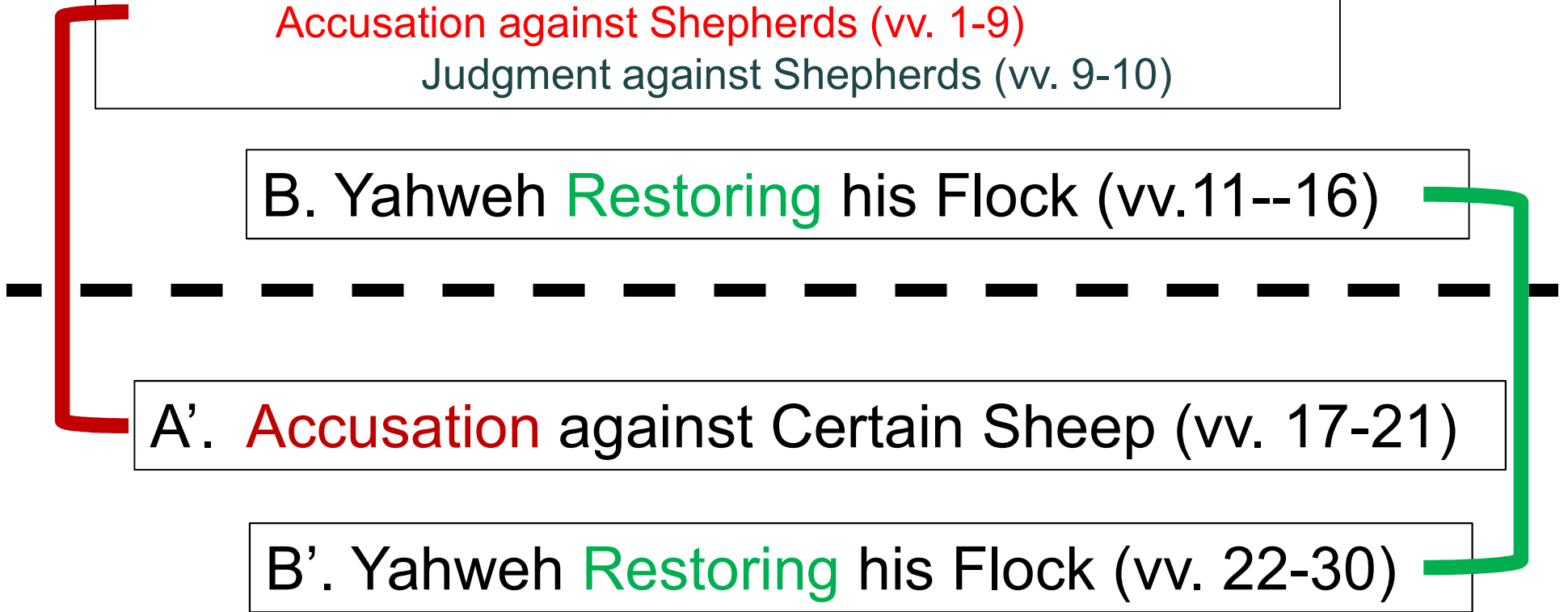
Accusation against Shepherds (vv. 1-9)

Judgment against Shepherds (vv. 9-10)



B. Yahweh Restoring his Flock (vv.11--16)

A'. Accusation against Certain Sheep (vv. 17-21)

B'. Yahweh Restoring his Flock (vv. 22-30)



Ezekiel ch. 34 (NASB with revisions)

| | | Shepherds (vv. 1-16) |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Accusation / Indictment | <p>1 Then the word of Yahweh was to me, saying, 2 Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel. Prophecy and say to those shepherds, Thus says the Lord Yahweh, Woe, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flock? 3 You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with the wool; you slaughter the fat (sheep) without feeding the flock. 4 Those who are sickly you have not strengthened; the diseased you have not healed; the broken you have not bound up; the scattered you have not brought back; nor have you sought for the lost; but with force and with severity you have dominated them. 5 They were scattered for lack of a shepherd, and they became food for every beast of the field and were scattered. 6 My flock wandered through all the mountains and on every high hill; my flock was scattered over all the surface of the earth, and there was no one to search or seek (for them.) 7 Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of Yahweh: 8 As I live, --declaration of the Lord Yahweh-- surely because my flock has become a prey, my flock has even become food for all the beasts of the field for lack of a shepherd, and my shepherds did not search for my flock, but (rather) the shepherds fed themselves and did not feed my flock;</p> |   |
| Judgment | <p>9 therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of Yahweh: 10 Thus says the Lord Yahweh: Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will demand my sheep from them and make them cease from feeding sheep. So the shepherds will not feed themselves anymore, but I will deliver my flock from their mouth, so that they will not be food for them.</p> | <p>http://www.think-differently-about-sheep.com/Animal-Rights-Sheep.htm</p> |



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/mthird3rd/395828335/sizes/z/in/photostream/>

Flock (vv. 17-31)

- 17 As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord Yahweh, behold, I will judge between one sheep and another, between the rams and the male goats.
- 18 Is it too slight a thing for you that you should feed in the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pastures? Or that you should drink of the clear waters, that you must foul the rest with your feet?
- 19 As for my flock, they must eat what you tread down with your feet and drink what you foul with your feet!



- 20 Therefore, thus says the Lord Yahweh to them, Behold, I, even I, will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep.
- 21 Because you push with side and with shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns until you have scattered them abroad,

Restoration of the Flock

11 For thus says the Lord Yahweh,
Behold, I myself will search for my sheep
and seek them out.

12 As a shepherd cares for his herd
in the day when he is among his scattered sheep,
so I will care for my sheep
and will deliver them from all the places
to which they were scattered
on a cloudy and gloomy day.

13 I will bring them out from the peoples
and gather them from the countries
and bring them to their own land;
and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel,
by the streams,
and in all the inhabited places of the land.

14 I will feed them in a good pasture,
and their grazing ground will be
on the mountain heights of Israel.
There they will lie down on good grazing ground
and feed in rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.

15 I will feed my flock
and I will lead them to rest,

--declaration of the Lord Yahweh.

16 I will seek the lost,
bring back the scattered,
bind up the broken
and strengthen the sick;
but the fat and the strong I will destroy.
I will feed them with judgment.



22 therefore, I will deliver my flock,
and they will no longer be a prey;
and I will judge between one sheep and another.

23 Then I will set over them one shepherd,
my servant David,
and he will feed them;
he will feed them himself and be their shepherd.

24 And I, Yahweh, will be their God,
and my servant David will be prince among them;
I Yahweh have spoken.

25 I will make a covenant of peace with them
and eliminate harmful beasts from the land
so that they may live securely in the wilderness
and sleep in the woods.

26 I will make them and the places around my hill a blessing.
And I will cause showers to come down in their season;
they will be showers of blessing.

27 Also the tree of the field will yield its fruit
and the earth will yield its increase,
and they will be secure on their land.
Then they will know that I am Yahweh,
when I have broken the bars of their yoke
and have delivered them
from the hand of those who enslaved them.

28 They will no longer be a prey to the nations,
and the beasts of the earth will not devour them;
but they will live securely,
and no one will make (them) afraid.

29 I will establish for them a renowned planting place,
and they will not again be victims of famine in the land,
and they will not endure the insults of the nations anymore.

30 Then they will know that
I, Yahweh their God, am with them,
and that they, the house of Israel, are my people,
--declaration of the Lord Yahweh.

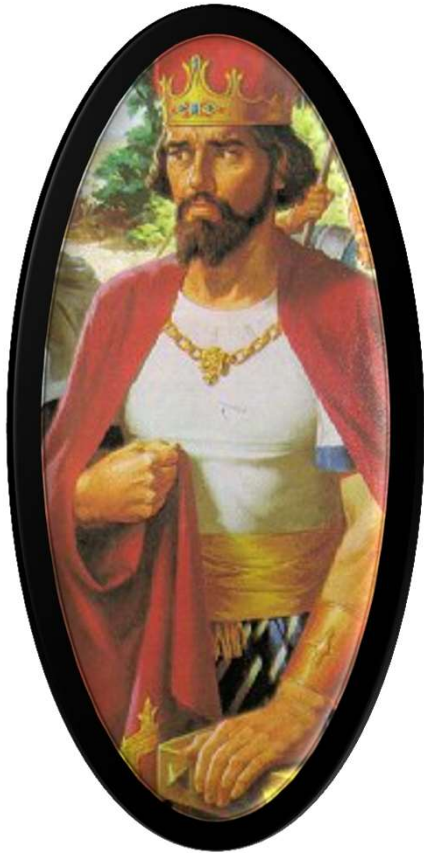
31 As for you, my sheep, the sheep of my pasture,
you are humans, and I am your God,
--declaration of the Lord Yahweh.

▶ Read it “Historically”

- Try to identify precisely what particular “kings” or “leaders” the “shepherds” are referring to

EZEKIEL 34

A photograph of a shepherd wearing a hat and a dark jacket, standing in a lush green field. A large flock of sheep is gathered in the foreground, grazing. The scene is bathed in warm, golden light, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. The text 'EZEKIEL 34' is overlaid in large, bold, green letters across the middle of the image.



King
& Royal Officials



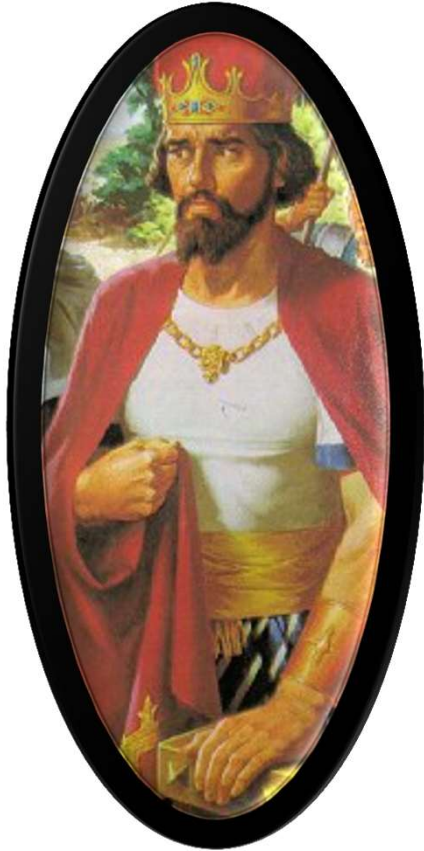
Priests
& Levites



Prophets

3 Levels of National Leadership

“Shepherd”



King
& Royal Officials



Priests
& Levites



Prophets



City Elders

▶ Read it looking at
“Fulfillment of Prediction”

- When exactly was the restoration of God’s “flock”?

--539 B.C.

--return to modern State of Israel

EZEKIEL 34



▶ Read it “Messianically / Christologically”

- See what it tells us about

Jesus as the Good Shepherd

EZEKIEL 34



► Read it “Theologically”

→ Contemporary Personal Application

- What does this tell us about how church “leaders” today should function?
- What message is there for people within the church who “abuse” others?
- What message is there for people within the church who are victims of abuse?

EXAMPT 34

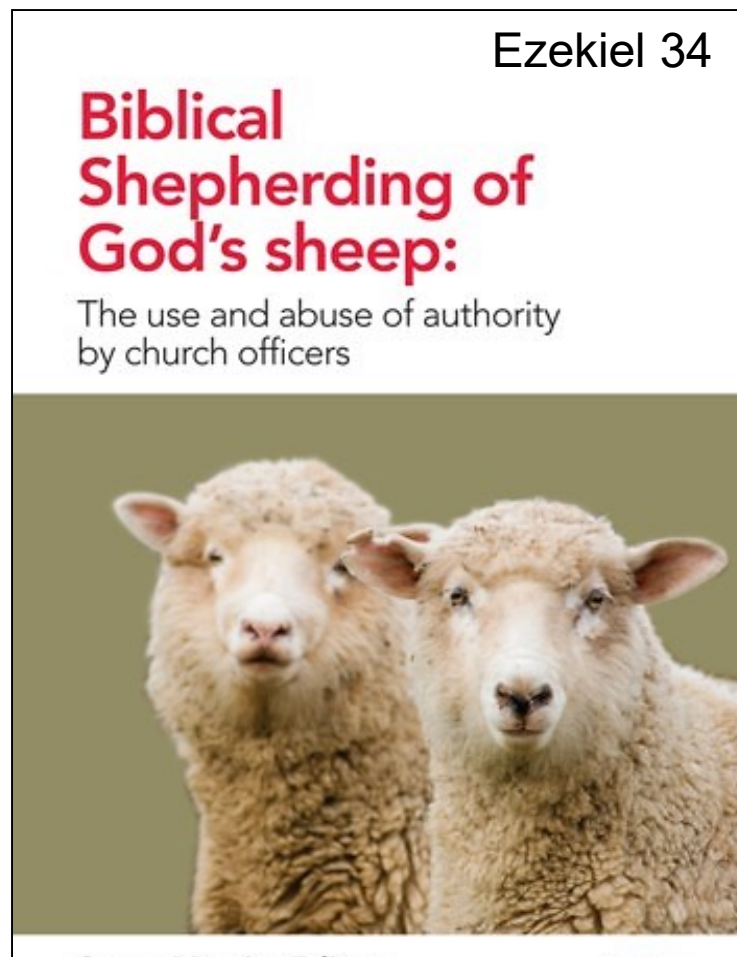


Ezekiel ch. 34

A. Against the Shepherds (vv.1-10)

Accusation against Shepherds (vv. 1-9)

Judgment against Shepherds (vv. 9-10)



1) Abuse by
Clergy &
Leaders
(those in
Positions of Authority)


Ezekiel ch. 34

A'. **Accusation** against Certain Sheep (vv. 17-21)

Ezekiel 34

**Biblical
Shepherding of
God's sheep:**

The use and abuse of authority
by church officers

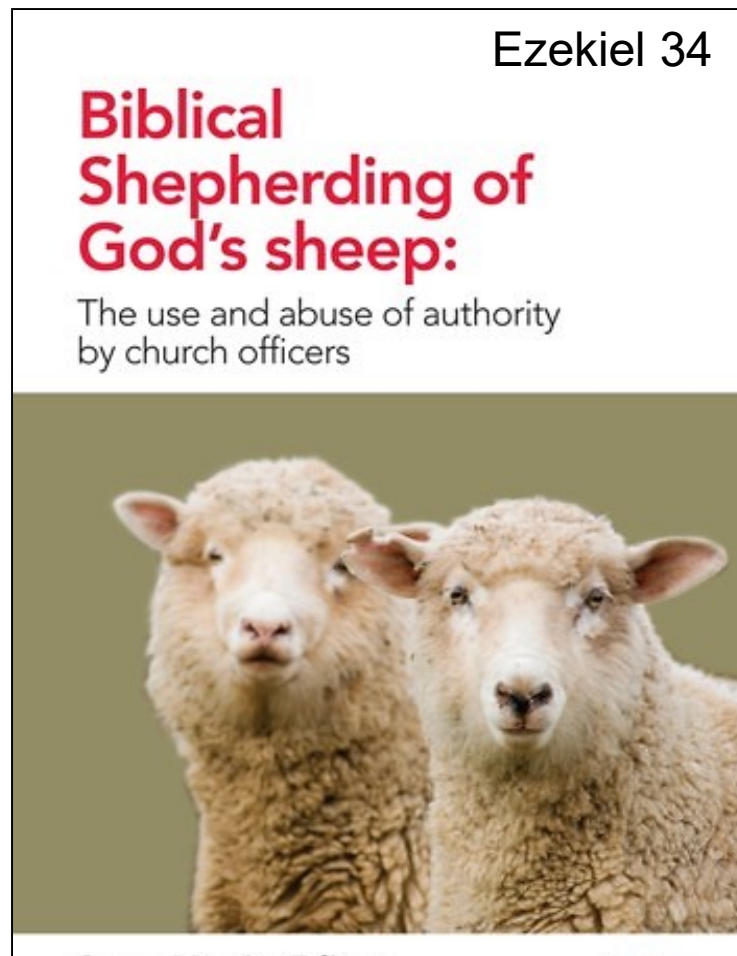
A photograph of two light brown sheep with thick, curly wool, looking directly at the camera against a plain, light-colored background.

2) Abuse by
“Lay People”
(Peers)

Ezekiel ch. 34

B. Yahweh **Restoring** his Flock (vv.11--16)

B'. Yahweh **Restoring** his Flock (vv. 22-30)



3) Abused Victims

Human Shepherds

- 3 You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with the wool;
 you slaughter the fat (sheep) without feeding the flock.
- 4 Those who are sickly you have not strengthened;
 the diseased you have not healed;
 the broken you have not bound up;
 the scattered you have not brought back,
 nor have you sought for the lost;
 but with force and with severity you have dominated them.
- 5 They were scattered for lack of a shepherd,
 and they became food for every beast of the field
 and were scattered.
- 6 My flock wandered through all the mountains
 and on every high hill;
 my flock was scattered over all the surface of the earth,
 and there was no one to search or seek (for them.)
- 7 Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of Yahweh:
- 8 As I live, --declaration of the Lord Yahweh--
 surely because my flock has become a prey,
 my flock has even become food
 for all the beasts of the field for lack of a shepherd,
 and my shepherds did not search for my flock,
 but (rather) the shepherds fed themselves
 and did not feed my flock;



Yahweh as Shepherd

- 11 Behold, I myself will search for my sheep
 and seek them out.
- 12 As a shepherd cares for his herd
 in the day when he is among his scattered sheep,
 so I will care for my sheep
 and will deliver them from all the places
 to which they were scattered on a cloudy and gloomy day.
- 13 I will bring them out from the peoples
 and gather them from the countries
 and bring them to their own land;
 and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel,
 by the streams,
 and in all the inhabited places of the land.
- 14 I will feed them in a good pasture,
 and their grazing ground will be
 on the mountain heights of Israel.
 There they will lie down on good grazing ground
 and feed in rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.
- 15 I will feed my flock
 and I will lead them to rest,
 16 I will seek the lost,
 bring back the scattered,
 bind up the broken
 and strengthen the sick;
 but the fat and the strong I will destroy.
 I will feed them with judgment.
- 22a therefore, I will deliver my flock,
 and they will no longer be a prey;
- 23 Then I will set over them one shepherd
 and he will feed them;
 he will feed them himself and be the God of them.
- 24 And I, Yahweh, will be their God,
 and my servant David will be prince of them.
 I Yahweh have spoken.
- 28 They will no longer be a prey to the nations,
 and the beasts of the earth will not devour them,
 but they will live securely,
 and no one will make (them) afraid.

