

# Drama in the Bible

**Drama:** drama | 'drāmə | “an exciting, emotional, or unexpected series of events or set of circumstances” (Apple Dictionary). God used drama on occasion to make very serious points for His people.

## Ezekiel

- Ezekiel chapter 4 shows when the priest was called to perform theatrical displays to illustrate spiritual lessons for the nation.

**Ezekiel 4:1** Thou also, son of man, take thee a tile, and lay it before thee, and pourtray upon it the city, even Jerusalem:

**Ezekiel 4:2** And lay siege against it, and build a fort against it, and cast a mount against it; set the camp also against it, and set battering rams against it round about.

**Ezekiel 4:3** Moreover take thou unto thee an iron pan, and set it for a wall of iron between thee and the city: and set thy face against it, and it shall be besieged, and thou shalt lay siege against it. This shall be a sign to the house of Israel.

**Ezekiel 4:4** Lie thou also upon thy left side, and lay the iniquity of the house of Israel upon it: according to the number of the days that thou shalt lie upon it thou shalt bear their iniquity.

**Ezekiel 4:5** For I have laid upon thee the years of their iniquity, according to the number of the days, three hundred and ninety days: so shalt thou bear the iniquity of the house of Israel.

**Ezekiel 4:6** And when thou hast accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shalt bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days: I have appointed thee each day for a year.

**Ezekiel 4:7** Therefore thou shalt set thy face toward the siege of Jerusalem, and thine arm shall be uncovered, and thou shalt prophesy against it.

**Ezekiel 4:8** And, behold, I will lay bands upon thee, and thou shalt not turn thee from one side to another, till thou hast ended the days of thy siege.

**Ezekiel 4:9** ¶ Take thou also unto thee wheat, and barley, and beans, and lentiles, and millet, and fitches, and put them in one vessel, and make thee bread thereof, according to the number of the days that thou shalt lie upon thy side, three hundred and ninety days shalt thou eat thereof.

**Ezekiel 4:10** And thy meat which thou shalt eat shall be by weight, twenty shekels a day: from time to time shalt thou eat it.

**Ezekiel 4:11** Thou shalt drink also water by measure, the sixth part of an hin: from time to time shalt thou drink.

**Ezekiel 4:12** And thou shalt eat it as barley cakes, and thou shalt bake it with dung that cometh out of man, in their sight.

**Ezekiel 4:13** And the LORD said, Even thus shall the children of Israel eat their defiled bread among the Gentiles, whither I will drive them.

**Ezekiel 4:14** Then said I, Ah Lord GOD! behold, my soul hath not been polluted: for from my youth up even till now have I not eaten of that which dieth of itself, or is torn in pieces; neither came there abominable flesh into my mouth.

**Ezekiel 4:15** Then he said unto me, Lo, I have given thee cow's dung for man's dung, and thou shalt prepare thy bread therewith.

**Ezekiel 4:16** Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, behold, I will break the staff of bread in Jerusalem: and they shall eat bread by weight, and with care; and they shall drink water by measure, and with astonishment:

**Ezekiel 4:17** That they may want bread and water, and be astonished one with another, and consume away for their iniquity.

## Isaiah

---

- Isaiah chapter 20 shows when Isaiah was asked to walk naked for three years to prove a point.

**Isaiah 20:1** In the year that Tartan came unto Ashdod, (when Sargon the king of Assyria sent him,) and fought against Ashdod, and took it;

**Isaiah 20:2** At the same time spake the LORD by Isaiah the son of Amoz, saying, Go and loose the sackcloth from off thy loins, and put off thy shoe from thy foot. And he did so, walking naked and barefoot.

**Isaiah 20:3** And the LORD said, Like as my servant Isaiah hath walked naked and barefoot three years for a sign and wonder upon Egypt and upon Ethiopia;

**Isaiah 20:4** So shall the king of Assyria lead away the Egyptians prisoners, and the Ethiopians captives, young and old, naked and barefoot, even with their buttocks uncovered, to the shame of Egypt.

## The Sanctuary

---

- God had asked His people to illustrate with great detail the plan of salvation through the sanctuary services (even asking men to dress like and illustrate His Son!)

**Exodus 28:1** Take thou unto thee Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office, even Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons.

**Exodus 28:2** And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty.

**Exodus 28:3** And thou shalt speak unto all that are wise hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments to consecrate him, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

**Exodus 28:4** And these are the garments which they shall make; a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a brodered coat, a mitre, and a girdle: and they shall make holy garments for Aaron thy brother, and his sons, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

**Exodus 28:5** And they shall take gold, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen.

## The Pioneer Church

---

- Ellen White talked about her granddaughter performing services on a Sabbath morning in 1888 as something that should be done in the churches during that day – just after the precious messages from Jones and Waggoner.

"I have risen at three o'clock this morning to write [*This communication was written early Wednesday morning, December 26, 1888, and related to a dramatized Christmas program put on by the Battle Creek Sabbath school. The children wore costumes. Ella M. White, Mrs. White's six-year-old granddaughter, was in the program, dressed to typify an angel.*] you a few lines. I was pleased with the lighthouse, and the scene which had required so much painstaking effort was one which could have been made most impressive, but failed to be made as forcible and striking as it might have been when it cost so much time and labor in preparing it. The part acted by the children was good. The reading was appropriate. Then if there had been good, solid talk on that occasion in regard to children and teachers in the sabbath schools laboring earnestly for the salvation of the souls of the children under your charge, presenting the most acceptable offering to Jesus, the gift of their own hearts, and impressive remarks, short and right to the point, [on] how they could do this, would it not have been in keeping with the work we have been trying to do in the church?" 2MR 235.1

## Prophecy

God illustrated incredible visions to Daniel and John in the Revelation, as two examples, with animals, various characters, colors, things normal and abnormal—to illustrate the gospel for all His people throughout our generations.

## Conclusion

The above references are not an okay for all drama everywhere, but an appeal to look again at how it will be best to further God's work using every means that He Himself has employed.