HOW TO READ THE PROPHETS: BEING THE PROPHECIES ARRANGED CHRONOLOGICALLY IN THEIR HISTORICAL SETTING WITH EXPLANATIONS AND GLOSSARY, PART IV, EZEKIEL

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How to Read the Prophets: Being the Prophecies Arranged Chronologically in Their Historical Setting with Explanations and Glossary, Part IV, Ezekiel by Buchanan Blake

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BUCHANAN BLAKE

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HOW TO READ THE PROPHETS.

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BY THE
REV. BUCHANAN BLAKE, B.D.

PART IV. EZEKIEL.

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1894



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INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

THIS is the fourth volume of the series entitled "How to read the Prophets," and deals entirely with the prophet Ezekiel. The writings of this prophet need very little rearrangement so as to bring them into harmony with chronological requirements, and thus they differ from those writings which have been dealt with in the three previous volumes of this series. They are now in distinct chronological order, with the exception of a small piece in chapter xxix., and the cognate portions dealing with Egypt and Tyre, which we have associated here with their companion prophecies. There was thus not the same necessity for treating this prophet as we have done his great predecessors. But the plan of presenting all the prophets of the Old Testament in their historical setting, with the environment of time and circumstance in which they lived, that so their distinctive message to their own generation might stand out in bold relief, and their contribution to the development of Old Testament theology be the more easily perceived,-this plan has rendered it necessary to include Ezekiel in our series. The same method of treatment has been followed as in those which have been so kindly received by the public. The text without verse and chapter divisions, but with such divisions and headings as seem to be called for by the nature of the subject matter, is given. The translation which follows is based on the Authorised Version, but as the text of our prophet has come down to us in a singularly imperfect condition, many changes are necessary, which even the Revised Version did not recognise. The value of the LXX, here is very great; while the peculiar style of Ezekiel in many places must be taken into account in