Ezekiel 34:1 is a stern rebuke of the leaders of Israel, calling them "shepherds" who have failed to fulfill their duties to the people, the "flock". God condemns them for neglecting the needs of their people, instead focusing on their own self-interest.

Elaboration:

**[Condemnation of Shepherds:](https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=1dda3acef72a6239&cs=0&sxsrf=AHTn8zot6nkPRclrpKuy6KD1ryUNPcJhjg%3A1746353829597&q=Condemnation+of+Shepherds&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjen9_8yomNAxWDsoQIHRgkK54Q4eYNegQIKxAD&mstk=AUtExfDq-4iAHiQR6OdOCfcKJbrzR7CT8MoTtJEKNj_Eq9Nqjq7Mx7wom89Mp7QQHrJ_6-XcQ7cRao578Xr4j3Z0yTRs5Lwf7sMou9M9_4mGTbL_SsGgU4YSRXixRDFZDPBa6UHckCnjo3WPGw8QO1clIujIbn8OnI8a0Cx3-_DHljlPmP8Uy8q-89-KLkPb6Vp6Scj07TLLOHIcC2_8hlPYAIHOto0M6uJJJt2pJvbvY3HaHpLQ5zcx3YmGOu8Z65oZMUiOJGwotA88unaZIjVlg6gj&csui=3" \t "_blank)**

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Ezekiel 34:1 begins with God's command to the prophet Ezekiel to prophesy against the shepherds of Israel. These "shepherds" represent the political and religious leaders who were responsible for guiding and protecting the people.

**[Failed Responsibilities:](https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=1dda3acef72a6239&cs=0&sxsrf=AHTn8zot6nkPRclrpKuy6KD1ryUNPcJhjg%3A1746353829597&q=Failed+Responsibilities&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjen9_8yomNAxWDsoQIHRgkK54Q4eYNegQILRAD&mstk=AUtExfDq-4iAHiQR6OdOCfcKJbrzR7CT8MoTtJEKNj_Eq9Nqjq7Mx7wom89Mp7QQHrJ_6-XcQ7cRao578Xr4j3Z0yTRs5Lwf7sMou9M9_4mGTbL_SsGgU4YSRXixRDFZDPBa6UHckCnjo3WPGw8QO1clIujIbn8OnI8a0Cx3-_DHljlPmP8Uy8q-89-KLkPb6Vp6Scj07TLLOHIcC2_8hlPYAIHOto0M6uJJJt2pJvbvY3HaHpLQ5zcx3YmGOu8Z65oZMUiOJGwotA88unaZIjVlg6gj&csui=3" \t "_blank)**

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The shepherds are accused of not feeding the sheep, but instead feeding themselves. They are described as consuming the fat and clothing themselves with the wool, while neglecting the weak, sick, injured, and lost sheep.

**[Neglect and Exploitation:](https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=1dda3acef72a6239&cs=0&sxsrf=AHTn8zot6nkPRclrpKuy6KD1ryUNPcJhjg%3A1746353829597&q=Neglect+and+Exploitation&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjen9_8yomNAxWDsoQIHRgkK54Q4eYNegQIIxAD&mstk=AUtExfDq-4iAHiQR6OdOCfcKJbrzR7CT8MoTtJEKNj_Eq9Nqjq7Mx7wom89Mp7QQHrJ_6-XcQ7cRao578Xr4j3Z0yTRs5Lwf7sMou9M9_4mGTbL_SsGgU4YSRXixRDFZDPBa6UHckCnjo3WPGw8QO1clIujIbn8OnI8a0Cx3-_DHljlPmP8Uy8q-89-KLkPb6Vp6Scj07TLLOHIcC2_8hlPYAIHOto0M6uJJJt2pJvbvY3HaHpLQ5zcx3YmGOu8Z65oZMUiOJGwotA88unaZIjVlg6gj&csui=3" \t "_blank)**

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The verse highlights the shepherds' failure to care for the people's needs, instead of nurturing and protecting the flock, they have exploited them.

**[God's Judgment:](https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=1dda3acef72a6239&cs=0&sxsrf=AHTn8zot6nkPRclrpKuy6KD1ryUNPcJhjg%3A1746353829597&q=God%27s+Judgment&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjen9_8yomNAxWDsoQIHRgkK54Q4eYNegQILBAD&mstk=AUtExfDq-4iAHiQR6OdOCfcKJbrzR7CT8MoTtJEKNj_Eq9Nqjq7Mx7wom89Mp7QQHrJ_6-XcQ7cRao578Xr4j3Z0yTRs5Lwf7sMou9M9_4mGTbL_SsGgU4YSRXixRDFZDPBa6UHckCnjo3WPGw8QO1clIujIbn8OnI8a0Cx3-_DHljlPmP8Uy8q-89-KLkPb6Vp6Scj07TLLOHIcC2_8hlPYAIHOto0M6uJJJt2pJvbvY3HaHpLQ5zcx3YmGOu8Z65oZMUiOJGwotA88unaZIjVlg6gj&csui=3" \t "_blank)**

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God will hold these shepherds accountable for their negligence and will eventually replace them with a true Shepherd who will care for the flock, as mentioned in verses 11 and 12.

**[Prophecy and Warning:](https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=1dda3acef72a6239&cs=0&sxsrf=AHTn8zot6nkPRclrpKuy6KD1ryUNPcJhjg%3A1746353829597&q=Prophecy+and+Warning&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjen9_8yomNAxWDsoQIHRgkK54Q4eYNegQIJBAD&mstk=AUtExfDq-4iAHiQR6OdOCfcKJbrzR7CT8MoTtJEKNj_Eq9Nqjq7Mx7wom89Mp7QQHrJ_6-XcQ7cRao578Xr4j3Z0yTRs5Lwf7sMou9M9_4mGTbL_SsGgU4YSRXixRDFZDPBa6UHckCnjo3WPGw8QO1clIujIbn8OnI8a0Cx3-_DHljlPmP8Uy8q-89-KLkPb6Vp6Scj07TLLOHIcC2_8hlPYAIHOto0M6uJJJt2pJvbvY3HaHpLQ5zcx3YmGOu8Z65oZMUiOJGwotA88unaZIjVlg6gj&csui=3" \t "_blank)**

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This chapter serves as a prophetic warning to leaders and a promise of God's ultimate restoration and care for his people.