The Book of Ezekiel "Ezekiel's Call- Part 1" Week 3: February 16, 2020 Ezekiel 2:1-3:3 Answers

Recap from Session 2:

- Ezekiel's Vision of the <u>Glory of the Lord</u> may very well be a key to all the visions of the Word of God.
 - o In Ezekiel we have the **Person** who is on the Throne.
- 1. Beholding the Glory of the Lord (Vs. 1)
 - a. The Storm (Vss. 3-4)
 - i. Since the immense <u>Whirlwind</u> cloud Ezekiel beheld was coming from the north, it indicated the <u>Invasion</u> of <u>Judah</u> by the Babylonian army and the destruction of the land, the city of Jerusalem, and the temple.
 - b. The Cherubim (Vss. 5-14)
 - i. Of special interest are their four faces: A Man, A Lion, An Ox, and An Eagle (Ezek. 1:10)
 - ii. The <u>Presence</u> of the <u>Cherubim</u> before the throne of God is assurance that God remembers His <u>Promise</u> and <u>Cares</u> for His creatures.
 - c. The Wheels (Vss. 15-21)
 - i. There are <u>Four</u> wheels (Vs. 16), each with an intersecting wheel and each associated with one of the <u>Cherubim</u>.
 - d. The Firmament (Vss. 22-25)
 - i. The <u>Wheels</u> symbolize the <u>Omnipresence</u> of God, while the <u>Eyes</u> on their rims suggest the **Omniscience** of God, seeing and knowing everything.
 - e. The Throne (Vss. 26-28)
 - The wheels depicted God's omnipresence and omniscience, and the <u>Throne</u> speaks of God's <u>Omnipotent</u> authority.

No matter what message God gave him to preach, or what opposition arose from the people, Ezekiel would be **Encouraged** and strengthened because He had **Seen** and **Mighty** throne of God in the midst of the **Fiery** trial. He had seen the glory of God.

Session 3

Background/Introduction:

The Babylonian Captivity actually took place in <u>Three</u> sieges, but it had been extensively prophesied well in advance. (Isa. 29:5-7)

- O Daniel, who had been taken captive as a teenager in the <u>First</u> of three sieges, came to know from reading the Jeremiah Prophecy that the Captivity would last 70 years.
- o This is why he went into prayer which was interrupted by <u>Gabriel</u> and the famous 70 week vision of <u>Daniel 9</u>.

- Why <u>70</u> Years?

- o 2 Chronicles 36:21
 - This tells us why they were enslaved in Babylon for exactly 70 years. They were supposed to keep (Till) the ground for Six years; the Seventh year was to be a Sabbath for the land.
 - They failed to keep that (Lev. 25). So after <u>490</u> years, God said, "You owe me 70."

1. The Call of the Prophet

- a. Apparently after the vision Ezekiel had seen, he was not standing up, but was down on his face. He will now receive a <u>Call</u>, a <u>Commission</u>, and an **Endowment**.
- b. "Son of Man:" This gives the idea of Son of Adam or "Son of Dust."
 - i. This is also the title that the Lord Jesus Christ appropriated to Himself 86 times in the New Testament (Of His humanity, as the **Representative** of man).
- c. "The Spirit entered in me:" In Old Testament times, the Holy Spirit did <u>Not</u> indwell all believers but indwelt <u>Selected</u> persons temporarily for divine services (I Sam. 10:9-11; Ps. 51:11).
 - i. The Spirit of God gave Ezekiel the <u>Power</u> to do the job He had given him. He will give you the power to do that job. In fact, God's <u>Work</u> can only be done with the power of God.
 - ii. The best position you can come to is to recognize that you are **Not able**, in your own strength, to do the job the Lord has given to you.
 - iii. The important thing then is to make sure that we are <u>Truly</u> called by God to do a certain thing.
- d. Vs. 3: "Rebellious Nation:" The word that is translated "Nation" is not the word that God generally used for His chosen people. The word in the Hebrew is "Goi," and it is the Word that Israel used to speak of the Gentiles, the pagans, the heathers.
 - i. God says they are a "Rebellious Nation." They have rebelled against Him and they are "Impudent Children."
 - ii. "Nation:" Israel is usually contrasted with the "Nations" They have become "Lo-ammi," Not the people of God.
- e. Vs. 4: "I do send unto them" When God calls, He Empowers.

- i. "Thus said the Lord:" "... Thou shalt say unto them, Thou saith the Lord God:" By using that phrase, one <u>Exposed</u> himself to be charged guilty of capital crimes.
- f. Vs. 5: Fulfillment is the test of a true prophet (Jer. 28:9)
- g. Vs. 6: Moses admonished the Jews to <u>Live</u> on God's Word as well as the bread (Manna) that the Lord supplied <u>Daily</u>. (<u>Deut. 8:3; Matt. 4:4</u>)
 - i. The prophet Jeremiah "Ate" the Word of God. (Jer. 15:16)
 - **ii.** But having seen the glorious **Throne** of the **Sovereign** Lord, Ezekiel knew that he had all the help all the help he needed to obey the will of God.
- h. The only Motivation that Never fails is doing All for the Glory of God.
 - i. Before Stephen laid down his life for the sake of Jesus Christ, he saw the glory of the Son of God in Heaven.
 - a. Acts 7:55-60, "But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep."