

**The Book of Ezekiel**  
**“Ezekiel’s Call- Part 2”**  
**Week 4: February 23, 2020**  
**Ezekiel 3:1-15**  
**Answers**

**Recap from Session 3:**

- The Babylonian Captivity actually took place in **Three** sieges, but it had been extensively prophesied well in advance. (**Isa. 29:5-7**)
- 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 **Call**, a **Commission**, and an **Endowment**.
  - b. **Vs. 3:** God says they are a “**Rebellious Nation**.” They have rebelled against Him and they are “**Impudent Children**.”
    - i. “**Nation-**” Israel is usually contrasted with the “**Nations**.” They have become “**Lo-ammi**,” “**Not the people of God**.”
  - c. **Vs. 4:** “**I do send unto them**” When God calls, He **Empowers**
  - d. **Vs. 6:** Moses admonished the Jews to **Live** on God’s Word as well as the bread (Manna) that the Lord supplied **Daily** (**Duet. 8:3; Matt. 4:4**).
    - i. But having seen the glorious **Throne** of the **Sovereign** Lord, Ezekiel knew that he had all the help he needed to obey the will of God.
    - ii. The only **Motivation** that **Never** fails is doing **All** for the **Glory** of God.

**Session 4:**

**The Preparation of the Prophet**

- **Vs. 1:** No man ought to **Preach** the Word whose heart is **Not** in it and who does not believe every word he says. The pulpit is the place to **Declare** God’s Word.
- **Digesting His Words**
  - o **Vss. 2-3:** The Word of God **Reveals** a Person to you and then you fall in love with Him.

**Declaring the Word of the Lord (3:4-27)**

- What the people needed more than anything else was to hear the Word of the Lord! Even **Before** the Nation fell, Jeremiah had warned them not to listen to the false prophets, but neither the leaders nor the common people would obey.
  - o God had spoken **Loudly** in Israel’s shameful **Defeat** and **Captivity**, but now the Jews were still clinging to empty hopes and listening to the lying words.
  - o The human heart would rather **Hear** lies that bring **Comfort** than truth that bring **Conviction** and **Cleaning**.
- Ezekiel declared God’s Word as a **Messenger** (**3:4-9**), A **Sufferer** (**3:10-15**), a **Watchman** (**3:16-21**), and a **Sign** (**3:22-27**).

## 1. The Messenger (Vss. 4-9)

- a. **Speaking (Vs. 4)**- The latter part of **Vs. 4** was God's commission. Ezekiel was the **Messenger**, the People of Israel was the **Audience**, and the Word of God was the **Message** to be delivered.
  - i. One of the Old Testament words for preaching was "**Kerusso**," which means "**To Proclaim as a herald**."
  - ii. **If** Ezekiel wanted to be a faithful herald, **Every** part of God's commission had to be obeyed even to the last detail.
- b. **Receiving (Vss. 5-7)**
  - i. To receive the Word of God means to **Understand** it and take into the heart and the mind. (**Matt. 13:19**)
- c. **Obeying (Vss. 7-9)**
  - i. Why would God send Ezekiel if He knew the people would not listen? So that God might be **Just** when He **Judges**.
    1. As long as Jerusalem had not **Fallen**, Ezekiel's message would be to His people, **Admonishing** them to flee idolatry and return to the Lord!
  - ii. For the remnant that did hear him, that was valuable; but the period of **Grace** finally ran out and God's **Judgment** fell on the city of Jerusalem, and the rest of the people were brought into captivity.
    1. That is the point of time when Ezekiel's message **Shifted**.
  - iii. God does not send His messengers to His people to entertain them or give them good advice. He **Expects** us to obey what He **Commands**.
  - iv. No other nation has been blessed by God as Israel has been blessed, for the Jews had God's **Holy** law, the **Covenants**, a **Wealthy** land, the **Temple**, and the prophets to give them warnings and promises they needed. (**Rom. 9:1-5**)
    1. God assured His prophet that He would give him all he needed to withstand their **Opposition** and **Disobedience**.
  - v. **Vs. 8**: In this verse, there is a play on words involving Ezekiel's name, which means "**God is strong**" or "**God strengthens**." It also means "**God Hardens**." If the people harden their hearts and faces, God will harden His servant and keep him faithful to his mission.

## 2. The Sufferer (Vss. 10-15)

- a. The **Spirit of God** lifted the prophet up and took him to the place where the captives were gathered together and probably praying.
- b. As the Spirit began to work, Ezekiel heard behind him several sounds:
  - i. The **Rustling** of the Cherubim's **Wings**
  - ii. The **Whirring** of the Wheels
  - iii. "**And a noise of a great Rushing**" like an earthquake.
- c. He knew that God's glorious Throne was **Moving** and the Lord was **Working** out His purposes.
- d. It is a good thing for the servant of God to be among his people, to **Weep** with those who weep and **Rejoice** with those who rejoice, for he can **Better** minister to them when he knows their **Hearts**, and feels their **Pain**.

- i. It is Not simply enough to Proclaim the message of God; we must also Seek to have the Caring heart of God.

