



The Call of Ezekiel

Ezekiel 2:1-7



Introduction

So many who need the gospel -- untaught, misinformed, never heard in sincerity and truth.

Our purpose as those who are redeemed by the blood of the Lamb -- our call -- to be salt and light. To seek to draw others to Jesus by how we live and what we say. By example and by sharing the good news.

How do we prepare ourselves for that challenge? We learn great lessons in the call of Ezekiel.

We are not called to be prophets -- inspired spokesmen, but we are called and commissioned to carry God's inspired message. What do we see in the call and preparation of this great, understudied man, that can be helpful to us today?

First few verses -- Ezekiel was 30 years old (?). Along with others from Judah, he was in Babylonian captivity, because of centuries of sin against a loving, longsuffering and just God.



Ezekiel Stood In Awe Of God.

Ezekiel 1:4-8 → the appearance of the glory and majesty of God, caused Ezekiel to fall on his face -- to fear, reverence and humble himself before the Almighty.



Ezekiel Stood In Awe of God

God is Almighty. (Gen. 17:1)

God is the Creator. (Rom. 1:20; Gen. 1:1)

God is the Giver of every good and perfect gift. (Js. 1:17; Acts 17:24-28)

God sent his Son to die for our sins. (Jn. 3:16; Rom. 5:8-9)

Our response must be one of humility, gratitude and humble submission to his word. (Ps. 40:5; Ps.51:12-13)



Ezekiel Was To Proclaim God's Word Regardless of the Response (2:1-7)

Ezekiel 2:5 → "As for them, whether
they listen or not--for they are a
rebellioushouse--they will know that a
prophet has been among them.



Ezekiel Was To Proclaim God's Word Regardless of the Response (3:1-7)

Listen and do God's will regardless of what the world around you is doing.

“No one will listen” is not an excuse.

God's people will always have opposition. (John 15:18-21; Matt. 5:10-12)

A child of God is to present a clear and distinct contrast to the world. (1 Pet. 4:3-4)



Ezekiel Was To Proclaim God's Word Regardless of the Response (2:1-7)

The tragedy of a “worldly” Christian. (Matt. 5:13) →

13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.



Ezekiel Was To Consume The Word of God.
(Ezek. 2:8-3:4)

Ezekiel 3:3 → And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness.



Ezekiel Was To Consume The Word of God.
(Ezek. 2:8-3:4)

A common figure of speech in the scriptures:

Jeremiah 15:16 → Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts.



Ezekiel Was To Consume The Word of God. (Ezek. 2:8-3:4)

Rev. 10:9-10 → **9** And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey. **10** And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter.



Ezekiel Was To Consume The Word of God. (Ezek. 2:8-3:4)


The word of God is essential to life. (Matt. 4:4; Job. 23:12)

We must know the message. (II Tim. 4:1-4)

The gospel is the power of God unto salvation. (Rom. 1:16)

Faith is produced by the word of God. (Rom. 10:17)

We are to be prepared to give an answer. (I Pet. 3:15)



Ezekiel Was Sent To His Sphere of Influence. (3:4-7)

Ezekiel had a message that could be communicated and understood. (Eph. 3:3-5; 5:17)

Ezekiel was to begin where he was. (3:5)

The great commission: Mk. 16:15-16.

Begin where we are -- with our friends, family, co-workers, school mates, etc.

We are to be consistent and persistent, regardless of the reception.




Ezekiel Was To Be Persistent In Proclaiming God's Message. (3:7-10)

Ezekiel was to be strong and resolute in carrying out his work.

He was not to be deterred by opposition.

3:11 → Go to the exiles, to your fellow countrymen, and speak to them – say to them, “This is what the Sovereign Lord says,’ whether they pay attention or not.”



Ezekiel Was To Be Zealous For God's Righteousness. (3:12-14)

Ezekiel was passionately moved by the sinful condition of God's people. (3:14; Mk. 3:5; Eph. 4:26)

Ezekiel was filled with righteousness indignation against sin, and zealous for the Lord's word and work. (Titus 2:14; Rev. 2:4)

Zeal must be accompanied by knowledge. (Rom. 10:1-3)



Ezekiel Was A Watchman. (3:16-21)

With the responsibility to warn the wicked. (3:18)

With the responsibility to warn the one who turns from righteousness. (3:20)

With accountability in doing both. (3:18)

Each one will answer for their response to the word of God. (3:19,21)