



The Call of Ezekiel (Ezekiel 2:1–3:3)

Nov 4

RECAP: [Ezekiel](#)

CONTEXT: Ezekiel, our companion for November! Ezekiel was a priest in Jerusalem who was carried away to Babylon during the first captivity under Jehoiachin (see 2 Ki 24:8–17). In the fifth year of exile when he was with the exiles near the Chebar Canal he looked and saw a windy vision of the glory of God (could God's glory dwell beyond Judah in the foreign land?). Ezekiel is called to be a prophet in his thirtieth year, the year he would have begun serving as a priest (his work ends when the priests would have retired at fifty). He will accuse and warn them of breaking the covenant and of the disaster upon Jerusalem to come. He pronounced judgement upon Israel and the nations but also offered visions of hope of what God was going to do under the New Covenant, and beyond.

FIRST, A.M. SERMON RECAP (Generosity):

- How did Jerusalem fall and why?
- What evocative language did Jeremiah use to describe the fall of Jerusalem in Lamentations?
- In what way are the judgements of the OT pictures of hell?
- What does propitiation mean? (Ro 3:25). If Jesus doesn't bear the sinners wrath through faith and repentance, where can they expect to drink from this cup?

READ: Ezekiel 2:1–3:3

QUESTIONS:

1. V. 1- Why did Ezekiel need to stand up?
2. What is standing a symbol of?
3. **Did Ezekiel stand in his own strength? What significance has this for ministry?**
4. *Son of Man is used 93 times to refer to Ezekiel (99 in the entire OT). Son of X identified someone as part of a family, group or*

class. Son of man identifies Ezekiel as a creature before his Creator. It is a title of humility!

5. V. 5 & 7- Does the success of his ministry depend on people's response? Why? (Given what follows in question 6 one would hope not!).
6. **What phrase is repeatedly used to speak of Israel? What type of bent did Israel have? (Ex 32:9) What do you think this speaks of all people (e.g. Eph 4:18)?**
7. Vv. 6–7- Think back to Jeremiah's commissioning (Jer 1:17). Given the rebellious nature of the people of Israel, what sort of ministry might Ezekiel expect to have? (Note: Ezekiel means "God strengthens").
8. **How ought we to have a similar resolve in ministry today?**
9. Vv. 8–10- What does the scroll represent? What message did it contain? Why does this make Ezekiel's ministry difficult?
10. 3:1–3- Here Ezekiel is tested with three commands, what are they? How does his response compare with Israel's?
11. **How is obedience the fruit of faith?**
12. Do you think the scroll was literal or figurative? (See how this phrase is used elsewhere, Ps 40:7–8; Jer 36:2, 4).
13. *Finally, the words of mourning are surprisingly not bitter. What do they taste like? What does that say of God's Word (c.f. Ps 19:10, 119:103; Dt 6:24) and obedience generally? How does this challenge our notions, or the worlds?*

NEXT WEEK: The Parable of Two Eagles and a Vine (Ezk 17)