

Ezekiel 2:1-10 – The Call and Commission of God’s Messenger

“And He said to me, ‘Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak to you.’ Then the Spirit entered me when He spoke to me, and set me on my feet; and I heard Him who spoke to me.” (Ezekiel 2:1-2, NKJV)

When Ezekiel saw the overwhelming vision of God’s glory in chapter 1, he fell facedown, undone in the presence of the Holy One. But now the Lord speaks directly to him. God addresses him as **“son of man”**—a title that highlights human frailty in the presence of divine majesty. Ezekiel uses this title throughout the book, and Jesus later uses it for Himself in the Gospels, pointing not only to His humanity but also to His unique identity as the One who bridges heaven and earth.

The Lord commands Ezekiel to stand, but Ezekiel cannot stand on his own. The Spirit enters him, strengthens him, and enables him to listen. God never calls someone without also empowering them. What He commands, He supplies.

A Mission to a Rebellious People

“And He said to me: ‘Son of man, I am sending you to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against Me... They are impudent and stubborn children. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God.’” (Ezekiel 2:3-4, NKJV)

Ezekiel’s mission is not glamorous. He is sent to a nation that has turned its back on God for generations. Their hearts are hard. Their attitudes are resistant. But God still sends His word to them, because His love does not quit even when His people wander.

Ezekiel is not told to persuade them with clever arguments. He is not told to tailor the message to suit their tastes. He is simply told to declare, **“Thus says the Lord God.”** The authority lies in God’s word, not in the messenger.

A Prophet Who Must Stand, Even if No One Listens

“Whether they hear or whether they refuse... yet they will know that a prophet has been among them.” (Ezekiel 2:5, NKJV)

God prepares Ezekiel for a reality every servant of God must accept: obedience is required, outcome is God’s responsibility. Ezekiel’s success is not measured by how many listen but by his faithfulness to deliver the message.

This truth frees God’s people from the burden of results. We witness, we share truth, we act in obedience—but God alone brings change.

Fearless Faith in a Hostile Environment

“Do not be afraid of them, nor be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns are with you and you dwell among scorpions.” (Ezekiel 2:6, NKJV)

God warns Ezekiel that the people may be as painful as thorns and as dangerous as scorpions. Their words may wound. Their looks may intimidate. Their attitudes may cut deep. But fear is not an option.

God’s servants in every generation must stand firm when truth is unpopular. Courage does not come from personality or strength of will. It comes from knowing who sent us.

The Messenger Must First Receive the Message

“But you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Do not be rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you.” (Ezekiel 2:8, NKJV)

Before Ezekiel can speak God’s words, he must first receive them. God gives him a scroll filled with “lamentations and mourning and woe.” Ezekiel is told to eat it—to take it deep into himself until it becomes part of him.

This is symbolic, but profoundly real. God’s word is not something we merely study from a distance. It must be taken in until it shapes our thinking, our convictions, and our actions. Ezekiel’s nourishment needs to be the message itself.

In the New Testament, John experiences something similar in Revelation. The Word of God is sweet, yet it confronts sin, calls for repentance, and warns of judgment. It is sweet because it comes from God; it is heavy because it cuts to the heart.

Practical Application

1. **Let God’s Spirit strengthen you before you serve.**
Ezekiel could not stand until the Spirit empowered him. Likewise, we cannot follow God’s calling in our own strength.
2. **Be faithful even when the audience is resistant.**
Many people today reject truth, dismiss Scripture, or ignore God altogether. Faithfulness matters more than outcome.
3. **Do not fear opposition.**
The world may mock or misunderstand your commitment to Jesus. God still calls you to stand firm.
4. **Let God’s Word shape you before you speak it.**
Scripture must be more than information—it must become transformation.

A Challenge for Believers

Take time this week to allow God’s Word to sink deeper into your life. Ask yourself:

- Am I feeding on Scripture or only glancing at it?
- Am I obeying God fully, or hesitating out of fear or pressure?
- Am I standing firm in a culture that increasingly resists God's truth?

Commit to being a faithful witness of Christ's love and truth, even when it feels difficult.

An Invitation to Those Who Do Not Yet Know Jesus

Ezekiel's message confronts a rebellious nation, but God speaks because He desires restoration, not destruction. Today He still calls people back to Himself.

Jesus shed His blood on the cross to save us from sin, and His resurrection declares that He is God, Savior, and Lord. He offers forgiveness, peace, and new life to all who come to Him.

If you have never surrendered your life to Him, you can do that now. Turn to Him, ask Him to forgive you, and trust in what He accomplished for you on the cross. He will receive you, cleanse you, and make you new.