

## Ezekiel 2 – The Commission

By Holly Effiom

VV1-2

- Why did God want Ezekiel to stand upon his feet?
- What happened to Ezekiel when God spoke His command?
- What does this show us about God?
- What does it show us with regard to His expectations for His servants?

LESSON: It's only 2 verses but powerful! When God wants us to do something, He will empower us to do that command. He does not call us to climb a mountain and then leaves us to do it without resources.

VV3-5

- Did an angel have to address Ezekiel's feelings of inadequacy before God?
- Did an angel have to address Ezekiel's weakness in his flesh?
- Did God give Ezekiel a moment to adjust to the shock of being in God's presence?
- Why do you think this is?
- What is the difference, personally, between Ezekiel and Isaiah? Between Ezekiel and Daniel? Between Ezekiel and Mary (Luke 1:26-38)?
- Why did God appear before Ezekiel? What message did He want Ezekiel to do?

LESSON: God's approach to Ezekiel was very different from His approach to Isaiah and Daniel, and even Mary. I believe it was because Ezekiel was a "priest" – a personal servant to God Himself. He *knew* God, though he had not *seen* Him before. To be a priest meant that Ezekiel kept himself ritually clean at all times – in preparation for service to God at any moment. Could this be equivalent to "virginity", in the case of Mary? She may not have *seen* God, but she *knew* Him, and kept herself in a state in preparation for service? Was this the reason she didn't collapse at the presence of the angel's appearance?

VV6-8

- Why would God tell Ezekiel to not be afraid?
- Who was Ezekiel not to fear?
- What was there for Ezekiel to fear?
- Was God promising complete transformation of all who will hear Ezekiel's words?
- So, what is the point of sending Ezekiel?
- Why does God feel the need to tell Ezekiel not to be rebellious? Isn't Ezekiel His priest?
- What did God want Ezekiel to eat?

VV9-10

- How does the "food" appear before Ezekiel?
- What is meant scripturally when one is given a book or scroll to eat?
- Was Ezekiel given the opportunity to examine the "food"? What did it look like?
- Was the "food" a birthday cake or string beans?

LESSON: This interaction with Ezekiel is very instructive of God's ways – He is allowing Ezekiel to *see* Him and to try and *understand* Him, and what do we learn? In chapter 1, we see that God is beyond comprehension – aspects of Him can be understood the more you look upon Him, but all at once is overwhelming. In chapter 2, we see that God is angry with the children of Israel, but He wasn't giving up on them – He was equipping and sending yet another prophet to speak His warnings to them. That's love!