

Ezekiel's Call

Ezekiel 1 - 3

by Don Falkos

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Ezekiel was a priest who had been in Babylon for five years, living among other Judean exiles in Tel-abib. One day as he sat beside the Kebar canal, a storm cloud approached. In the cloud he saw a startling vision of the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. Four strange winged creatures were perched above wheels that could roll in any direction. Over their heads was a dome that glittered like ice, and above the dome was a throne. The figure seated on the throne shown brilliantly and flashed with fire.

A voice came from the throne. "The people of Israel have rebelled against me and continue to rebel to this day. You are to tell them what I say, whether they listen or not." The Lord unrolled a scroll covered with writing front and back – words of lament and warning and woe – and said, "Eat this scroll."

Ezekiel ate the scroll; it tasted as sweet as honey.

"You are to be a watchman over the people of Israel. Warn them. If they turn to me, they will be saved. If not, they will die. You are not answerable for their response. But if you fail to deliver my message, your life is forfeit."

The Spirit of the Lord entered Ezekiel and the Lord said, "Go, shut yourself inside your house as though you are a prisoner, tied up with ropes, unable to go out among your neighbors. Do not speak to the people until I give you a message. Those who choose to listen will listen, but those who refuse will refuse, because they are a rebellious people."