

## Soulwinning Notes from Ezekiel

Although this passage was directed to a Jewish prophet dealing with a Jewish audience, there are some good practical applications that can be made with regard to soulwinning. This is an area that I've been asking the Lord to give me boldness in and get "better" at, so reading through this passage was a great help to me.

**v3 And he said unto me, Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against me: they and their fathers have transgressed against me, even unto this very day.**

**v4 For they are impudent children and stiffhearted. I do send thee unto them; and thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD.**

**v5 And they, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear (for they are a rebellious house,) yet shall know that there hath been a prophet among them.**

**v6 And thou, son of man, be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns be with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions: be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.**

**v7 And thou shalt speak my words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear.**

**v8 But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee.**

**v9 And when I looked, behold, an hand was sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book was therein.**

**v10 And he spread it before me; and it was written within and without: and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe.**

There are several things from this that seemed to be aimed right at me as a Christian in the church age, and I believe you too if you know the Lord.

v3-4: 2 Corinthians 5:20 says that "**we are ambassadors for Christ**", We've been sent to a "**rebellious nation**" of "**impudent**" people that are "**stiffhearted**" and resent what God has said about them and about Himself.

We're to "**Preach the word**" (2 Tim 4v2) and speak "**the oracles of God...that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ...**" (1 Pet 4v11) We're not to water down the gospel message to make it more palatable to self righteous people trusting in their own works, but to say "**Thus saith the Lord...**" while telling them what God says about "**sin, and of righteousness, and of judgement**" (Jn 16v8) then allowing the Holy Spirit to reprove them of those things so that they will hopefully see their need for a Saviour and trust the Lord Jesus Christ to save them.

v5: It doesn't matter whether they like it or not, give them God's words. Some years ago there was a chubby little Kenyan school teacher, a saved man, who went to the doctor for a check-up. The Doctor said, "You're fat and you'll die young of heart

disease if you don't lose some weight." (Wish we could get some Dr's like that here in the U.S.!) The school teacher took his advice and immediately began walking, then jogging, then running. Once he reached a healthy weight he started to TRAIN for a race. Turns out he was really good at distance running and began to win all kinds of races. He eventually won the Boston Marathon which a very prestigious race that attracts top runners from all over the world!

Now imagine if that Doctor would have said that he should eat a little less red meat, or more salad, etc instead of telling him exactly what was wrong with him? I for one, want to be like that Doctor and "give 'em the business!"

v6-7: **"In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."** (Jn 16v33) This won't be easy, and in fact it will probably be pretty awful at times. But man, I always like to know what I'm getting into. I love how the Lord always shoots straight with us and doesn't sugar coat anything. Back in World War 2 veterans of the "3<sup>rd</sup> Army" loved to say that they had "rolled with Patton." I sure wouldn't want to march with Allah or Bhudda (no way that guy could keep up!) or the "jesus" that the prosperity preachers talk about! I'm so glad that we're taking orders from the Lord Jesus Christ **"who loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood"** (Rev 1v5). There's nothing like serving under an officer that truly loves you and would lay down his life for you. It brings out the very best in everyone in the unit. The Lord has already done that and I'm so thankful to Him for it, so into the fray! Let no one escape!

Also, don't let the words of **"rebellious"**, hard hearted Christ rejectors or the dirty looks that they shoot your way get you down. If we're giving them God's words we're doing our job!

v8: Don't be rebellious and not do what God said! Whew, that's convicting for me. I want to be a good **"ambassador"** even if the people don't like what the Lord has to say. It's hard sometimes making a fool of myself, but once we're with the Lord I don't think I'll regret it one bit.

v9: He's given us a Book to equip us in the work He's asked us to do. Like a King commanding his soldiers to go fight dragons, and then giving them each a razor sharp broadsword that can cut through the toughest dragon hide, He's given us **"...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God"** (Eph 6v17) Furthermore, it's **"perfect", "sure", "right"** (Ps 19v7-8), and is **"true and righteous altogether"** (Ps 19v9) . **"Every word of God is true..."** (Prov 30v6) on any subject that it speaks upon. These **"holy scriptures"** which are **"given by inspiration of God"** can make sinners **"wise unto salvation"** and are **"profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness"** so that we are **"thoroughly furnished unto all good works."** (2 Tim 3v15-17

This **"sword"** has been through many a raging battle and is a sharp as ever!  
Praise the Lord!

v10: To the lost, hard hearted, self righteous sinner who hates what God says about them, this Book is full of **"lamentations, and mourning, and woe."**

**“...he that believeth not is condemned already...he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.” (Jn 3v18, 35)**

**“thou art inexcusable, O man” (Rom 2v1)**

**“God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ” (Rom 2v16)**

**“the wages of sin is death” (Rom 6v23)**

**“he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.” (1 John 5v12)**

**“...the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (2 Thess 1v7-8)**

**“Behold, the Lord cometh...to execute judgement upon all” (Jude 24-25)**

**“Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him...and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him...” (Rev 1v7)**

**“And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.” (Rev 20v15)**

**“Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men” (2 Cor 5v11) so that “...God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth” (2 Tim 2v25)**

The Lord has given us some work to do, but He's equipped us well to do it! He's as good of a “supply sergeant” as He is a **“Captain”!**

Lord, You're amazing and there's no one like You and no one we'd rather work for. Thank you for saving us and equipping us to do your work. Please help us to be faithful til you come back and get us! In Jesus Name, Amen.