### Ezekiel

## Chapter 3

1Then He said to me:  
  
 ‘O son of man, you must eat this…  
 And after you eat it,  
 You must tell the sons of IsraEl [what it says]!’  
  
2So He opened my mouth in order to feed me the scroll...  
  
3Then He said to me:  
  
 ‘O son of man'  
  
 ‘After I put this scroll in your mouth,  
 Your belly will get filled with this thing  
 That I am feeding to you.’  
  
So I ate it and found it to be as sweet as honey in my mouth.  
  
4Then He said to me:  
  
 ‘O son of man,  
  
 Now, go to the house of IsraEl  
 And tell them all that I have to say!  
  
 5‘You won’t have to speak to those with thick lips  
 Or to those who speak foreign tongues…  
 For to the house of IsraEl, you’re being sent.  
  
 6‘I will not send you to other nations …  
 To those who speak words that you won’t understand  
 Or to those who have foreign, thick tongues  
 Those who won’t know what you’re saying,  
 But to those who will understand you.  
  
 7‘Yet, the house of IsraEl will not listen  
 To the things that I’ll tell you to say…  
 They’ll not agree to listen to Me,  
 Since they are a hard-hearted people  
 And all they do is talk back.  
  
 8‘{Look!} Now, against their faces, I’ve made your face strong,  
 So your face will be firmer than theirs…  
 Yes, it will be harder than rock.  
  
 9‘So, don’t be afraid [when you go] before them,  
 And you should not be afraid,  
 For they are a house in rebellion.’  
  
10And he said to me:  
  
 ‘O son of man,  
  
 ‘Now, take My words into your heart,  
 And listen to them with your ears.  
 11Then, tell the captive sons of your people  
 That The Lord Jehovah has spoken,  
 And surely they’ll listen and yield.’  
  
  
12Well after that, [His] Spirit stood me erect, and from behind me I heard a rumbling sound that spoke to me and said:  
  
 ‘Praise the glory of Jehovah  
 That has come [to you] from His realm!’  
  
13Then I heard the sound of the flapping of the wings of the animals (because [the wings] were touching each other), as well as the sounds of the wheels that were moving next to them with a great rumbling.  
  
14And thereafter, [God’s] Breath lifted me up and carried me away… So my spirit was being lifted and motivated by the hand of Jehovah that had come over me, and this made me extremely powerful!  
  
15Then, while I was in this elevated [condition], I traveled among the rest of captives that live next to the Chobar River, and I stayed there for 7 days. 16And at the end of the 7 days, the Word of Jehovah came to me and said this:  
  
 17‘O son of man,  
  
 ‘Over the house of IsraEl,  
 I have made you the watchman.  
 So you must listen to the words from my mouth,  
 And then, you must bring them my warnings.  
  
 18‘For I’m saying that the lawless will die!  
 And you will also die with them  
 If you fail to give them my orders.  
  
 ‘Give these warnings to those lawless people  
 And tell them that they will only survive  
 If they’ll turn from their unrighteous ways!  
 But, if they should choose to stay lawless,  
 They will die for their sins,  
 And I won’t require their blood from your hands.  
  
 19‘If you give my word to the lawless,  
 And they refuse to turn from their ways;  
 They will die in their sins,  
 But I will still rescue you.  
  
 20‘For, if a righteous man should turn from right ways  
 And start doing things that are evil;  
 I’ll torment his face ‘til he dies.  
 But, if you’ve failed to bring him my word,  
 And this is what caused him to die,  
 So his righteous deeds are forgotten;  
 I’ll require his blood from your hands.  
  
 21‘But, if you will give [my] word to the righteous,  
 And you warn them that they must not sin…  
 And they choose not to sin because they’ve been warned,  
 And this results in their being saved;  
 You will have saved your own life.’  
  
  
22And after that, the hand of the Lord came upon me and said:  
  
 ‘Now arise and go out to the plains;  
 For there, I will tell you much more!’  
  
23So I got up and went out to the plains...  
  
And {Look!} there was the glory of Jehovah – the glory that I had seen by the Chobar River – and I fell to my face. 24Then [God’s] Breath came over me and stood me up on my feet… And it spoke to me and said:  
  
 ‘Go home and lock yourself inside your house;  
 25{Look!} For you, O son of man, are appointed to be bound…  
 Yes, they will come here and then tie you up,  
 And no way will you set yourself free.  
  
 26‘They’ll also wrap your tongue in your throat,  
 So you’ll be unable to speak,  
 And you won’t be able to scold them;  
 For, they are a house in rebellion.  
  
 27‘But then, my voice will start speaking through you…  
 I will open your mouth, and you’ll tell them  
 That this was said by Jehovah:  
  
 ‘All that wish to hear, should now listen!  
 But, those who don’t wish to make any change  
 Can continue to resist My persuasion;  
 For you are a house in rebellion!’