



Mission Impossible

Evangelism: mission impossible?

- “Most people don’t care; just want to be left alone”
- “Some who care are biased”
- “Others are downright hostile”

Don't be discouraged

Babylonian sieges

1. 606 BC, Dn.1:1-3

2. 597 BC, Ezk.1:1-3

3. 586 BC, Jeremiah

- Destroyed Jerusalem
- Burned Temple
- Took captives

I. Ezekiel's Mission

Ezk.1:...28, God put him in his place

**Bush,
Ex.3**

**Questions,
Job 38-42**

**Calling,
Is.6**

**Exile,
Ezk.1:1-3**

Past

Present

**Universe,
Ps.19**

**Word,
Ps.19**

**Conscience,
Ro.2:14-15**

**Prayer,
Ja.5**

Ezk.1, God put him in his place

Ezk.2:1-7, God prepared him for his people

1. Nations (pl.) as Canaan, 3.
2. Rebels, 4 (5-8).
3. Will not listen, 4-5. [33:30-33?]

Ezk.1, God put him in his place

Ezk.2:1-7, God prepared him for his people

Ezk.2:8-3:27, God provided him with his power

1. **Meal:** Word (eat it), 2:8-3:3
(Ac.4:20; Mt.4:4)
2. **Mission:** Word (explain it), 3:4-11
3. **Misery:** Wayward people, 3:6-7
4. **Might:** Wonder of Lord, 3:12-15
5. **Motive:** Watchman, 3:16-27



I. Ezekiel's Mission

**II. Lessons From
Ezekiel's Mission**

1. God impresses Ezekiel with divine glory

What would sustain him? Aware of God's

Glory

Power

God

Majesty

Sovereignty

2 Co.3:18

2. God calls Ezekiel in difficult circumstances (1:1-3)

- Does not shield him from harsh, dangerous conditions
 - Ac.9:...13-16
 - Blessing: prophet preaches repentance to disobedient people, 2:3-7
 - Ro.10:15 (Is.52:7)
 - Ph.2:15
- Ezk.21:3-4, indiscriminate suffering

3. God calls Ezekiel to faithfulness, not success (3:6-7)

- Before Ezekiel utters a word, God warns him he will 'fail' (3:6-7)
- What would "church growth" experts think of Ezekiel?
- Temptation: compromise
 - Ac.17 – 1 Co.2:1-5 (Ac.18)

Acts 14, same approach as Ac.17.
Ac.17, Athenian pride = 1 Co.1-4

4. God calls Ezekiel to obey despite difficult audience (3:8-9)

- If you find yourself in a difficult place of service, you're in good company.
 - "Hardest stone"
 - "Emery"
 - "Diamond"

"Adamant" –
unyielding, firm

"Fortified city"
–Jer.1:17-19

5. God gives Ezekiel only two weapons (3:10-11)

- Prayer, Preaching [2 Co.10:3-5]
- David and Goliath