Ezekiel 3

King James Version (KJV)

3 Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; <u>eat this roll</u>, and go speak unto <u>the house of Israel</u>. (Eat this roll – a figure of speech. It means - take it in, absorb it and know it; so that you can teach it to others. Ezekiel was sent to the House of Israel, not to Judah)

NOTES: (The House of Israel was taken by the Assyrians. After they were freed bt the Persians, they migrated over the Caucasus Mountains and settles Europe. They became known as Caucasians. Later, they also migrated to the US and to Canada)

(Today, we don't even know where we came from. We ignorantly call ourselves Gentiles. We are not. We are the descendants of these same 10 northern tribes of Israel)

- ²So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat that roll. (A figure of speech it means to learn it, to absorb it, to know it)
- ³ And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness. (The Word of God is loving and forgiving. It is sweet as honey. Spiritually, he learned the Word of God, and he knew it)
- ⁴And he said unto me, Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Israel, and <u>speak with my words unto them</u>. (Teach God's Words, not Ezekiel's words)

NOTE: (Preachers need to read this verse today. They think that their sermons are doing God's work)

- For thou art not sent to a people of a strange speech and of an hard language, but to the house of Israel; (These were his own people; not foreigners. There was no need to bring a translator along)
- Not to many people of a strange speech and of an hard language, whose words thou canst not understand. Surely, had I sent thee to them, they would have hearkened unto thee.

(The heathen probably would have received the Word of God. Yet the Israelites would not, because they knew Ezekiel as one of their own people. They had already refused God. Why would they accept Ezekiel)

⁷But the house of Israel will not hearken unto thee; for they will not hearken unto me: for all the house of Israel are <u>impudent and hardhearted</u>. (Arrogant and stubborn)

(The reason for trying is because there are usually a few right minded people in the bunch. They will wake up, listen and repent. They make the effort worthwhile. The rest will continue on in their confusion and delusion)

⁸ Behold, I have made thy face strong against their faces, and thy forehead strong against their foreheads. (Our strength comes from God. HE can give us the courage and strength to overcome any obstacle – including a crowd of ignorant nay-sayers)

Isaiah-43:26 (God said – Remind me of my promises, so that I may justify you. Claim those promises. That's how God will bless you and make you strong)

⁹ As an adamant harder than flint have I made thy forehead: fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house. (One person with God makes up a majority, no matter how strong the enemy might be)

EXAMPLE: (David, a young man with a sling, brought down the mightiest warrior of the Philistines, with a single shot. David didn't do that by himself. Almighty God did that for him – because David had faith in God and lived by that faith)

- ¹⁰ Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, <u>all my words</u> that I shall speak unto thee receive in thine heart, and hear with thine ears. (Hear all the words of God, not just some. Don't edit portions of God's Word out in order to appease people. Tell them everything)
- ¹¹ And go, get thee to them of the captivity, unto the children of thy people, and speak unto them, and tell them, Thus saith the Lord GoD; whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear. (Teach them the Word of God, unchanged, just as He stated them to you. Tell them the true Word of God. If they choose to ignore it, then it is on them)

NOTE: (Even today, Christians are in the captivity of false teaching and traditions of men. Very few churches teach the true Word of God. On the civil side, the governments of Christian countries are all engaging in censorship to silence those who speak the truth; instead of their political correctness)

- ¹²Then the spirit took me up, and I heard behind me a voice of a great rushing, saying, Blessed be the glory of the LORD from his place. (The prophets who have heard the voice of God all describe it as the sound of rushing waters. Ezekiel is in direct communication with the Father)
- ¹³ I heard also the noise of the wings of the living creatures that touched one another, and the noise of the wheels over against them, and a noise of a great rushing. (These are the vehicles that brought God's throne and His servants to visit Ezekiel)
- ¹⁴ So the spirit lifted me up, and took me away, and I went in bitterness, in the heat of my spirit; but the hand of the LORD was strong upon me. (The Holy Spirit of God has given great strength and courage to the people that God chose to deliver His message)
- ¹⁵ Then I came to them of the captivity at <u>Telabib</u>, that dwelt by the river of <u>Chebar</u>, and I sat where they sat, and <u>remained there</u> <u>astonished among them seven days</u>. (<u>Telabib</u> = <u>corn hill or corn crib</u>) (<u>Chebar</u> = a <u>length of time</u>; it was a river in <u>Babylon</u>)

(Ezekiel needed some time to understand and to absorb the message that God gave him. Being the presence of God is overwhelming to those that have been there. Ezekiel needed those seven days to recover)

- ¹⁶ And it came to pass at the end of seven days, that the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, (God gave Ezekiel time to ponder and reflect on what had happened to him)
- ¹⁷ Son of man, I have made thee <u>a watchman</u> unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. (A watchman is a guard. He is supposed to warn the people if danger approaches)

(These people are on the wrong path. Warn them so that they might wake up and change their ways)

- ¹⁸ When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. (Our job as Christians is to warn and teach all people; to give them a chance to wake up and change their ways. If they aren't warned, what chance do they have)
- ¹⁹ Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; <u>but thou hast delivered thy soul</u>. (Because you warned him; that was your assignment. It is on them to listen and to change)
- ²⁰ Again, When a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumbling-block before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand. (He will die for his trespass; but you will also die; for not having warned him)
- ²¹ Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.
- ²² And the hand of the LORD was there upon me; and he said unto me, Arise, go forth into the plain, and I will there talk with thee.
- ²³ Then I arose, and went forth into the plain: and, behold, the glory of the LORD stood there, as the glory which I saw by the river of Chebar: and I fell on my face. (God's presence is overwhelming to man)
- ²⁴ Then the spirit entered into me, <u>and set me upon my feet</u>, and spake with me, and said unto me, Go, shut thyself within thine house. (God wants him standing and listening. Not groveling in the dirt)
- ²⁵ But thou, O son of man, behold, they shall put bands upon thee, and shall bind thee with them, and thou shalt not go out among them:
- ²⁶ And I will make thy tongue cleave to the roof of thy mouth, that thou shalt be dumb, and shalt not be to them a reprover: for they are a rebellious house. (There's a time and a place for everything: to speak or to keep quiet. God is guiding Ezekiel through the maze of man's politics and deception. There will be a time and a place for Ezekiel to speak up)

Note: (When confronting the serpent <Lucifer as antichrist> go for the head, not the tail. God will give the Elect the right time and place to confront antichrist; so that they will do the most good. Wait for God's cue before you speak against him)

²⁷ But when I speak with thee, I will open thy mouth, and thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GoD; He that heareth, let him hear; and he that forbeareth, let him forbear: for they are a rebellious house. (God will tell him when to speak, and what words to say. This is an example to the Elect when they are delivered before the antichrist. The words that God gives them will wake up a great number of people. God's Words will destroy antichrist's kingdom)