I. Ezekiel offers a Foreign Mission Report from Babylon vs. Jeremiah’s Home Mission Report

 A. When awareness of God’s Purpose, Plans, and Presence are lost, what’s needed?

 1. Ezekiel’s answer is, “A Vision.” Note well Proverbs 29:18

 2. A vision of God answers the question, “Where was God when…?”

 3. A vision of God answers the question, “Why would God allow…?”

 B. Vision One was comprised of:

 1. A windstorm; four living creatures; intersecting wheels, and over it all —

 2. A figure of a man seated on a throne with a rainbow surrounding him.

II. Ezekiel’s Report for God’s People Extends through Chapter 24 with messages of doom.

 A. This report teaches the principle that Infinite God works Finite Man. Nb. Son of Man

 1. What’s your name?

 B. Our natural reaction is fear of rejection and ridicule, using self-deprecating excuses.

 C. Consider the timeless truth that God’s strength shows up best in weak people.

 1. 2 Corinthians 12:10

 D. Audience response is not our responsibility. It’s God’s. 2 Timothy 4:2

III. A New Method of Bible Study is introduced with Ezekiel — Eating It.

 A. Compare the Instruction of Ezekiel 3 with Revelation 10.

 B. Compare Jesus’ instructions in John 6.

 C. The Sour Notes of Doom were sweet as honey to Ezekiel. Why? Cf. The Cross.

 D. Awareness of God’s goodness in a time of disaster is a sign we’re eating well.

 1. Herein lies the principle behind Paul’s experiences: 2 Corinthians 11

IV. Ezekiel’s role as a watchman was to warn both the wicked and righteous alike.

 A. God’s messages can sometimes be better seen than heard.

 1. Ropes, clay tablets, left-side, right-side, shaved head, etc.

 B. Chapter 8 is reminiscent of the Letters to the Churches in Revelation.

 C. Chapter 11 reminds us that even in messages of doom there needs to be hope.

**Be Still My Soul**

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| **1.** Be still, my soul; the Lord is on thy side;Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;Leave to thy God to order and provide;In every change He faithful will remain.Be still, my soul; thy best, thy heavenly, FriendThrough thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**3**. Be still, my soul, though dearest friends departAnd all is darkened in the vale of tears;Then shalt thou better know His love, His heart,Who comes to soothe thy sorrows and thy fears.Be still, my soul; thy Jesus can repayFrom His own fulness all He takes away. | **2.** Be still, my soul; thy God doth undertakeTo guide the future as He has the past.Thy hope, thy confidence, let nothing shake;All now mysterious shall be bright at last.Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still knowHis voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.**4**. Be still, my soul; the hour is hastening onWhen we shall be forever with the Lord,When disappointment, grief and fear are gone,Sorrow forgot, love’s purest joys restored.Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,All safe and blessed we shall meet at last. |