

# OHANA STUDY GUIDE

September 13-19, 2009

Sermon: "Hard Heads and Soft Hearts"

Sept. 20, 2009

Ezekiel 2:1-3:3

1. Read 2:1-5. In what position was Ezekiel when God told him to "stand up on your feet?" (see 1:28)
  - a. What enabled Ezekiel to get up on his feet (v.2)?
  - b. What practical lesson in Christian living do you find here? (see Zech.4:6).
2. God gave Ezekiel a task which appeared to be destined to fail. What was it?
  - a. Explain the significance of God's words to Ezekiel in V.5, "whether they listen or not."
  - b. Why would God command anyone to do something even when they would face such stubborn opposition?
3. Read 2:6-8. Did God mean that Ezekiel would sit among "briars, thorns, and scorpions" (v.6) in the literal sense or was he using these figuratively?
  - a. What two things were Ezekiel not to fear from the people of Israel?
  - b. When we encounter opposition in our service for Christ, how can these words encourage us? Read Isaiah 51:12.
4. In v.8 God gives a warning to Ezekiel. What is it?

- a. Why is it that we are often tempted in the very same way as the ones we are trying to help come out of their sins?
  - b. What warning a much like this one are we given in Galatians 6:1?
5. Read 2:9-3:3. Before Ezekiel could speak one word to the Israelites, what was he first commanded to do with the scroll God placed before him?
  - a. What does this scroll represent for us as we prepare to serve God today?
6. What was written on this scroll?
  - a. When God commanded Ezekiel to "eat" the scroll, what was he commanding him to do?
  - b. How do we "eat" the words that God has for us today?
7. Did Ezekiel do as God commanded him to do with the scroll?
  - a. What was the result?
  - b. If this scroll contained words of "lament", mourning, and woe, "how could it taste "as sweet as honey" in Ezekiel's mouth?
  - c. If we are not continually nourished each day from God's Word, what will the result be in our faith?