

Title: An Unanswered Question

Memory Verse – Genesis 4:9 “And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brothers keeper?”

Text: Ezekiel 3:16-22

1. Prerequisites for Prophets

- a) A calling – Ezekiel has a personal encounter with the LORD (Ez.1:28-2:1)
- b) An indwelling of the Spirit (Ez. 2:2)
- c) A specific (and difficult) assignment given – Ezekiel was sent to the rebellious house of Israel (Ez. 2:3)
 - 1. Was directed to lie upon his left side for 390 days and on his right side for 40 days (Ez. 4)
 - 2. Was directed to eat cows dung, which was a substitution for man's dung at Ezekiel's appeal
 - 3. Directed to not grieve over the death of his wife (Ez. 24)
- d) Given words to speak by God (Ez. 12:25, 2:4)
- e) The response to his work is irrelevant to his job (Ez. 2:7)

2. Warnings from the Watchman

- a) Thou shalt surely die (Ez. 18:4)
- b) Blow the trumpet, deliver thy soul (Ez. 3:19)
- c) Turn from your iniquity and live! (Ez. 3:20)

3. Checked Boxes for Christians

- a) Has been born again (Ez. 33:10-16, I John 4:2-3, Romans 10:9-10, Ez. 18)
- b) Has been called
 - 1. The Great Commission is a general call to every christian to spread the Gospel but not a specific call to a specific ministry. (Acts 1:8, Luke 24:49)
 - 2. God calls his people for his service (Hebrews. 5:4)
- c) God will give each Christian a specific assignment(s) I Corinthians. 12:27-31
 - 1. The assignment(s) will fit that individual, his grace will be sufficient
- d) Has been anointed by the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-4, Ephesians. 1:13, Romans 8:9-11)
- e) Are given the words to speak from God (Acts 2:4, Luke 21:14-15)
 - 1. When there is a lack of words check out II Timothy 3:16-17, Hebrews 4:12, James. 1:5)