

## ALLUSIONS TO EZEKIEL 2-3 IN REVELATION 5 & 10

Revelation is actually a MOSAIC of allusions to passages in the OLD TESTAMENT. These allusions direct us back to the roots of the Imagery of Revelation in the Old Testament. By recognizing these allusions and reading passages of Revelation within the context of its Old Testament Roots we are able to understand the Imagery used in Revelation.

Revelation 5 and 10 contain allusions to Ezekiel 2-3. We will now consider certain images in Revelation 10 within the context of Ezekiel 2-3.

### Revelation 5 (NKJV)

**5** And I saw in the right *hand* of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals.

**2** Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?"

**3** And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it.

**4** So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read<sup>d</sup> the scroll, or to look at it.

**5** But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose<sup>e</sup> its seven seals."

**6** And I looked, and behold,<sup>f</sup> in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

**7** Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.

#### Worthy Is the Lamb

**8** Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

**9** And they sang a new song, saying:

"You are worthy to take the scroll,  
And to open its seals;  
For You were slain,  
And have redeemed us to God by Your blood  
Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,  
**10** And have made us<sup>g</sup> kings<sup>h</sup> and priests to our God;  
And we<sup>i</sup> shall reign on the earth."

**11** Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands,

**12** saying with a loud voice:

"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
To receive power and riches and wisdom,  
And strength and honor and glory and blessing!"

**13** And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying:

"Blessing and honor and glory and power  
Be to Him who sits on the throne,  
And to the Lamb, forever and ever!"<sup>j</sup>

**14** Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four<sup>k</sup> elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.<sup>l</sup>

### Revelation 10 (NKJV)

**10** I saw still another mighty angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud. And a rainbow *was* on his head, his face *was* like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire.

**2** He had a little book open in his hand. And he set his right foot on the sea and *his left foot* on the land,

**3** and cried with a loud voice, as *when* a lion roars. When he cried out, seven thunders uttered their voices.

**4** Now when the seven thunders uttered their voices,<sup>c</sup> I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven saying to me,<sup>d</sup> "Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them."

**5** The angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised up his hand<sup>e</sup> to heaven

**6** and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that there should be delay no longer,

**7** but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets.

**8** Then the voice which I heard from heaven spoke to me again and said, "Go, take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the earth."

**9** So I went to the angel and said to him, "Give me the little book." And he said to me, "Take and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but it will be as sweet as honey in your mouth."

**10** Then I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth. But when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter.

**11** And he<sup>f</sup> said to me, "You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings."

### Ezekiel 1:28b-3:15 (NKJV)

so when I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard a voice of One speaking.

**2** And He said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak to you."

**2** Then the Spirit entered me when He spoke to me, and set me on my feet; and I heard Him who spoke to me.

**3** And He said to me: "Son of man, I am sending you to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against Me; they and their fathers have transgressed against Me to this very day.

**4** "For they are impudent and stubborn children. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God:'

**5** "As for them, whether they hear or whether they refuse—for they are a rebellious house—yet they will know that a prophet has been among them.

**6** "And you, son of man, do not be afraid of them nor be afraid of their words, though briars and thorns are with you and you dwell among scorpions; do not be afraid of their words or dismayed by their looks, though they are a rebellious house.

**7** "You shall speak My words to them, whether they hear or whether they refuse, for they are rebellious.

**8** "But you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Do not be rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you."

**9** Now when I looked, there was a hand stretched out to me; and behold, a scroll of a book was in it.

**10** Then He spread it before me; and there was writing on the inside and on the outside, and written on it were lamentations and mourning and woe.

**3** Moreover He said to me, "Son of man, eat what you find; eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel."

**2** So I opened my mouth, and He caused me to eat that scroll.

**3** And He said to me, "Son of man, feed your belly, and fill your stomach with this scroll that I give you." So I ate, and it was in my mouth like honey in sweetness.

**4** Then He said to me: "Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with My words to them.

**5** "For you are not sent to a people of unfamiliar speech and of hard language, but to the house of Israel,

**6** "not to many people of unfamiliar speech and of hard language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely, had I sent you to them, they would have listened to you.

**7** "But the house of Israel will not listen to you, because they will not listen to Me; for all the house of Israel are impudent and hard-hearted.

**8** "Behold, I have made your face strong against their faces, and your forehead strong against their foreheads.

**9** "Like adamant stone, harder than flint, I have made your forehead; do not be afraid of them, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they are a rebellious house."

**10** Moreover He said to me: "Son of man, receive into you heart all My words that I speak to you, and hear with your ears.

**11** "And go, get to the captives, to the children of your people, and speak to them and tell them, 'Thus says the Lord God,' whether they hear, or whether they refuse."

**12** Then the Spirit lifted me up, and I heard behind me a great thunderous voice: "Blessed is the glory of the Lord from His place!"

**13** I also heard the noise of the wings of the living creatures that touched one another, and the noise of the wheels beside them, and a great thunderous noise.

**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.

**15** Then I came to the captives at Tel Abib, who dwelt by the River Chebar; and I sat where they sat, and remained there astonished among them seven days.