

E3

follows? His call... then he goes about... Now, as to the content of the call, it is much more extensive than the account of the call of any other prophet. Usually they are far short of ... He had a task that is somewhat more difficult than .. Even Jeremiah was in some way. Ezekiel's situation is that he is far removed from his homeland. There in his homeland he has seen that beautiful temple. It represents the glory of God. There ~~has~~ he has been the ceremony - everything that reminds him of God and God's power. Now, he is placed in a foreign land where he and the others with him are despised, the people that are captives there, the people are taken off out there... They see the great processions of the gods of the Babylon. In the processions we have expensive garments, jewels and all these... You know, after all, the men who claim to be serving the gods of Babylon have conquered all these countries. They conquered Judah hundreds of miles from Babylon, They have conquered all these tremendous regions round about. They have gone Egypt... He was in a position where it is very easy to think what is the use? when our God is far away. Here we have the great gods of Babylon, with their power and with their glory of the conquest. The ~~purpose~~ purpose of the first chapter is to impress the reality of God on his minds, so thoroughly that he will serve His God in His presence, instead of having God being distant, something that is trying to be existent, something that he will be very sure of. He... In this first chapter you have this wheel after wheel. We have this symbolism and all these things. These things have ^a certain amount of meaning that we can get from ... many places where we cannot be too sure of... But I do not think that the meanings ^{VP} ~~are as~~ quite