

EZEKIEL 10:1-22 – “THE GLORY DEPARTS FROM THE TEMPLE”

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:30pm, H 106 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell # 714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column.

PRESENCE OF THE MAN CLOTHED WITH LINEN: Eze 10:1 And I looked, and there in the firmament that was above the head of the cherubim, there appeared something like a sapphire stone, having the appearance of the likeness of a throne.

Eze 10:2 Then He spoke to the man clothed with linen, and said, "Go in among the wheels, under the cherub, fill your hands with coals of fire from among the cherubim, and scatter them over the city." And he went in as I watched.

Eze 10:3 Now the cherubim were standing on the south side of the temple when the man went in, and the cloud filled the inner court.

Eze 10:4 Then the glory of the LORD went up from the cherub, and paused over the threshold of the temple; and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of the LORD's glory.

Eze 10:5 And the sound of the wings of the cherubim (WORSHIP LEADERS IN HEAVEN) was heard even in the outer court, like the voice of Almighty God when He speaks.

Eze 10:6 Then it happened, when He commanded the man clothed in linen, saying, "Take fire from among the wheels, from among the cherubim," that he went in and stood beside the wheels.

Eze 10:7 And the cherub stretched out his hand from among the cherubim to the fire that was among the cherubim, and took some of it and put it into the hands of the man clothed

INTERPRETATION

Then I looked and behold, in the firmament that was over the heads of the cherubim there appeared above them something looking like a sapphire stone, in form resembling a throne. The nation of Israel had what no other nation had and, indeed, that which the church does not have today: the visible presence of God. The glory began its departure in the previous chapter and will now continue to depart. It moved out from the temple and hovered over it.

And the Lord spoke to the man clothed in linen and said, Go in among the whirling wheels under the cherubim; fill your hands with coals of fire from between the cherubim and scatter them over the city. And he went in before my eyes. The man clothed with linen is to scatter these coals from off the altar. The blood of the sacrifice was taken from the altar and put on the mercy seat. These coals speak of judgment. The people had refused the grace and mercy and redemption of God; now they must bear the judgment.

Now the cherubim stood on the south side of the house when the man went in; and the cloud the Shekinah filled the inner court.

Then the glory of the Lord mounted up from the cherubim to stand over the threshold of the Lord's house; and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of the Lord's glory. The Shekinah glory had been confined to the Holy Place, the place which denoted the approach of these people to God. However, now the glory leaves the Holy Place there between the cherubim and hovers over the temple to see if the people will return to God.

And the sound of the wings of the cherubim was heard even to the outer court, like the voice of God Almighty when He speaks. (*Ps. 29:3*)

And when He commanded the man clothed in linen, saying, Take fire from between the whirling wheels, from between the cherubim, the man went in and stood beside a wheel.

And a cherub stretched forth his hand from between the cherubim to the fire that was between the cherubim, and took some of it and put it into the hands of the man clothed in linen, who took it and went out.

APPLICATION

The glory of God! (1 Cor. 10:31; Ez. 1:1; 3:23; 8:4; 9:3)

How is His Glory Revealed? - in Creation – (Ps. 19:1; Romans 1:20-23)

Revealed in the Cloud – (Ex. 40:34-35; 1 Kings 8:10-11; Is. 6:1-4; Rev. 15:8)

Revealed in His Commandments – (2 Cor. 3:7-11)

Revealed in the Conversion of believers – (2 Cor. 3:18; 4:3-7)

Revealed in outward Change of the believers' bodies – (Rom. 8:18-23; 1 Cor. 15:39-42; Phil 3:20-21; 1 John 3:1-3)

Revealed at His Second Coming – (Ps. 24:7-10; Mt. 24:29-30; Col. 3:4; Titus 2:13)

Revealed in the Eternal City – (Rev. 21:10-11, 22, 23)

The apostles speak of seeing His glory – (Mt. 17:1-8; John 1:1, 14; 2 Peter 1:16-18)

God's glory is leaving the temple! Having been confined to the Holy Place, it is now leaving, but still hovering over the temple to see if the people will return to their God.

What a loud sound the wings must have been. What an awesome sound the voice of God must be!

These coals speak of judgment. The people had refused the grace and mercy and redemption of God; now they must bear the judgment.

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OBSERVATION

Eze 10:8 The cherubim appeared to have the form of a man's hand under their wings.

Eze 10:9 And when I looked, there were four wheels by the cherubim, one wheel by one cherub and another wheel by each other cherub; the wheels appeared to have the color of a beryl stone.

Eze 10:10 As for their appearance, all four looked alike—as it were, a wheel in the middle of a wheel.

Eze 10:11 When they went, they went toward any of their four directions; they did not turn aside when they went, but followed in the direction the head was facing. They did not turn aside when they went.

Eze 10:12 And their whole body, with their back, their hands, their wings, and the wheels that the four had, were full of eyes all around.

Eze 10:13 As for the wheels, they were called in my hearing, "Wheel."

Eze 10:14 Each one had four faces: the first face was the face of a cherub, the second face the face of a man, the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle.

Eze 10:15 And the cherubim were lifted up. This was the living creature I saw by the River Chebar.

INTERPRETATION

The cherubim seemed to have the form of a man's hand under their wings.

And I looked and behold, there were four wheels beside the cherubim, one wheel beside one cherub and another wheel beside another cherub; and the appearance of the wheels was like sparkling chrysolite. Have you ever watched a wheel when it is going around? There's that flashing light, you know, like that of a precious stone. These wheels are in ceaseless activity and speak of the fact that God is busy.

And as for their appearance, they four looked alike, as if a wheel had been within a wheel.

When they went, they went in any one of the four directions, in which their four individual faces were turned; they did not turn as they went, but to the place to which the front wheel faced the others followed; they turned not as they went.

And their whole body, their backs, their hands, and their wings, and the wheels, were full of eyes round about, even the wheels that each had. This suggests God's omniscience.

As regarding the wheels, attached to them, they were called in my hearing the whirling wheels.

And every one had four faces: the first face was the face of the cherub, the second the face of a man, the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle. Cherub – Service; Man – Sensitivity; Lion – Strength; Eagle – Sight

And the cherubim mounted upward. This is the same living creature, the four regarded as one, that I saw by the river Chebar in Babylon.

APPLICATION

These wheels apparently are always in ceaseless activity and speak of the fact that God is busy. How active are we in exercising our faith?

Some say these characteristics represent the different aspects of Christ, as reflected in the four gospels. Possibly they also represent Cherub – Service; Man – Sensitivity; Lion – Strength; Eagle – Sight.

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OBSERVATION

Eze 10:16 When the cherubim went, the wheels went beside them; and when the cherubim lifted their wings to mount up from the earth, the same wheels also did not turn from beside them.

Eze 10:17 When the cherubim stood still, the wheels stood still, and when one was lifted up, the other lifted itself up, for the spirit of the living creature was in them.

Eze 10:18 Then the glory of the LORD departed from the threshold of the temple and stood over the cherubim.

Eze 10:19 And the cherubim lifted their wings and mounted up from the earth in my sight. When they went out, the wheels were beside them; and they stood at the door of the east gate of the LORD's house, and the glory of the God of Israel was above them.

Eze 10:20 This is the living creature I saw under the God of Israel by the River Chebar, and I knew they were cherubim.

Eze 10:21 Each one had four faces and each one four wings, and the likeness of the hands of a man was under their wings.

Eze 10:22 And the likeness of their faces was the same as the faces which I had seen by the River Chebar, their appearance and their persons. They each went straight forward.

INTERPRETATION

And when the cherubim went, the wheels went beside them; and when the cherubim lifted up their wings to mount up from the earth, the wheels did not turn from beside them.

When those stood still, these stood still; and when those mounted up, these, (the wheels) mounted up also, for the spirit of life was in these wheels.

Then the glory of the Lord, the Shekinah, cloud, went forth from above the threshold of the temple and stood over the cherubim. The departure began at the temple. It seems like God is calling His glory back to His throne!

And the cherubim lifted up their wings and mounted up from the earth in my sight, and they went forth with the wheels beside them; and they stood at the entrance of the East Gate of the house of the Lord, and the glory of the God of Israel, the Shekinah, cloud, was over them. The cherubim mounted up, and the glory moved out and stood at the east gate.

This is the living creature, of four combined creatures, that I saw beneath the God of Israel by the river Chebar, and I knew that they were cherubim.

Each one had four faces and each one had four wings, and what looked like the hands of a man was under their wings. And as for the likeness of their faces, they were the same faces which

I saw by the river Chebar, with regard to their appearances and themselves; they went every one straight forward.

APPLICATION

Ezekiel was learning that the most important part of the nation's life was to magnify the glory of God. The presence of God in the sanctuary was a great privilege for the people of Israel, but it was also a great responsibility. The glory of God cannot dwell with the sins of God's people, so it was necessary for the glory to leave, and the sanctuary and the people be judged.

What about us? What about the church? What about the government here in the United States?