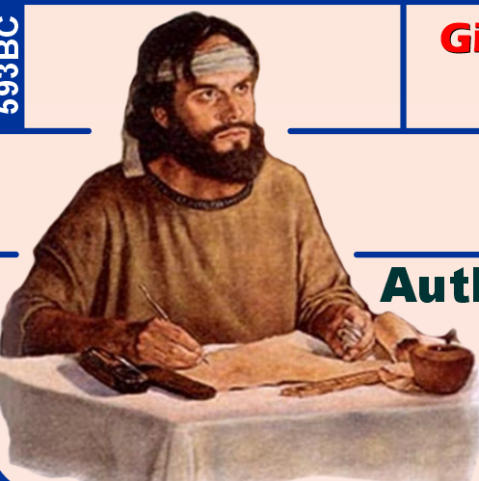


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Ezekiel

TEMPLE GLORY DEPARTED

BOOK OF EZEKIEL — OUTLINE

INWARD → Personal		OUTWARD ↻ Peoples		ONWARD → Prophetic													
1 — 3		4 — 24		25 — 32		33 — 48											
Ezekiel's Call to Ministry - Ezekiel Birth (623BC) and Ministry Years (593-571BC) 597BC is the 2nd Deportation; Ezekiel taken at age 25 593BC Ezekiel begins Ministry at age 30		Sinfulness of Israel and Fall of Jerusalem - A Disobedient Nation (4-7) - A Departed Glory (8-11) - A Disciplined Nation (12-24) - The Futility of False Optimism (12-19) - The History of Judah's Corruption (20-24)		Judgment on Nations that Opposed Israel - Ammon (25:1-7) - Moab (25:8-11) - Edom (25:12-14) - Philistia (25:15-17) - Tyre (26:1—28:19) - Babylonia (26) - Sidon (28:20-24) - Egypt (29-32)		Restoration of Israel in the Future - Return of Israel to the land (33-39) - Restoration of Israel in the Kingdom (40-48) - Promised Land; Millennial Temple, and the Glory of God											
593BC		Given BEFORE the siege of Jerusalem		587BC		Given DURING the siege of Jerusalem		586BC		Given AFTER the siege of Jerusalem		571BC					
						The City Destroyed 7 Years Prophesying <u>JUDGMENT</u>						The City Restored 15 Years Prophesying <u>HOPE</u>					
Author: Ezekiel (“God strengthens”) Place: Babylonia Time: About 22 years (593-571BC)																	
Events: 605BC — FIRST Siege upon Israel by Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel taken) Ezekiel 17 years old																	
597BC — SECOND assault upon Jerusalem (Ezekiel taken) Ezekiel 25 years old																	
593BC — Ezekiel at age 30 called by God to testify against Israel Ezekiel 30 years old																	
586BC — THIRD assault upon Jerusalem (City & Temple destroyed) Ezekiel 37 years old																	

TEMPLE VISION — EKEKIEL 8-11

- **The Vision Recorded in Chapters 8-11 is a Single Unit with Four Sections.**
 - **ABOMINATIONS IN THE TEMPLE (Ek.8)**
 - **SLAUGHTER IN JERUSALEM (Ek.9)**
 - **DEPARTURE OF GOD'S GLORY FROM THE TEMPLE (Ek.10)**
 - **JUDGMENT ON JERUSALEM'S RULERS (Ek.11)**



TEMPLE GLORY DEPARTS

Ezekiel 10

**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.**

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.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. (Ek.10:1)

- **Ezekiel was standing beside the altar and saw God's azure-blue throne on His throne-chariot**
- **Over their heads he again saw the throne-chariot that resembled a sapphire in its color and beauty.**
- **The throne-chariot resembled sapphire stone, another expensive blue stone. Perhaps the blue color represented the heavenly origin of this throne.**



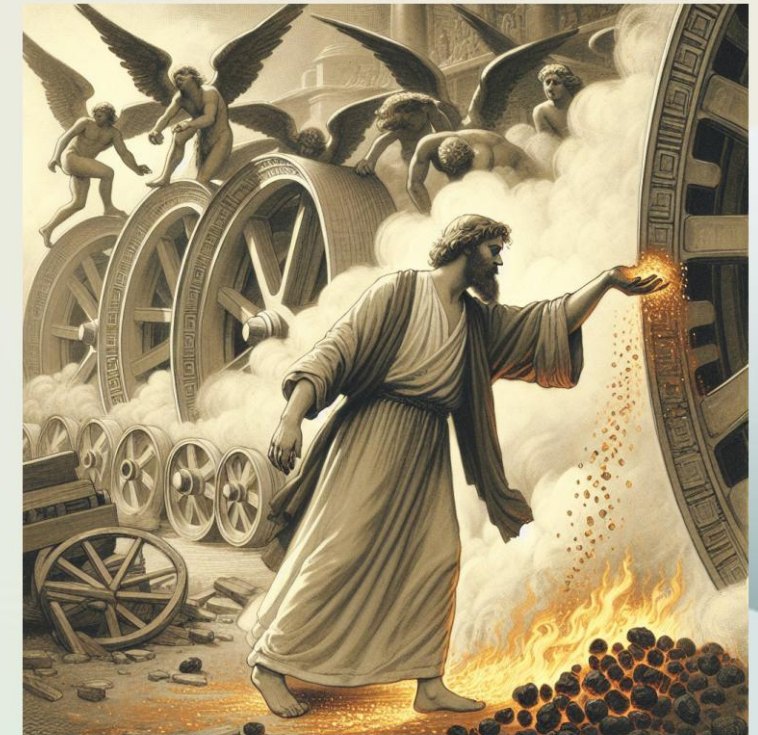
Then He spoke to the man clothed with linen, and said, "Go in among the wheels, under the cherub, fill your hands with coals of fire from among the cherubim, and scatter them over the city." And he went in as I watched.

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.10:2)

- **Ezekiel saw the burning coals earlier among the cherubim (Ek.1:13).**
- **Ezekiel saw the Lord instruct the man in linen (Ek.9:2-4,11) to go among the whirling wheels under the cherubim (Ek.1:15-21) and to collect coals of fire from between them (Ek.1:13).**
- **He was then to scatter the coals over the city symbolizing its judgment and cleansing (Ge.19:24; Ps.18:10-15; Is.6:6; 33:14; Rv.8:5).**



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. (Ek.10:2)

- **The man obeyed as the prophet watched.**
- **The imagery comes from the vision of Isaiah 6:6 ("live coal"), where it is initially a purification ritual inaugurating Isaiah's ministry.**
- **God sits on a throne and directs the operation of His war machine on Jerusalem.**
- **Fire did destroy Jerusalem in 586 B.C.**



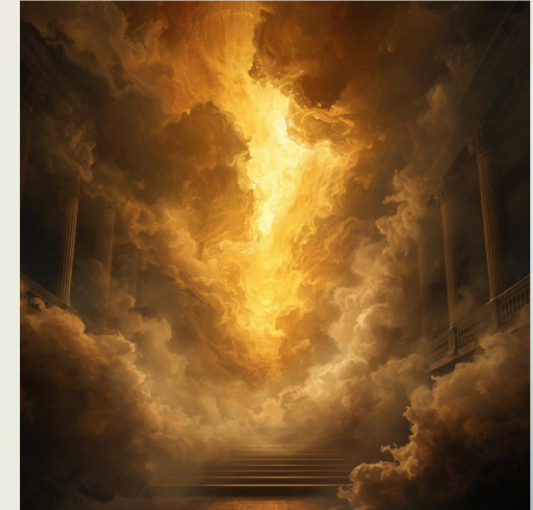
**Now the cherubim were standing
on the south side of the temple
when the man went in, and the
cloud filled the inner court.**

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.10:3)

- **Though God was at the entrance to the sanctuary, His throne-chariot was “on the south side of the temple.”**
- **A cloud filled the inner court, signifying God’s presence at the threshold of the sanctuary (Ex.33:9-10; 1Ki.8:10-11; Is.6:1-4).**
- **The south side of the temple was closest to the city.**
- **The presence of the Lord was as glorious in His departure as it was in His entrance (Ex.40:34-35; 1Ki.8:10-11).**



THE CLOUD - SYMBOL OF THE PRESENCE OF GOD

- 1. At the crossing of the Red Sea (Ex.13:21)**
- 2. On Mount Sinai (Ex.24:14-18)**
- 3. At the tabernacle of Moses (Ex.40:34-38; Nu.14:14)**
- 4. At the dedication of Solomon's Temple (1Ki.8:11)**
- 5. In Isaiah's vision (Is.6:4)**
- 6. In Ezekiel's vision (Ek.1:4)**
- 7. At the baptism of Jesus (Mk.1:10-11)**
- 8. At the transfiguration of Jesus (Mt.17:5)**
- 9. At the ascension of Jesus (Ac.1:9)**
- 10. At the return of Jesus (Mt.24:30; 26:64; Mk.14:62; Lk.21:27; 1Th.4:17; Rv.1:7)**



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.

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.10:4)

- **Ezekiel repeated the fact that the glory of the Lord had moved from the throne-chariot to the threshold (Ek.9:3; 10:4).**
- **As the cloud filled the temple the court was full of the radiance of the glory of the Lord (Ek.1:28).**
- **The manifestation of God's glory pierced through the cloud to illuminate the plaza where Ezekiel stood.**



**And the sound of the wings of
the cherubim was heard even
in the outer court, like the voice
of Almighty God when He speaks.**

EZEKIEL 10:5



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

- **Along with this dazzling brightness was the sound of the cherubim's wings, so loud that it was heard in the outer court (Ek.1:24, "noise of an army").**
- **That sound was like the voice of Almighty God, the sovereign of all creation, when He speaks (Ek.1:24, wings like the "voice of the Almighty").**



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.

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.10:6)

- **Ezekiel returned from his momentary digression to continue his account of the man in linen.**
- **The man dressed in linen entered among the wheels of the cherubim to collect coals of fire.**
- **He stood beside one of the wheels. One of the cherubim then put some coals of fire that it had taken from between the cherubim and placed them in the man's hands.**
- **This is a reference to the burning coals, which represent God's holiness.**



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 with linen, who took it and went out.

EZEKIEL 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 with linen, who took it and went out. (Ek.10:7)

- **One of the cherubim then took some of the fire and put it into the hands of the man in linen, thus enacting the divine purification of Jerusalem.**
- **God's judgment as a fire scattered on Jerusalem is interesting in light of her ultimate fate, for the Babylonian army destroyed her by fire (2Ki.25:8-9).**
- **Though Ezekiel did not write that the man scattered the fire over Jerusalem, it can be assumed. Possibly the prophet's eyes were still transfixed on God's throne-chariot.**
- **The man then went out of the cherubim's presence with the coals in his hands (2Ki.23:4-9).**



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

EZEKIEL 10:8



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

- **Ezekiel saw again that the cherubim had what looked like human hands under their wings (Ek.1:8).**
- **Perhaps he mentioned this to clarify how the cherub could pick up coals and place them in the man's hand.**



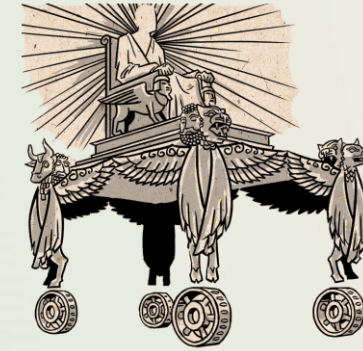
And when I looked, there were four wheels by the cherubim, one wheel by one cherub and another wheel by each other cherub; the wheels appeared to have the color of a beryl stone.

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.10:9)

- **Ezekiel again saw the wheels beside the cherubim, one wheel beside each of the four cherubim.**
- **Again, the exact identity of the stones that Ezekiel saw is impossible to determine with certainty today, but they were obviously expensive and beautiful.**
- **Most believe the color beryl here is a sparkling yellow or gold.**



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

EZEKIEL 10:10



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

- **Secondary vertical wheels evidently intersected the primary wheels and made it possible for these wheels to move in any direction horizontally (Ek.1:16-17).**



**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.**

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.10:11)

- God has never had to come back to pick up something He has forgotten.**
- He doesn't need to deviate from one side to the other; He never detours.**
- He goes straight forward today toward the accomplishment of His purpose in the world.**
- If an object had a head on each of its four sides, then the body of that object could follow the head in any direction without turning about.**



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

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.10:12)

- **Eyes covered the cherubim and the wheels symbolizing the great perception and knowledge of these beings (Ek.1:18; Ge.16:13; Zc.4:10; Rv.4:6).**
- **This is in contrast to the statements of the idolaters in (Ek.8:12, “The LORD does not see us”).**
- **The cherubim had bodies like men and their chariot wheels were full of eyes, denoting full perception to see the sinners and their fitting judgment.**
- **The four creatures John saw surrounding God’s throne were also covered with eyes (Rv.4:8).**



**As for the wheels, they
were called in my hearing,
“Wheel.”**

EZEKIEL 10:13



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

- **The wheels were named for their function: they set God's throne-chariot in motion by revolving.**
- **The naming of the wheels here seems to prepare the way for their departure (described at Ek.10:15-19).**
- **God's glory was about to whirl out of His temple on "the whirling wheels."**



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.

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.10:14)

- **This description of one cherub (Ek.1:10) indicates this was the face of an ox.**
- **Each of the cherubim had four faces-the faces of a cherub, a man, a lion, and an eagle (Ek.1:10).**
- **Evidently the cherubim appeared more like an ox or bulls than anything else.**



**And the cherubim were
lifted up. This was the
living creature I saw by
the River Chebar.**

EZEKIEL 10:15



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

- **Then Ezekiel saw these same cherubim, which he had seen in his vision by the river Chebar, rise up.**
- **Possibly, Ezekiel had not been in the inner court of the temple.**
- **Although he was in training to become a priest he was exiled before his thirtieth year.**
- **They were all ready to move in unison (Ek.10:16-17) as the Shekinah glory of God departed (Ek.10:18).**



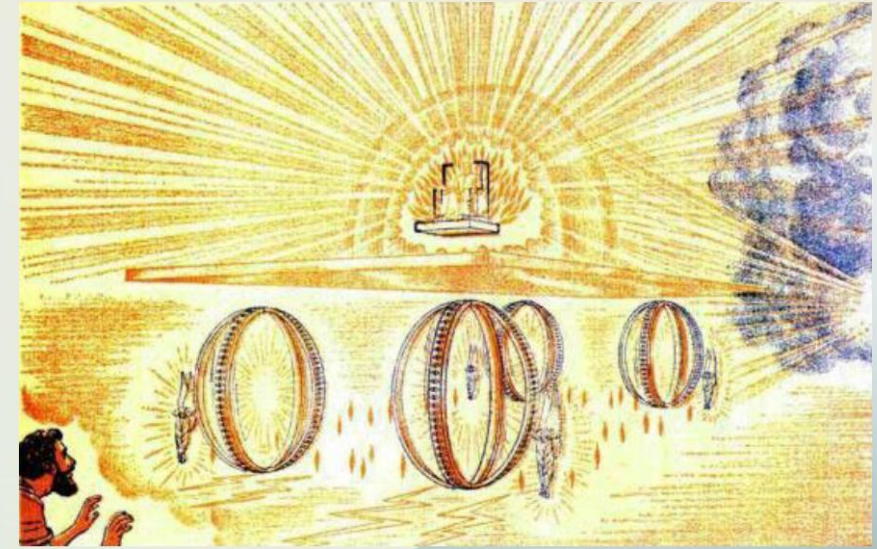
When the cherubim went, the wheels went beside them; and when the cherubim lifted their wings to mount up from the earth, the same wheels also did not turn from beside them.

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.10:16)

- **As the cherubim moved, the wheels beside them stayed right with them.**
- **Likewise when they stood still the wheels also stood still beside them.**
- **Four wheels on God's chariot mingled with the four angels (Ek.1:15-21) and were coordinated with each other in precision, and each with a different one of the cherubim.**



**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.**

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.10:17)

- **The spirit of the cherubim extended to the wheels so that whatever one did the other did.**
- **It appears the mobility of these creatures do whatever God commanded them to do is what the wheels represent.**



**Then the glory of the LORD
departed from the threshold
of the temple and stood over
the cherubim.**

EZEKIEL 10:18



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

- **God's glory, which had been standing at the entrance to the temple, departed from over the threshold of the temple and stopped above the cherubim.**
- **God was mounting His throne-chariot to ride out of His temple and city.**
- **God had warned His people that He would remove the glory of His presence from them if they departed from His will (Du.31:17; 1Sm.4:21; Ho.9:12).**



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

- **One of the greatest blessings that Christians enjoy is that God has promised never to withdraw His indwelling presence from our bodies, His present temples (Mt.28:20; Jn.14:17; 1Co.6:19).**
- **Many say that God moved east to be with the exiles who formed a nucleus of the people of God who would return. The exiles become the remnant.**



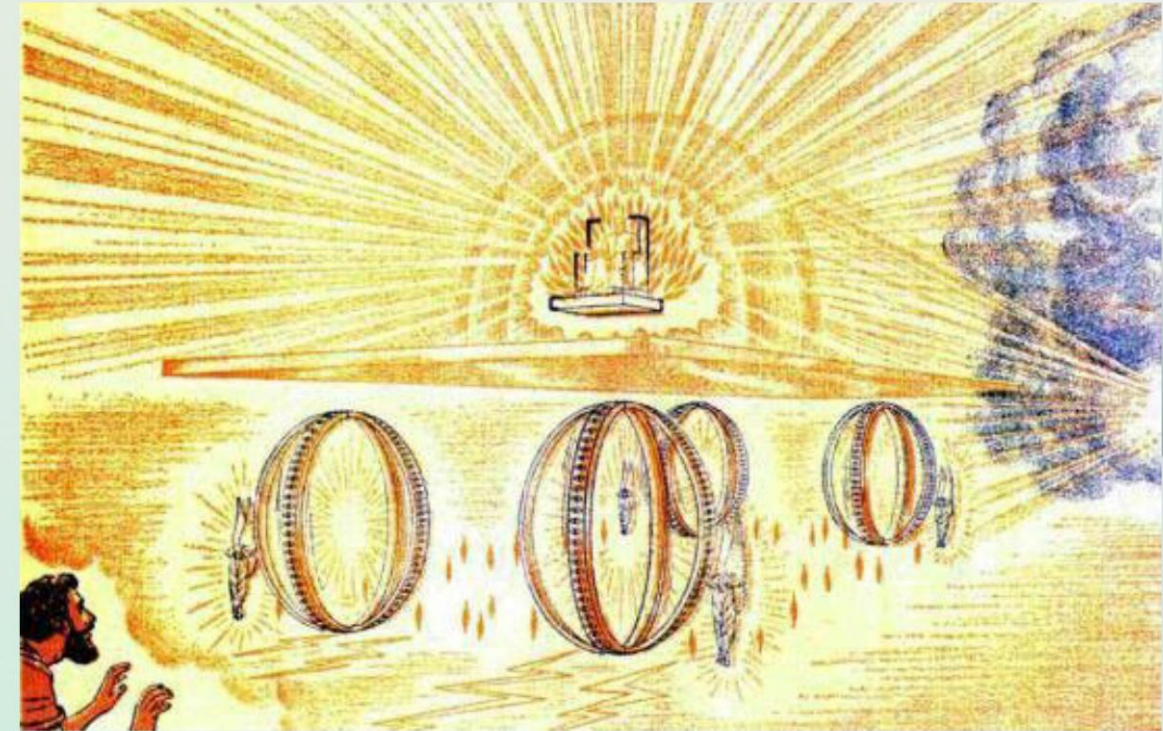
**And the cherubim lifted their wings and
mounted up from the earth in my sight.
When they went out, the wheels were
beside them; and they stood at the door
of the east gate of the LORD's house,
and the glory of the God of Israel was
above them.**

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.10:19)

- The throne-chariot began moving toward the east; but as the cherubim approached the edge of the temple precincts, they stopped at the entrance to the east gate.**
- The glory of the God of Israel was above them.**
- Before God left both the temple and the city, there was a final pause.**



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. (Ek.10:19)

- **Once God passed from the gate, the inscription “Ichabod” (“the glory has departed”) could be written over Jerusalem as it had been applied earlier to Shiloh (1Sm.4:21-22).**
- **The Lord was mounting his throne-chariot, which the cherubim would carry, to ride out of the temple and the city.**
- **This was the main entrance into the temple courtyards from the outside world. The Lord in His glory and the cherubim then hovered above this gate.**



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

EZEKIEL 10:20



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

- **These creatures were unquestionably the same cherubim Ezekiel had seen earlier.**
- **The cherubim taxied God in His throne-chariot up to a position above the east gate of the temple (1Sm.4:4; 6:2; 2Ki.19:15; 1Ch.13:6; 28:18; Ps.18:10; 80:1; 99:1).**
- **Ezekiel explained that the cherubim were the same creatures that he had formerly called living beings in his description of his earlier vision (Ek.1:5).**



**Each one had four faces and
each one four wings, and the
likeness of the hands of a
man was under their wings.**

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.10:21)

- **Each one had four faces, four wings, and human-like hands under their wings (Ek.1:6,8).**
- **The faces of the cherubim were the same as the faces of the living creatures in the previous vision.**



**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.**

EZEKIEL 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. (Ek.10:22)

- **Each cherub moved straight forward, in the direction of the front of its body (Ek.1:9,12).**
- **This seems to stress the purposefulness with which the cherubim moved to carry out God's will.**
- **The departure of the glory signals the end of a relationship that had existed for almost four centuries. The divine king has abandoned his residence.**
- **As if to delay this final movement in the departure of God's glory, Ezekiel inserted the story of 25 wicked rulers (Ek.11:1-21).**



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Ezekiel

TEMPLE GLORY DEPARTED