

Today, we’d like to see the title of “The Departure of God’s Glory” in the book of Ezekiel 10:1-22.

To Online Word’s people on the earth, we’d like to suggest 3 Questions.

Q1. In verse 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,” what does to scatter the coals of fire mean?

Q2. In verses 3, & 19, “<sup>3</sup> Now the cherubim were standing on the south side of the temple when the man went in, and the cloud filled the inner court. <sup>19</sup> 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,” where did the glory of the Lord come from? And where shall it go? And why does it depart from the temple? And what should we learn here?

Q3. In verses 14, 15, & 20, <sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> And the cherubim were lifted up. This *was* the living creature I saw by the River Chebar, and <sup>20</sup> This *is* the living creature I saw under the God of Israel by the River Chebar, and I knew they *were* cherubim,” what is a different face seen by Ezekiel compared to the living creature, which he saw by River Chebar and John the Apostle saw in heaven? And do these 4 faces manifest whose nature?

**(Background)**

Ezekiel 30 years old, after the 1<sup>st</sup> Captivity including Daniel & his friends in 606 BC, began a prophecy as one of the captives in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Captivity by Babylon in 597 BC when the 18<sup>th</sup> Judah king Jehoiachin’s captivity occurred in Ezekiel 1:1-3, “Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth *month*, on the fifth *day* of the month, as I was among the captives by the River Chebar, *that* the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God. <sup>2</sup> On the fifth *day* of the month, which *was* in the fifth year of King Jehoiachin’s captivity, <sup>3</sup> the word of he LORD came expressly to Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the River Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was upon him there.”

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> Captivity in 586 BC Judah was completely conquered by Babylon.

In the last chapters 8 & 9, the people of Judah worshipped idols, which are God’s abominations, in light of Ezekiel 8:10. 14, 16, 17, “<sup>10</sup> So I went in and saw, and there—every sort of creeping thing, abominable beasts, and all the idols of the house of Israel, portrayed all around on the walls. <sup>14</sup> So He brought me to the door of the north gate of the LORD’s house; and to my dismay, women were sitting there weeping for Tammuz. <sup>16</sup> So He brought me into the inner court of the LORD’s house; and there, at the door of the temple of the LORD, between the porch and the

altar, were about twenty-five men with their backs toward the temple of the LORD and their faces toward the east, and they were worshiping the sun toward the east.<sup>17</sup> And He said to me, "Have you seen *this*, O son of man? Is it a trivial thing to the house of Judah to commit the abominations which they commit here? For they have filled the land with violence; then they have returned to provoke Me to anger. Indeed they put the branch to their nose," and in Ezekiel 9:4, "and the LORD said to him, "Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it."

**(Text)**

<p><sup>1</sup> And I looked, and there in the <u>firmament</u> that was above the head of the <u>cherubim</u>, there appeared something like a sapphire stone, having the appearance of <u>the likeness of a throne</u>.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Then He spoke to <u>the man clothed with linen</u>, and said, "Go in among [between] the wheels, under the cherub, fill your hands with <u>coals of fire</u> from among the cherubim, and <u>scatter them over the city</u>." And he went in as I watched.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> Now the cherubim were standing <u>on the south side of the temple</u> when the man went in, and <u>the cloud filled the inner court</u>.</p>	<p>1 = firmament (air or heaven); cherubim (plural of cherub); a throne (seat of the Lord — above the cherubim)</p> <p>2= Q1 the man clothed with linen (another Cherub, in verse 4 "from the cherub"); scatter them (coals of fire) over the city (of Jerusalem; burn out the abominations or sins/ purge away sins <i>Isaiah 6:6-7; Mat 3:11</i>)</p> <p>3= Q2 on the south side of the temple.... The cloud filled the inner court (the cloud is a symbol of God's glory or God's presence, i.e. God's glory moving to south side of the temple from the North in <i>Ezekiel 8:3-4</i><sup>2</sup>; to go to the east and to the east mount of the city, see verse 19, "at the door of the east gate of the LORD's house," and <i>Ezekiel 11:23</i><sup>3</sup>; why does the glory of God leave from the temple? Because God is holy and God can't stay in the defiled temple of God, i.e., their abominations. In NT, every Christian's body is the temple of God (the Spirit of God) – at iniquities or sins, confess sin immediately until the</p>
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<sup>1</sup> *Isaiah 6:6-7* Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. <sup>7</sup> And he touched my mouth with it, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips: Your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged;" *Mat 3:11* I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire

<sup>2</sup> *Ezekiel 8:3-4* He stretched out the form of a hand, and took me by a lock of my hair; and the Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven, and brought me in visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the north gate of the inner court, where the seat of the image of jealousy was, which provokes to jealousy. <sup>4</sup> And behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there, like the vision that I saw in the plain.

<sup>3</sup> *Ezekiel 11:23* And the glory of the LORD went up from the midst of the city and stood on the mountain, which is on the east side of the city.

<p><sup>4</sup>Then the glory of the LORD went up <u>from the cherub, and paused over the threshold of the temple</u>; and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of the LORD's glory.</p> <p><sup>5</sup>And <u>the sound of the wings of the cherubim</u> was heard <i>even</i> in the outer court, like the <u>voice of Almighty God</u> when He speaks.</p> <p><sup>6</sup>Then it happened, when He commanded the man clothed in linen, saying, "<u>Take fire from among the wheels, from among the cherubim,</u>" that he went in and stood <u>beside the wheels</u>.</p> <p><sup>7</sup>And the cherub stretched out his hand from among the cherubim to the fire that <i>was</i> among the cherubim, and took <i>some of it</i> and put <i>it</i> into the hands of <u>the man clothed with linen</u>, who took <i>it</i> and went out.</p> <p><sup>8</sup><u>The cherubim appeared</u> to have the form of a man's hand under their wings.</p> <p><sup>9</sup>And when I looked, there were <u>four wheels by the cherubim</u>, one wheel by one cherub and another wheel by each other cherub; <u>the wheels appeared to have</u> the color of a beryl stone. <sup>10</sup>As</p>	<p>Lord opens the door to us to be forgiven. Otherwise, the Lord would shut the door and give you up. <sup>4</sup> 1 John 1:9; Rom 1:23-25; Heb 6:4-6)</p> <p>5= the sound of the wings... the voice of Almighty God</p> <p>6= Take fire (for just judgment because our God is just or righteous – NOTE God's commandment/ God's glory/ Cloud followed by angels, followed by wheels)</p> <p>7= the man clothed with linen (the mighty cherub)</p> <p>8= The cherubim appeared (Ezekiel describes his vision which is hard to explain)</p> <p>9= four wheels by the cherubim (4 wheels followed by the cherubim)</p>
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<sup>4</sup> 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.; Rom 1:23-25 and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. <sup>24</sup> Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, <sup>25</sup> who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. ; Heb 6:4-6 For *it is impossible* for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, <sup>5</sup> and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, <sup>6</sup> if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put *Him* to an open shame.

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

<sup>11</sup>When they went, they went toward *any of* their four directions [sides]; 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. <sup>12</sup>And their whole body, with their back, their hands, their wings, and the wheels that the four had, were full of eyes all around.

<sup>13</sup>As for the wheels, they were called in my hearing, “Wheel.”

<sup>14</sup>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.

<sup>15</sup>And the cherubim were lifted up. This was the living creature I saw by the River Chebar. <sup>16</sup>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.

<sup>17</sup>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.

<sup>18</sup>Then the glory of the LORD departed from the threshold of the temple and stood over the

11= not turn aside when they (the wheels) went, but followed in the direction the head (of each cherub) was facing ( each wheel is one straightway following each cherub – Christian life should follow the Spirit of God's direction)... not turn aside (but follow its head)

13= Wheel (whirling wheel)

14= Q3 face of a cherub (face of ox the symbol of servant in Ezekiel's 1<sup>st</sup> seen vision *Ezekiel 1:10*<sup>5</sup> but the other things are the same as the 1<sup>st</sup> vision); of a man (a symbol of man); of a lion (a symbol of king); of an eagle (a symbol of deity – describes the nature of Jesus as the King, Servant, Man, and God in the 4 gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John respectively *Rev 4:7*)<sup>6</sup>

15= the living creature I saw by the River Chebar (see verse 14)

17= the cherubim stood still, the wheels stood still (the cherubim are starters and the wheels are followers); the spirit of the living creature was in them (the starter of the living creature is the Spirit of God. So, God is followed by a cherub, followed by a wheel.)

18= the glory of the Lord departed from the threshold of the temple (the threshold of the door of the temple)

<sup>5</sup> *Ezekiel 1:10* As for the likeness of their faces, *each* had the face of a man; each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle.

<sup>6</sup> *Rev 4:7* The first living creature *was* like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature *was* like a flying eagle.

cherubim.

<sup>19</sup> 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.

<sup>20</sup> This *is* the living creature I saw under the God of Israel by the River Chebar, and I knew they *were* cherubim. <sup>21</sup> Each one had four faces and each one four wings, and the likeness of the hands of a man *was* under their wings.

<sup>22</sup> 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.

19= the cherubim... at the door of the east gate of the Lord's house (or of the Lord's temple)... the glory of the God of Israel was above them (or above cherubim ---- i.e., God's glory is above cherubim over wheels at the east gate of the temple, leaving to the east mount of the Jerusalem city)

20= the living creature I saw... By the River Chebar (see verse 14).

22= the same as the faces which I have seen by the River Chebar (see verse 14); straight forward (straightly following; not turning aside)

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