

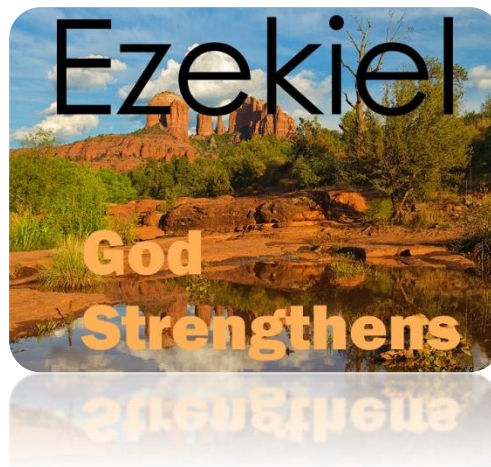
# EZEKIEL 10 vs 1

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In previous chapters, Ezekiel tells of the total depravity of both leaders and followers in Jerusalem, who had abandoned true worship of the Lord God who called them; and where sin leads, judgment always follows.

**<sup>1</sup> Then I looked, and behold, in the expanse that was above the head of the cherubim** / more than any place in the OT or NT, these citizens of eternity are here mentioned 20 times. Who are cherubim? We know little about them. They first appear in the Garden of Eden assigned to guard access to the Tree of life after Adam's fall. They are prominently featured, in the design of the most holy place in the tabernacle and temple. Many identify the living beings in the book of Revelation with cherubim. After Adam and Eve were rushed from the Garden; only Ezekiel in the OT and John in the NT directly witnessed them at work. Who are they? God's secret agents adequately enabled to accomplish their tasks.



Ezekiel says...

**I looked, and behold, in the expanse that was above the head of the cherubim, there appeared something like a sapphire stone in appearance, like a throne above them** / he saw a translucent bluish--purple throne. Throughout his ministry, Ezekiel uniquely witnessed in visions the Lord of glory... who is high and lifted up; He is in charge and intimately involved in the life of His people.

**<sup>2</sup> And He spoke to the man clothed with linen and said, Enter between the wheels under the cherubim** / who had previously marked all the faithful remnant; remember, this is a vision, filled with descriptive, metaphors; perhaps this represents wheels of justice that were quickly spinning;

**and fill your hands with coals of fire from between the cherubim, and scatter them over the city** / coals of destruction, the wrath of God is ready to burn the city.

**And he entered in my sight** / Ezekiel saw this man do what he was told.

**<sup>3</sup> Now the cherubim stood on the right side of the house, when the man entered; and the cloud filled the inner court** / clouds cover and darken, or obscure and hide.

**<sup>4</sup> Then the glory of the LORD went up from the cherubim, and the threshold of the house and the household was filled with the cloud** / and often this word is thought to represent the temple; but it's first usage is in the context of people, when Noah's household entered the ark; the people of God were cloudy thinking, kept in the dark by faithless, uninspired religious leaders,

**and the court was full of the brightness of the LORD's glory /**

light is enigmatic; modern scientists still only know its various theories. They say the speed of light is a constant in the universe, but it remains theoretical since it is impossible to measure the speed of light accurately; as if that truth is beyond our permission to grasp. Ezekiel sees the glorious Lord move to the outer court where Gentiles were allowed to worship. Paul writes: **Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.** And we all, with unveiled face, behold the glory of the Lord, are being transformed by the Spirit into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord -- **2 Corinthian 3.**

**<sup>5</sup> And the sound of the cherubim' wings was heard to the outer court, as the voice of the Almighty God when He speaks.**

**<sup>6</sup> And it happened, when He commanded the man clothed with linen, saying, Take fire from between the whirling wheels, from between the cherubim; then he entered, and stood beside the wheels.**

**<sup>7</sup> And a cherub stretched forth his hand from between the cherubim to the fire... between the cherubim, and took some, and put it in the hands of the one clothed in linen: who took it, and went out.**

**<sup>8</sup> And the cherubim appeared to have the form of a human hand under their wings.**

**<sup>9</sup> Then I looked, and behold, four wheels beside the cherubim, one beside each cherub: and the appearance of the wheels was like sparkling beryl.**

**<sup>10</sup> As for their appearances, all four had the same likeness, as if a wheel was within another wheel /** perhaps describing a gyroscope; multiple wheels spinning in various directions.

**<sup>11</sup> When they moved, they went in any of their four directions; without turning as they went, going the direction the front wheel faced, the others moved without turning as they went /** whatever was in their way, they did not retreat; they were able to get over it.

**<sup>12</sup> And their whole body, their rims, their spokes, their wings and their wheels, were full of eyes all around -- the wheels that the four of them had.**

**<sup>13</sup> As for the wheels, they were called in my hearing "the whirling wheels".**

**<sup>14</sup> And each had four faces: the first face was the face of a cherub, and the second face was the face of a human, and the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle.**

**<sup>15</sup> And the cherubim rose up. These are the living creatures I saw by the Chebar River.**

<sup>16</sup> And when the **cherubim** went, the wheels went beside them. And when the **cherubim** raised their wings to rise up from the earth, the wheels did not turn from beside them.

<sup>17</sup> When they stood still, these stood still; and when they arose, these arose with them for the spirit of the living beings was in them / every action was synchronous and coordinated; just image, Ezekiel in the desert 2700 years ago, is describing for all succeeding generations what amazing things he saw.

<sup>18</sup> Then **the glory of the LORD** left the threshold of the house, and stood over the **cherubim**.

<sup>19</sup> And the **cherubim** lifted up their wings, and arose from the earth before my eyes as they went out, with the wheels beside them. And they stood at the entrance of the east gate of the LORD's house; and **the glory of the God of Israel** was above them.

<sup>20</sup> These are the living beings that I saw beneath the God of Israel by the Chebar River; and I knew that they were **cherubim**.

<sup>21</sup> Each had four faces, and each four wings; and beneath their wings were as human hands.

<sup>22</sup> As for the likeness of their faces, they were the same faces whose appearance I saw by the Chebar River. Each one of them went straight forward.

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This chapter lets us know Ezekiel was shown things none of us have seen before, and what unusual things he saw, still they moved in relation to the presence of the Lord; the Lord God is central. Events are not determined by the wheel of fortune, which is blind; but by the wheel of Providence, which is full of insight.

300 years ago, Matthew Henry began his comments on this chapter, to inspire us with holy awe and dread of God; and to fill us with His fear, we may observe, in this part of the vision which the prophet had:

1. The glorious appearance of His majesty. Something of the invisible world is here made visible, some faint representation of its brightness and beauty, some shadows of the truth and substance of life; yet here is enough to oblige us to utmost reverence in our thoughts of God and approach to Him, if we but admit the impressions this discovery of Him makes. His ways are not our ways; His thoughts are higher than ours.

[O Come Let Us Adore Him](#)

[God of Wonders](#)