

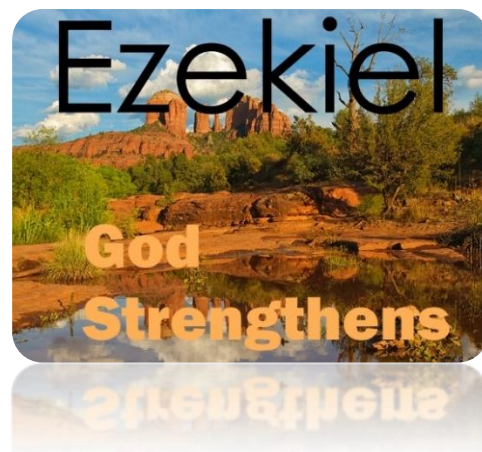
# EZEKIEL 11 vs 1

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In the previous chapter, cherubim were mentioned 20 times; more than any other time cited in the Bible. They are those citizens of eternity assigned to guard the glorious presence of God. God doesn't need to be guarded, but careless men intruding into His presence do... lest they be turned into dust and ashes before their time of probation has run its course; the setting of this chapter is the place where God's people gather.

**<sup>1</sup> Moreover the Spirit lifted me up, and brought me to the east gate of the LORD's house, which faced east** / Ezekiel is describing the temple, where the Lord's household gathered:



**and behold** / pay attention, **twenty-five men among whom I saw Jaazaniah the son of Azur, and Pelatiah the son of Benaiah, ringleaders of the people;** previously mentioned in chapter 8 – the 24 leaders of temple course service along with the high priest; but there was a problem... we read: 25 men with their backs to the temple, and they were facing the east... worshipping the sun;

**<sup>2</sup> Then He said to me, Son of man, these men devise trouble, and give wrong counsel in this city** / the Spirit says, they are up to no good:

**<sup>3</sup> They say, It is **not** near, let us build houses this is the caldron, and we are the flesh** / the impending destruction - doomsday isn't close; let us eat, drink and be merry; even invest; they were sure the temple in Jerusalem was like a solid iron kettle, and they were as a slow tasty stew simmering.

**<sup>4</sup> Therefore prophesy against them, O son of man prophesy.**

**<sup>5</sup> Then the Spirit of the LORD fell on me, and said, **Speak:** Thus says the LORD Thus you say, O **House of Israel** / Huh? **Did the Spirit just insult them?** They were the **House of Judah;** Ezekiel started talking and said this is what the Lord really says;**

**for I know your thoughts.**

**<sup>6</sup> You multiply those murdered in this place, you fill the streets with those you murder** / Jesus said, all the prophets from Abel to Zachariah – from A - Z were murdered by these people in the temple; these people who exchanged their allegiance with the living God and became criminal; we know the great prophet Isaiah was sawn in two.

**<sup>7</sup> Therefore thus says the Lord GOD;**

**It is those you murdered in the midst of it, they are the flesh, and this is the caldron: but I will drag you out of it.**

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**<sup>8</sup> You fear the sword; so, I will bring a sword upon you, says the Lord GOD /** their will be done; the Lord always said, fear Him, do not fear what man can do to you – but did they listen? No!

**<sup>9</sup> I will drag you out of the midst of it, and deliver you to the hands of foreigners, and will execute justice against you.**

**<sup>10</sup> You will fall by the sword. I will judge you to the border of Israel; and you will know /** they are to learn a lesson; what is it?

**I am the LORD.**

**<sup>11</sup> This place will not be your caldron, and you will not be the flesh in the midst of it; but I will judge you to the border of Israel /** they wrongly thought some building was going to save them; yet all the way to the border as their sorry asses were being ejected, hauled off and rejected:

**<sup>12</sup> And you will know /** if they don't learn anything else, they were going to know:

**I am the LORD:**

**for you do not walk in My statutes, you do not execute My justice, but you do after the manner of the nations that are around you /** they were no different than the pagan neighbors. Moses gave these rebellious, stiff-necked jackasses fair warning nearly 1000 years earlier – read Deuteronomy 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9.

**<sup>13</sup> And it happened, when I prophesied, that Pelatiah the son of Benaiah died /** remember Ezekiel is talking; one of the 25 ringleaders suddenly dropped dead.

**Then I fell down on my face, and cried with a loud voice, and asked, Ah Lord GOD! Will You make a complete end of the remnant of Israel?**

**<sup>14</sup> Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying,**

**<sup>15</sup> Son of man, your brothers, even your brothers, those of your relatives, and the whole House of Israel are those to whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said You have gone far from the LORD /** it is interesting to learn how many sympathizers there have been who are the Vatican Jewish among Nazis, Marxists and the other roman agendas disrupting nations – not different today; we learn what the House of Judah was saying; how they wrongly discerned spiritual things;

**the House of Israel...** is disingenuously accused by little Judah who improperly concluded greater Israel had gone too far; which is still pretty much the perception Judah holds... even in the 21<sup>st</sup> century:

to **us** is this land given in possession / to the House of Judah... Moses said, all Abraham, Isaac and Jacob's children would keep it, if they kept the instructions of God; but they didn't; instead they became as violent, scheming and greedy as their neighbors.

**16** So say, Thus says the Lord GOD; Though I threw them / **Israel...** far away among the nations, and though I scattered them / **Israel...** among the countries, yet I will be to them / **Israel...** **as a little sanctuary** in the countries where they go / Israel went first to Assyrian captivity and were thought lost to history; ignoring they would become a great commonwealth of nations, and a great nation at the center of world history.

**17** So say, Thus says the Lord GOD; I will even gather **you** / **Judah...** from the nations, and assemble you out of the countries where you are scattered / **Judah** went to Babylonian captivity 170 years after **Israel** was taken to Assyria and presumed lost to history,

and I will give you the land of Israel / the LORD assures **Judah** one day they will return to the land.

**18** And they will come, and from there they will remove all that is detestable and all that is abominable / **the whole House of Israel**, or as Isaiah said, both the Houses of Israel – even Ezekiel will write later about how both houses should be considered separate and distinct with different histories, and will only be brought together when Messiah comes, and the time of the Gentiles concludes. This is clearly a prophecy yet to be fulfilled, evidenced by so many of those in the news who are currently piling into the neighborhoods around Jerusalem who are as stiff-necked, lawless and clueless as those Ezekiel dealt with 2500 years ago; you'd think they never read the Bible – Wow! The wasted words of everyone sent by God...starting with Moses and all the prophets.

**19** I will give them one heart, and I will put a new Spirit within you; I will take the stony heart from their flesh, and will give them a heart of flesh:

**20** that they walk in My statutes, and keep My ordinances to do them, and they will be My people, **and I will be their God** / just imagine His people will actually do what He asked them to do. To read these verses, doesn't it make you proud of our Father God -- just how hopeful and patient He is? Such amazing grace. God kindly reminds His people He is in control; but Ezekiel gets us back to reality.

**21** But as for those whose hearts go after the detestable and abominable,

I will repay their way upon their own heads says, the Lord God / Moffatt writes: but as for the others devoted to what is loathsome and despicable; their conduct will reward them; not that they will like it.



**22** Then the **cherubim** spread their wings, and the wheels beside them; and the glory of the God of Israel was over them.

**23** And the glory of the LORD ascended from the center of the city, and stood on the mountains to the east of the city / the glory of the Lord moved from the abandoned temple to the Mount of Olives, much like we read when Jesus gave His end time prophecies after He left the temple for the last time and declared about that place: No longer His Father's House, but your house is left to you desolate. For I say to you, from now on you shall not see Me until you say: Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord -- **Matthew 23:38**. That will be when Messiah returns to the Mount of Olives in power and great glory. But for now, the people abandoned God, so God abandoned the people.

**24** Afterwards the Spirit took me, and brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God to those of the captivity in Chaldea / isn't it interesting, the sword wielding Chaldeans are still in the news today, aren't they?

So the vision that I had seen left me.

**25** Then I told the captives all that the LORD showed me.

And we also can share with the others slaving in the 21<sup>st</sup> century all that Ezekiel told us.

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