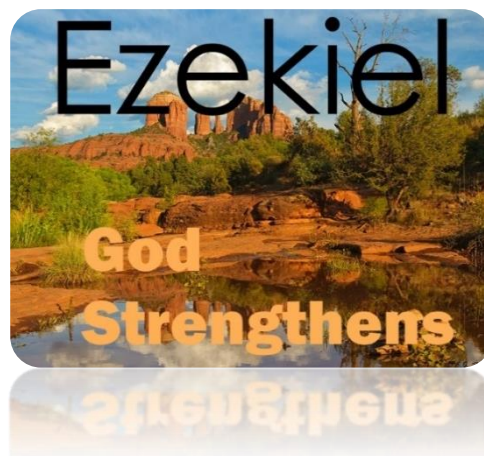


EZEKIEL 1 vs 1

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An outline of Ezekiel: Chapters 1 – 24: The Lord's prophecies against Israel and Judah; Chapter 25: prophecies against 4 neighbors: Ammon, Moab, Edom – east of Jordan, Philistia – the western coastline; Chapter 26 – 28: judgment on Tyre in Lebanon, its overthrow; a funeral song; its leader's downfall, and a funeral song for its real king, lastly judgment on Sidon. Chapter 29 – 32: judgment on Egypt; description of judgment; comparison to Assyria; a funeral song over Egypt. Chapter 33: appointing watchmen on the wall; Chapter 34: firing all the shepherds / the hired pastors; the LORD will do the job. Chapter 35 - 36: judgment begins at the household of God; but extends to the irksome neighbors; God always looks for love freely given. Much of this record – but not all was local history 2500 years ago.



Plan B: The last days: Trumpets, Afflicting souls, and Tents; 3 days that are still on the Lord's calendar. Chapter 37 the great awakening of Joseph (led by Ephraim and Manasseh) when they along with Judah become one; until Jesus Messiah returns to rule with a rod of iron. Armageddon: Chapter 38 Gog and Magog against Judah and Manasseh; Chapter 39 Gog and Magog against Ephraim – the battle is over.

Plan A: the first days: Passover, Unleavened Bread, Firstfruits, and Pentecost. Prophet Ezekiel says: But back to reality: Chapters 40 – 46: when you return to the land after 70 years in Babylon, rebuild the temple; include the 30 guardrooms. Chapters 47– 48: when Messiah comes to reign; He will get the water to flow and clean up Jerusalem; notice there are no more bloody sacrifices.

What our Lord said to Paul... applies to this chapter and how it ends with the same Lord here speaking, **Rise and stand on your feet,** for I appear to you for this purpose, to make you a minister – Acts 26. Ezekiel's ministry was to keep before those in captivity, the sins that brought God's judgment on them, and to assure them of God's future blessing for those who would return to Him, and keep His covenant. For this, we know, Ezekiel was dragged through the streets till he was murdered.

Ezekiel in Babylon

¹ **Now it happened in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, in the fifth day of the month /** most likely this date marks Ezekiel's age; they were permitted to enter the priesthood when they turned 30,

as I was among the captives by the river of Chebar / about 200 miles north of Babylon, that the heavens opened, and I saw visions of God.

² **On the fifth day of the month, (it was the fifth year of the captivity of king Jehoiachin),**

³ **the word of the LORD came expressly to Ezekiel the priest, son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was upon him there.**

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The Glory of the LORD

⁴ As I looked, behold, a whirlwind came from the north,

a great cloud with fire flashing forth continually and brightness around it,

and from the midst of it something like glowing metal in the midst of the fire / so it was the color of amber.

⁵ Also from the midst of it came the likeness of four living beings.

And this was their appearance: they had a human likeness;

⁶ but each had four faces, and each had four wings.

⁷ Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like a calf's hoof: and they gleamed like burnished bronze.

⁸ Under their wings on their four sides they had human hands.

As for the faces and wings of the four of them:

⁹ their wings touched one another; their faces did not turn when they moved; each went straight forward.

¹⁰ As for the likeness of their faces, each had the face of a man; all four had the face of a lion on the right: and the face of an ox on the left; and all four had the face of an eagle.

¹¹ Thus were their faces.

Their wings were spread upward; each had two wings that touched one another; and two covered their bodies.

¹² And each went straight forward. Wherever the spirit went, they went; without turning as they went.

¹³ As for the likeness of the living beings, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches moving back and forth among the living beings.



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The fire was bright, and
lightening flashed from
the fire.

¹⁴ And the living beings
ran back and forth like
bolts of lightning.

¹⁵ Now as I looked at the
living beings, behold
there was one wheel on
the earth beside the living
beings, for each of the four of them.

¹⁶ The appearance of the wheels and their workmanship
was like sparkling beryl: and the four had the same
likeness: their appearance and their workmanship was as
it were a wheel within a wheel.

¹⁷ When they went, they went in any of their four
directions: without turning as they went.

¹⁸ And their rims were tall and awesome; and the rims of
all four were full of eyes round about them.

¹⁹ And whenever the living beings went, the wheels went
with them. And whenever the living beings rose from the
earth, the wheels rose.

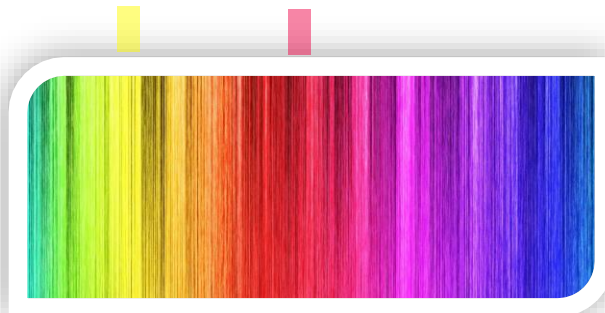
²⁰ Wherever the spirit went, they went, and the wheels rose with them,
for the spirit of the living beings was in the wheels.

²¹ Whenever those went, these went; and whenever those stood still, these stood still

And whenever those rose from the earth, the wheels rose close beside them: for the spirit of
the living beings was in the wheels.

The glowing expanse;

²² Over the heads of the living beings was
the likeness of the expanse, glowing as the
colors of crystal, extending over their heads.



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²³ And under the expanse their wings were stretched out, one toward another: each had two which covered their bodies on one side, and on the other side.

²⁴ And when they went, I heard the sound of their wings, like the sound of great waters, as the sound of the Almighty, the sound of speech, as the sound of an army: when they stood still, they let down their wings.

²⁵ And there was a sound / a voice from the firmament that was over their heads, when they stood, and had let down their wings.

²⁶ Now above the expanse that was over their heads there was the likeness of a throne, in appearance of sapphire: and on that which was the likeness of a throne was the likeness, above it, **the appearance of a man**.

²⁷ And I saw from the appearance of his waist upward what was like glowing metal that looked like fire round about and within it, from the appearance of his waist even upward, and from the appearance of his waist downward, I saw what was like the appearance of fire, and radiant all around him;

²⁸ like the appearance of the rainbow that is in the cloud on the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness all around. This was the appearance of the likeness of **the glory of the LORD**. And when I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard a voice of one speaking.



So to recap: Ezekiel was so fascinated with the glorious spectacle he saw, I bet he was transfixed... taking in all the wondrous details: the faces and features, the colors and sounds... to the left; to the right, gadgets and gizmos and gyros ascending higher and higher – all truly amazing; then suddenly all the thundering and lightening gives way to a golden glow... next a rainbow... and a throne comes in view. Finally appearing... was a Man wrapped in the glory of God

WOW!
Every Praise