

God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind...

Ozark Family Camp Week 3

14 August 2021

Ezekiel Seminar #2

Visions of the Glory of God

Ozark Family Camp

	Topic
1	Introduction to the Book
2	Visions of the Glory of God
3	Prophecies against the Nations
4	The Good Shepherd & New Temple

The Glory of God

- The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Psalms 19:1
- For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea Hab. 2:14

The Glory of God

- And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth John 1:14
- For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 2 Cor. 4:6

The Glory of God

- He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. Hebrews 1:3
- ...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God Romans 3:23

The Glory of God

- For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings Hebrews 2:10

To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Colossians 1:27-28
14 We beheld his glory...

Hebrews 2:10 - Bringing many sons to glory

Introduction

- Describing the indescribable (chs. 1&2)
- Places where the glory of God was seen:
 - In the land of exile (chs. 1&2)
 - In the judgment of the city (ch. 8)
 - In the departure from the corrupted Temple (10)
 - In the return to the new Temple (ch. 43)

Describing the Indescribable

- The distant signs: (1:4)
 - Strong gusts of wind
 - A great cloud
 - Brightness, fire, flashing light, glowing metallic
- Commentators: the “Chariot of War” (ch. 1)
 - The 4 living beings (4-14)
 - The 4 wheels (15-21)
 - The Expanse (22-25)
 - The Throne (26-28)

Indescribable: 4 Living Beings

Faces	Human, Lion, Ox, Eagle
Wings	Usage, in unison
Hands	Under the wings
Legs and Feet	Supporting movement in any direction
Movement	Any direction is forward, in unison
Appearance	Burning coals, torches, bright fire, lightning
Activity	Rapid movement to and fro - lightning

Indescribable: Fire (14)

As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like **burning coals of fire**, like the appearance of torches moving to and fro among the living creatures. And **the fire was bright**, and out of the fire went forth lightning.



- A red glow is produced when temperatures are about 932°F.
- Red flames occur at 1112-1832°F and turn orange between 1832-2192°F.
- At 2192-2552°F the flames turn yellow and if they get hotter the flames become blue-violet.

Indescribable: Wheels (15-21)

Power	The spirit of the living creatures (2x)
Appearance	Gyroscope, or rim and hub?
Movement	All directions simultaneously suggests the government of God
Underneath	Coals of the Fire of Judgment (ch. 10)
Omnipresence	All directions at once
Omnipotence	Great size and awesome power
Omniscience	Rims full of eyes

Indescribable: Expanse (22-25)

- Acted as a separation between the living beings and the throne
- Also known as a vault or covering
- Crystal - suggesting ice, hail, glass
- Possibly a sound chamber that amplified the noises of the wings

Indescribable: Throne (26-28)

- It is good news to men, that the throne above the firmament is filled with One who appears, even there, in the likeness of a man.
- Rainbow: A symbol of God's mercy
 - Noah saw the rainbow after the storm (Gen. 9:13)
 - the Apostle John saw it before the storm (Rev. 4:3), but Ezekiel saw it within the storm.

Glory in Judgment of the City (8-9)

- Abominations in the Temple (ch. 8)
 - Image of Jealousy
 - Secret sins with images and “pictures”
 - Worship of a foreign God (Tamuz)
 - Worship of the creation (sun)
- Grace in the midst of judgment (9:1-10)
- Burning coals scattered over the city (10)
- Judgment on the wicked counselors (11)

Glory and Grace in Departure ⁽¹¹⁾

Comfort to the exiles (11:14-25): Even though they were not in the land:

- God has been & will be a sanctuary to them
- He would gather them from the countries
- He would give them the land of Israel
- They will remove the abominations
- He will give them one heart and a new spirit
- They will be my people, I will be their God

Glory in the Return (ch. 43:1-9)

- The sound and the brightness of his Glory:
 - The sound of many waters
 - The earth shone (c.f. Rev. 18:1)
- The voice:
 - The place of my Throne
 - The place of the soles of my feet
 - Dwell in the midst of the people forever
 - No more defilement: whoring and dead bodies

Have you any room for Jesus?

God withdrawing is never what He wants—it is people who force it on Him.

Whenever His place of dwelling—whether a person, a church or religious organization or an entire nation—is filled with objects of false worship or idols, *there is no more room for Him.*

After all, His name is Jealous (Exodus 34:14) and He will not share His glory with another (Isaiah 42:8). Satan has organized society so that God is squeezed out—we now have no time for Him.

Bibliography

[Crossway.com - Why Study the Book of Ezekiel?, Michael Lawrence, April 22, 2018](#)

[God Rules: Ezekiel, Daniel \(Ray C. Stedman\)](#) - good commentary with great transitions

[ESV Bible Facts - Estimate it took the deportees 4 months to travel the 900 miles from J. to B.](#)

[Who are the 4 Living Creatures?](#) - possible explanation is God's created order