

The Return of God's Glory: A Reminder of the Need for Spiritual Cleansing Ezekiel 43:01–12

1. *The vision of God's glory given to Ezekiel*

- a. He saw God's glory come from the east
- b. He saw the land radiant with God's glory
- c. He saw the magnificence of God's glory just like that he had witnessed in his earlier visions, 8:1-11:25, esp. 10:18-19; 11:22-23
- d. He saw God's glory enter the temple
- e. He was lifted up by God's Spirit and taken into the inner courtyard: He saw the glory of God fill the temple

2. *The purpose for God's glory filling the temple: Shared with Ezekiel by God Himself*

- a. The new temple will be the place of God's throne: He will dwell and rule from there as both Priest and King, Zec 6:9-3; 37:26-28
- b. The new temple will be an honour to God's Name
 - His holy Name will never again be profaned by false worship

- 1 Then the man brought me to the gate facing east,
- 2 and I saw the glory of the God of Israel coming from the east. His voice was like the roar of rushing waters, and the land was radiant with his glory.
- 3 The vision I saw was like the vision I had seen when he came to destroy the city and like the visions I had seen by the Kebar River, and I fell faced-down.
- 4 The glory of the LORD entered the temple through the gate facing east.
- 5 Then the Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court, and the glory of the LORD filled the temple.
- 6 While the man was standing beside me, I heard someone speaking to me from inside the temple.
- 7 He said: "Son of man, this is the place of my throne and the place for the soles of my feet. This is where I will live among the Israelites forever. The people of Israel will never again defile my holy name — neither they nor their kings — by their prostitution and the funeral offerings for their kings at their death.

- His holy name will never again be profaned by wicked behaviour

- His judgment will never again fall upon His people

c. The new temple — the hope of God’s presence on earth — will stir the present generation to repent and thereby live forever

d. The new temple will teach that God is holy and that people are sinful: They must approach God exactly as He says

- They must understand God’s holiness and their sin and be ashamed

- They must understand that the very design of the temple teaches the fact of God’s holiness

- They must have a written record of the design and be faithful in acknowledging God’s holiness

- They must know the basic law of the temple: The temple must be kept holy, for God’s presence makes it holy

8 When they placed their threshold next to my threshold and their doorposts beside my doorposts, with only a wall between me and them, they defiled my holy name by their detestable practices. So I destroyed them in my anger.

9 Now let them put away from me their prostitution and the funeral offerings for their kings, and I will live among them forever.

10 “Son of man, describe the temple to the people of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their sins. Let them consider its perfection,

11 and if they are ashamed of all they have done, make known to them the design of the temple — its arrangement, its exits and entrances — its whole design and all its regulations and laws. Write these down before them so that they may be faithful to its design and follow all its regulations.

12 This is the law of the temple: All the surrounding area on top of the mountain will be most holy. Such is the law of the temple.