

The Withdrawal of God's Presence and Glory
from the People (Part 2):
A Picture of Both Judgment and Future Restoration
Ezekiel 11:14–25

**1. *God promised that His presence and glory would return:
A godly remnant assured***

- a. God's charge against the people still left in Judah:
They were self-righteous
 - 1) They felt God had rejected the exiles: Due to their sins
 - 2) They felt they were the true heirs of God:
Ignored their own sins
- b. God's discipline of the exiles:
Me had appointed the exiles to suffer so they would cry out for mercy and turn to Him
- c. God's great promises
 - 1) He had been a sanctuary for the righteous exiles
 - 2) He would liberate the exiles who truly believed and return them to the promised land
 - 3) He would arouse them to destroy all idols, never participating in false worship

14 The word of the LORD came to me:

15 "Son of man, the people of Jerusalem have said of your fellow exiles and all the other Israelites, 'They are far away from the LORD; this land was given to us as our possession.'

16 "Therefore say: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Although I sent them far away among the nations and scattered them among the countries, yet for a little while I have been a sanctuary for them in the countries where they have gone.'

17 "Therefore say: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will gather you from the nations and bring you back from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you back the land of Israel again.'

18 "They will return to it and remove all its vile images and detestable idols.

- 4) He would fulfil
the new covenant
- Give them an undivided heart and a new spirit
 - Remove their heart of stone against the LORD

5) He would stir them to follow
His commandments

6) He would make them
His people and
Himself their God

d. God's strong warning:
All who were devoted
to anything other than the LORD
would face the judgment
and condemnation of God

**2. *God withdrew His presence
and glory from the city:
A symbol of God's allowing
the people to live as they wished,
Rom 1:18-32; 3:23; 6:23***

- a. The glory (presence) of God
departed and stopped
above the Mount of Olives
- b. The prophet saw himself
being returned to Babylon:
The vision of God's glory
(presence) withdrawing
from the people ended —
departed from Ezekiel
- c. The prophet boldly shared
God's Word:
Both His judgment
and His promise of restoration

19 I will give them an undivided heart
and put a new spirit in them;
I will remove from them their heart of stone
and give them a heart of flesh.

20 Then they will follow my decrees
and be careful to keep my laws.
They will be my people,
and I will be their God.

21 But as for those whose hearts are devoted
to their vile images and detestable idols,
I will bring down on their own heads
what they have done,
declares the Sovereign LORD.”

22 Then the cherubim,
with the wheels beside them,
spread their wings, and the glory of the God
of Israel was above them.

23 The glory of the LORD
went up from within the city
and stopped above the mountain east of it.

24 The Spirit lifted me up
and brought me to the exiles in Babylonia
in the vision given by the Spirit of God.
Then the vision I had seen went up from me,

25 and I told the exiles
everything the LORD had shown me.