

God's People in Exile

What Comes After?: A Sojourning God

Ezekiel 10

When the angel who marked the righteous inhabitants of Jerusalem (in chapter 9) returns from that mission, what new assignment does God give him? [1-7]
What purpose might be accomplished thereby?

Ezekiel offers a somewhat detailed description of what he saw in his vision(s), and seems to struggle to find adequate words to describe it. Others have suggested it was God's portable throne mounted on a sort of four-wheeled chariot that is powered by four living creatures called cherubim. Do the details of the vision matter to us? What do we learn about the nature and character, and the purposes of God from those details? What do we learn from the *actions* of the cherubim and the Glory of the Lord? [4, 15, 18-19, 11:22-23]

Ezekiel 11

Who has God chosen, and who has He rejected? What are His plans for the children of Israel currently living in Jerusalem, and for those living in Babylon?

Who is the target audience for the prophecy that begins at verse 5? and who for the prophecy beginning at verse 17? How does God choose the punishment for the 25 leaders of Jerusalem? [8]

In the midst of judgment God promises restoration and blessing [17-20 (*compare Deuteronomy 30*)], but notice in verse 19 that restoration is only possible after transformation -- the failures that led to their judgment must be corrected!

During restoration, who does the work of cleaning up the land? and cleans the people? [18-20]

Next week: Ezekiel chapters 33 and 43.