

# EZEKIEL

## Chapter 9

### *The Departure of the Glory of the Lord Begins*

**He cried also in mine ears with a loud voice, saying, Cause them that have charge over the city to draw near, even every man with his destroying weapon in his hand. And, behold, six men came from the way of the higher gate, which lieth toward the north, and every man a slaughter weapon in his hand; and one man among them was clothed with linen, with a writer's inkhorn by his side: and they went in, and stood beside the brasen altar. (Ezekiel 9:1-2)**

**The Calling Forth of the Six Men of Slaughter (1-2):** The Lord calls forth six men with destroying weapons in their hands.

**And the glory of the God of Israel was gone up from the cherub, whereupon he was, to the threshold of the house. And he called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer's inkhorn by his side; And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof. (Ezekiel 9:3-4)**

**The Glory of the Lord Departs to the Threshold of the Temple and Commissions the Man Clothed with Linen (3-4):** The Lord now moves to the threshold of the temple door, and there commissions one man among the six (2) that is clothed in linen to go throughout the city with a writer's ink horn and place a mark on the forehead of those that "sigh and that cry for all the abominations."

**And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house. And he said unto them, Defile the house, and fill the courts with**

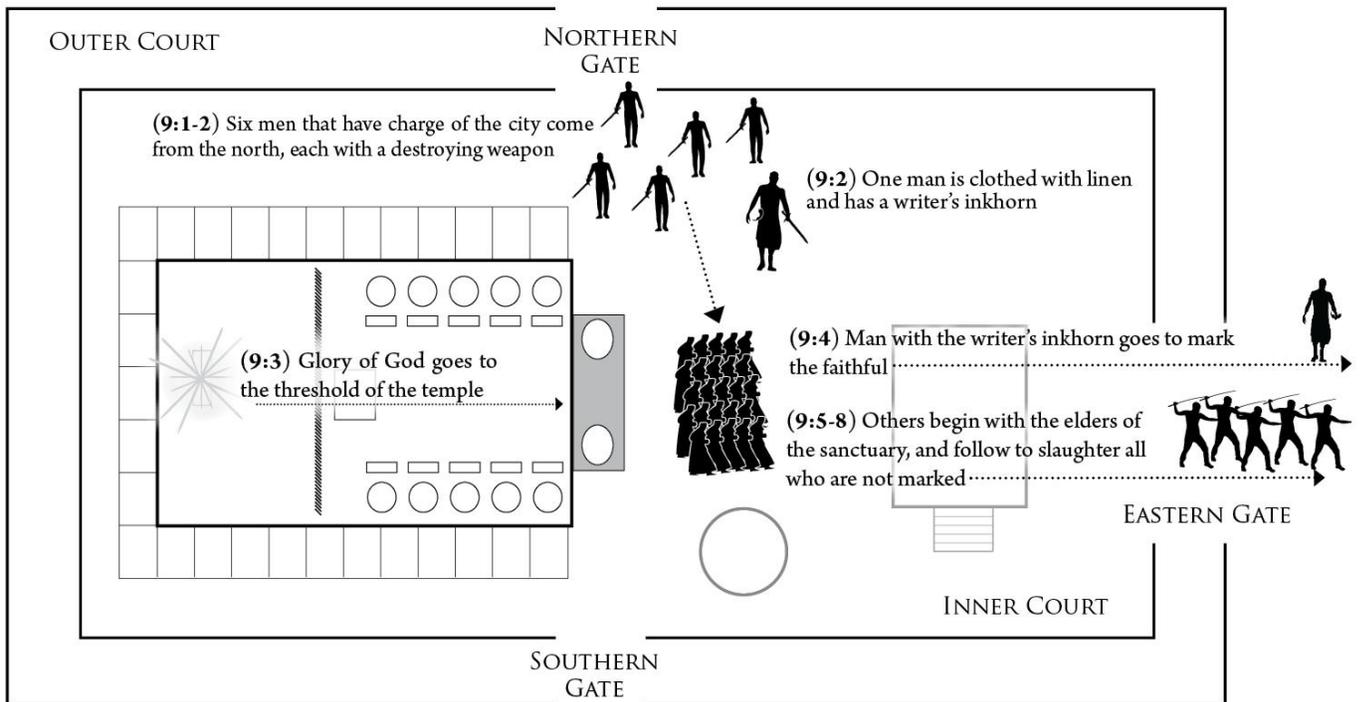
**the slain: go ye forth. And they went forth, and slew in the city. (Ezekiel 9:5-7)**

**The Commissioning of the Men of Slaughter (5-7):** Following the marking of the righteous, they are commissioned to go throughout the city and “slay utterly old and young both maids and little children and women” beginning with the temple. (*Notice all the people from old to young had corrupted themselves cf. Gen. 19:4*). This event had to transpire prior to the departing of the Lord’s glory from the temple. Our Lord is a holy and righteous God and cannot depart while there is sin within the temple, thus the slaughter begins in the temple (6).

**And it came to pass, while they were slaying them, and I was left, that I fell upon my face, and cried, and said, Ah Lord GOD! wilt thou destroy all the residue of Israel in thy pouring out of thy fury upon Jerusalem? Then said he unto me, The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceeding great, and the land is full of blood, and the city full of perverseness: for they say, The LORD hath forsaken the earth, and the LORD seeth not. And as for me also, mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity, but I will recompense their way upon their head. And, behold, the man clothed with linen, which had the inkhorn by his side, reported the matter, saying, I have done as thou hast commanded me. (Ezekiel 9:8-11)**

**The Cry of Ezekiel for His People (8-11):** Ezekiel falls on his face and cries aloud “Ah Lord God!” He is wondering if God will destroy all the “residue” of Israel. The Lord responds that His fury is justified. At this point Ezekiel is not given an answer, however God will later assure him that He will not utterly destroy the people (11:13-23).

# EZEKIEL'S VISION OF SOLOMON'S TEMPLE IN CHAPTER 9



# EZEKIEL

## Chapter 10

### *The Departure of the Glory of the Lord from the Temple*

Then I looked, and, behold, in the firmament that was above the head of the cherubims there appeared over them as it were a sapphire stone, as the appearance of the likeness of a throne. And he spake unto the man clothed with linen, and said, Go in between the wheels, even under the cherub, and fill thine hand with coals of fire from between the cherubims, and scatter them over the city. And he went in in my sight. Now the cherubims stood on the right side of the house, when the man went in; and the cloud filled the inner court. Then the glory of the LORD went up from the cherub, and stood over the threshold of the house; and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of the LORD'S glory. And the sound of the cherubims' wings was heard even to the outer court, as the voice of the Almighty God when he speaketh. And it came to pass, that when he had commanded the man clothed with linen, saying, Take fire from between the wheels, from between the cherubims; then he went in, and stood beside the wheels. And one cherub stretched forth his hand from between the cherubims unto the fire that was between the cherubims, and took thereof, and put it into the hands of him that was clothed with linen: who took it, and went out. And there appeared in the cherubims the form of a man's hand under their wings. And when I looked, behold the four wheels by the cherubims, one wheel by one cherub, and another wheel by another cherub: and the appearance of the wheels was as the colour of a beryl stone. And as for their appearances, they four had one likeness, as if a wheel had been in the midst of a wheel. When they went, they went upon their four sides; they turned not as they went, but to the place whither the head looked they followed it; they turned not as they went. And their whole body, and their backs, and their hands, and their wings, and the wheels, were full of eyes round about, even the wheels that they four had. As for the wheels, it was cried unto them in my hearing, O wheel. And every one had four faces: the first face was the face of a cherub, and the second face was the face of a man, and the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle. And the

**cherubims were lifted up. This is the living creature that I saw by the river of Chebar. And when the cherubims went, the wheels went by them: and when the cherubims lifted up their wings to mount up from the earth, the same wheels also turned not from beside them. When they stood, these stood; and when they were lifted up, these lifted up themselves also: for the spirit of the living creature was in them. (Ezekiel 10:1-17)**

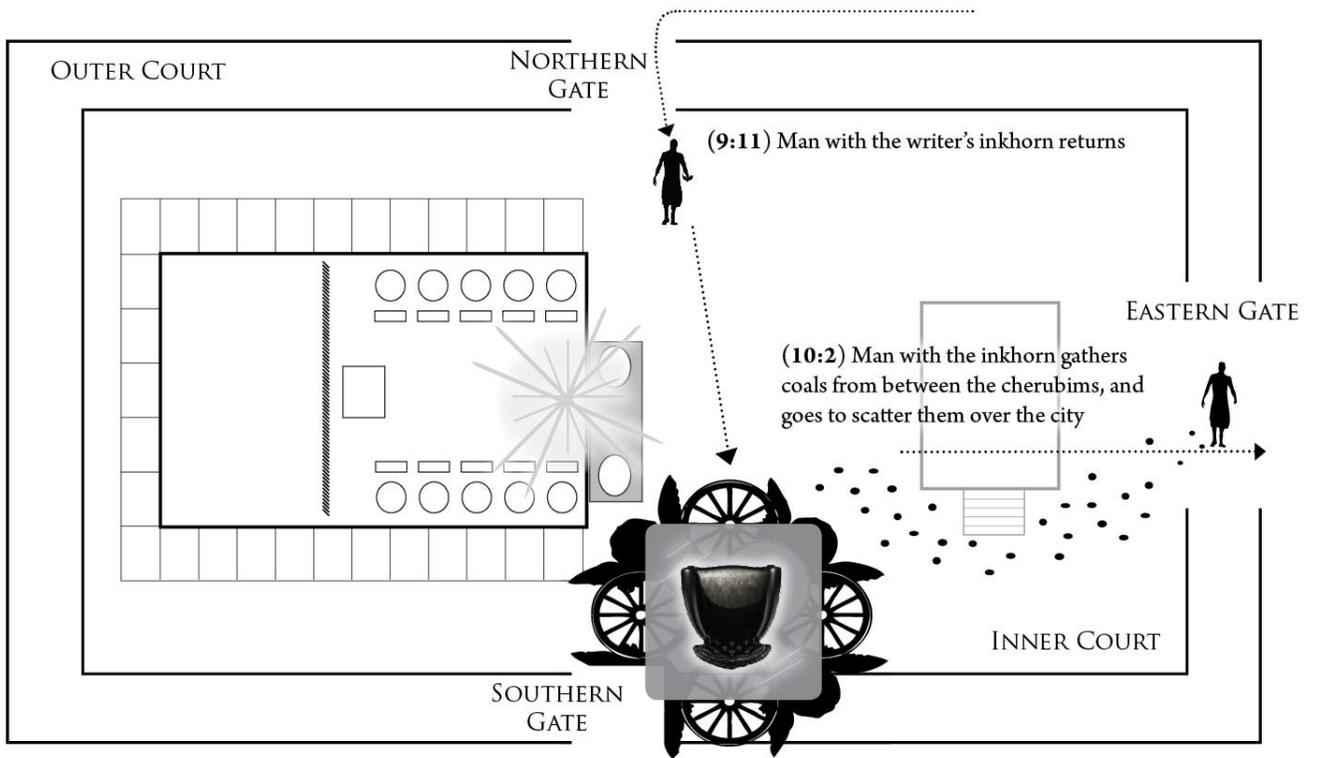
**The Arrival of God's Moveable Throne and its Appearance (1-17):** God's moveable throne now arrives for the departure of the glory of the Lord from the temple. This throne of God was discussed in chapter one, and its appearance is now described again in verses 8-15 of this chapter.

**The Man Clothed in Linen Sanctifying the City:** The Lord again commissions the man clothed in linen to take coals from beneath the chariot of God, between the wheels and the cherubim, and scatter them throughout the city. This is another act that needs to transpire before the glory of the Lord can depart from the city. This act is the sanctifying of the temple and the city, so the holiness of God is not compromised by the killing of the inhabitants of the temple and the city.

**Then the glory of the LORD departed from off the threshold of the house, and stood over the cherubims. And the cherubims lifted up their wings, and mounted up from the earth in my sight: when they went out, the wheels also were beside them, and every one stood at the door of the east gate of the LORD'S house; and the glory of the God of Israel was over them above. This is the living creature that I saw under the God of Israel by the river of Chebar; and I knew that they were the cherubims. Every one had four faces apiece, and every one four wings; and the likeness of the hands of a man was under their wings. And the likeness of their faces was the same faces which I saw by the river of Chebar, their appearances and themselves: they went every one straight forward. (Ezekiel 10:18-22)**

**The Glory of the Lord Now Departs the Temple (18-22):** The glory of the Lord mounts His movable throne and heads east to the door of the inner gate.

# EZEKIEL'S VISION OF SOLOMON'S TEMPLE IN CHAPTERS 9 & 10



# EZEKIEL

## Chapter 11

### *The Departure of the Glory of the Lord from the Land*

Jerusalem had not yet been destroyed. Zedekiah was still on the throne. Not only were the rulers in rebellion against God, they were in rebellion against Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon. Before God's glory departed from the city, it stopped at the eastern gate and gave Ezekiel another glimpse of the sin of Jerusalem's inhabitants.

Ezekiel receives two messages from the Lord: The first emphasizes judgment on the people in Jerusalem (vss. 1-15). The second emphasizes the promised restoration of the people who were in captivity (vss. 16-21). Then Ezekiel recorded the final departure of God's glory (vss. 22-25).

**Moreover the spirit lifted me up, and brought me unto the east gate of the LORD'S house, which looketh eastward: and behold at the door of the gate five and twenty men; among whom I saw Jaazaniah the son of Azur, and Pelatiah the son of Benaiah, princes of the people. Then said he unto me, Son of man, these are the men that devise mischief, and give wicked counsel in this city: Which say, It is not near; let us build houses: this city is the caldron, and we be the flesh. Therefore prophesy against them, prophesy, O son of man. And the Spirit of the LORD fell upon me, and said unto me, Speak; Thus saith the LORD; Thus have ye said, O house of Israel: for I know the things that come into your mind, every one of them. Ye have multiplied your slain in this city, and ye have filled the streets thereof with the slain. Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Your slain whom ye have laid in the midst of it, they are the flesh, and this city is the caldron: but I will bring you forth out of the midst of it. Ye have feared the sword; and I will bring a sword upon you, saith the Lord GOD. And I will bring you out of the midst thereof, and deliver you into the hands of strangers, and will execute judgments among you. Ye shall fall by the sword; I will judge you in the border of Israel; and ye shall know that I am the LORD. This city shall not be your caldron, neither shall ye be the flesh in the midst thereof; but I will**

**judge you in the border of Israel: And ye shall know that I am the LORD: for ye have not walked in my statutes, neither executed my judgments, but have done after the manners of the heathen that are round about you. (Ezekiel 11:1-12)**

**Ezekiel and the Wicked Counselors (1-12):** Ezekiel is told to prophesy against the wicked counselors (2-4). These men had counseled that the nation should revolt against Babylon and form an alliance with Egypt (Ezek. 17). This was contrary to God's command (Jer. 28:16) and in violation of the oath Zedekiah made to the Chaldean monarch (2 Chron. 36:13). The elders were urging the people to build houses, for they were safe as meat in a pot (3). However they were not safe, and God would see to it. They were to be scattered out of the city and fall by the sword (7-12).

**And it came to pass, when I prophesied, that Pelatiah the son of Benaiah died. Then fell I down upon my face, and cried with a loud voice, and said, Ah Lord GOD! wilt thou make a full end of the remnant of Israel? (Ezekiel 11:13)**

**Ezekiel Cries for His People (13):** Ezekiel falls upon his face and cries out to God, wondering if God will make a full end of the remnant of Israel. He had cried out to God earlier about this very thing but had not received an answer (9:8).

**Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, thy brethren, even thy brethren, the men of thy kindred, and all the house of Israel wholly, are they unto whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, Get you far from the LORD: unto us is this land given in possession. Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Although I have cast them far off among the heathen, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet will I be to them as a little sanctuary in the countries where they shall come. Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel. And they shall come thither, and they shall take away all the detestable things thereof and all the abominations thereof from thence. And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God. But as for them whose heart walketh after the heart of their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their way upon their own heads, saith the Lord GOD. (Ezekiel 11:14-21)**

**God's Promise of Restoration One Day (14-21):** God promises Israel that He will gather

them again into their land one day (17-18). God also promises to give them a new heart to serve the Lord (19-21). Israel's condition was that they were spiritually unfit to serve God. Under the Old Covenant they, like us, are unable to keep all the statutes and commandments. But God will establish a New Covenant one day in which they will experience the new birth as a nation, and then they will be able to walk according to all His ways (Ezek. 36, Jer. 31 cf. Heb. 8).

**Then did the cherubims lift up their wings, and the wheels beside them; and the glory of the God of Israel was over them above. And the glory of the LORD went up from the midst of the city, and stood upon the mountain which is on the east side of the city. Afterwards the spirit took me up, and brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God into Chaldea, to them of the captivity. So the vision that I had seen went up from me. Then I spake unto them of the captivity all the things that the LORD had shewed me. (Ezekiel 11:22-25)**

**The Glory of the Lord Departs the Land (22-25):** The glory of the Lord now departs from the "midst of the city" to the hill on the east of the city (Mount of Olives). It is from this location that the glory of the Lord will one day return into the temple (Ezek. 43:1-6). Ezekiel returns to himself and tells the people all that the Lord had shown him.