

VISIONS OF GLORY

Eze 1:1 Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth *month*, in the fifth *day* of the month, as I *was* among the captives by the river of Chebar, *that* the heavens were opened, and **I saw visions of God.**

Eze 1:4 And **I looked, and, behold**, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness *was* about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire.

Visions were an essential part and the cutting edge of Ezekial's ministry. Here we see that he "LOOKED" and when he looked, he "SAW".

To experience this heavenly realm we must believe God for the ability to "see" in the Spirit even with our eyes closed. It is essential for prophetic ministers to see when they look. There is no point to ministering the heavenly things if there is "blindness in our spirit".

Act 2:2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and **it filled all the house** where they were sitting.

A whirlwind: will move the natural realm. In Acts 2:2 "a mighty rushing wind" sent by God with heaven's power is described as a whirlwind. How else can a man share such an experience. This was no vision, it really happened; it removed any possibility of the power of God being discounted.

A cloud: is the "glory" residue, described as a cloud and proving again that God was in the midst. This glory is what is in heaven. I have personally seen hazes (like clouds) in meetings. At these times I witnessed unbelievable revival with mighty miracles.

Eze 1:28 As the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud in the day of rain, so *was* the appearance of the brightness round about. **This *was* the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD.** And when I saw *it*, **I fell upon my face, and I heard a voice of one that spake.**

Eze 1:28 "the bow that is in the cloud". "The appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord"

Eze 10:4 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.**

The wonder of the power of the glory needs no further explanation. (Eze 10:4)

His glory was seen as majesty and splendor. (1Chr 29:11; Hab 3:3-5)

Isaiah saw the Lord. (Isa 6:1-3)

v.1 “high and lifted up”; “his train filled the temple”.

v.3 “holy, holy, holy is the Lord”; “the whole earth is full of his glory”

Exo 13:21 And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, **to lead them the way**; and by night in a pillar of fire, **to give them light**; to go by day and night:

Exo 13:22 He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, *from* before the people.

This was the “shekinah” glory: Hebrew word: “dwelling of God”. Moses saw it as a “pillar of cloud; pillar of fire” **to lead them**.

Exo 29:43 And there I will meet with the children of Israel, and *the tabernacle shall be sanctified by my glory*.

The Glory of God sanctified the tabernacle. Study the words “my glory”.
The glory and the affects of His glory belong to God and not to man.

Exo 24:16-17 It covered Sinai, when God gave the law.

Exo 40:34 Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and **the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle**.

The glory filled the tabernacle. I believe God wants to fill churches with His glory.

Exo 40:36-38 It guided the children of Israel in the wilderness.

2 Chr 7:1; 1Kin 8:11-13 It filled Solomon’s temple.

1 Sam 4:4; 2Sam 6:2; Ps 80:1 The Glory (God) dwelt between the two Cherubims in the most Holy place.)

Eze 10:4 Ezekial saw the glory of the Lord in the temple of God.

Fire is often an accompaniment of the Glory: (Eze 1:13)

Eze 1:13 As for the likeness of the living creatures, **their appearance was like burning coals of fire**, and like the appearance of lamps: it went up and down among the living creatures; and **the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning**.

We all know that fire has a purifying effect. It's destructive force reduces everything of the natural realm to ashes.

1Co 3:13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and **the fire shall try every man's work** of what sort it is.

1Co 3:14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

1 Kin 18:38-39 First the “ashes” then the “answers”.

1Ki 18:38 Then **the fire of the LORD fell**, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.

1Ki 18:39 And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, **The LORD, he is the God; the LORD, he is the God.**

Hab 3:5 Before him went the pestilence, and **burning coals went forth at his feet**.

There are burning coals at the feet of God. God has the ability to LIVE IN FIRE.

Exo 3:1-6 The fire in the BURNING BUSH, caused Moses to change direction.

Moses went to “see this great sight”. The great sight was the “Shekinah” Glory of God.

Eze.1:5 These living creatures were identified as cherubim.

Eze 10:19 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**.

Eze 10:19-22 Cherubim are powerful super angelic beings who manifest the holiness and glory of God.

1Chr 28:18 And for the altar of incense refined gold by weight; and gold for the pattern of the chariot **of the cherubims, that spread out *their wings*, and covered the ark of the covenant of the LORD.**

The Cherubims protect the Glory of God. (1Chr 28:18)

Psa 18:10 “he rode upon a cherub, and did fly”.

Gen 3:22-24 They were the guards that protected the garden of Eden.

Exo 25:18-22 Images of the Cherubim appears on the mercy seat of the Ark.

Eze 1:9 “**They turned not when they went, they went everyone straight forward**”. There is a great sense of “forward purpose” in heaven. All spirit activity in heaven is in a “straight forward” direction.

Eze 1:12 “whither the spirit was to go, they went and they turned not when they went”

Note: 1. They obey God.

2. They only engage the work of God when the Spirit is moving.

3. They don't get distracted.

4. They always move in a forward direction

Eze 1:17 “and they turned not when they went”

Eze 1: 20 “whither the spirit was to go, they went, thither was their spirit to go”

The N.T. equivalent of the “Shekinah” glory was Jesus Christ himself. He was the glory of God in a human form.

Joh 1:14 “the word was made flesh”, “**and we beheld his glory**”.

Luk 2:9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and **the glory of the Lord shone round about them:** and they were sore afraid.

The shepherds **saw the glory** of the Lord **at the birth of Christ.**

Mat 17:2; Luk 9:29-31; 2 Pet 1:16-18

The disciples saw that glory at the transfiguration of Christ.

Act 7:55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, **and saw the glory of God**, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,

Stephen saw the glory of God at the time of his martyrdom. Stephen feared God and remained in the power of the Holy Spirit right to the moment of his death. To see a vision of an open heaven just before you pass from this life shows us something of his courage and dedication; for he abided in the Spirit without distraction till his last breath.

Isa 40:5 Isaiah prophesied that the glory of the Lord would be revealed and that all flesh would see it together.

Heb 1:3 Who being **the brightness of his glory**, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

The writer of the Hebrews reveals that the prophecy of Isa 40:5 was fulfilled. Note the phrases:-

“brightness of his glory”,

“express image of his person”,

“upholding all things by the word of his power”.

Joh 17:5 Christ’s glory was the same glory he had with the Father.

Note: 1Cor 2:8; Jas 2:1. Paul and James spoke of Jesus as “the Lord of Glory”

1Co 2:8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known *it*, they would not have crucified **the Lord of glory**.

Jas 2:1 My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, ***the Lord of glory***, with respect of persons.