

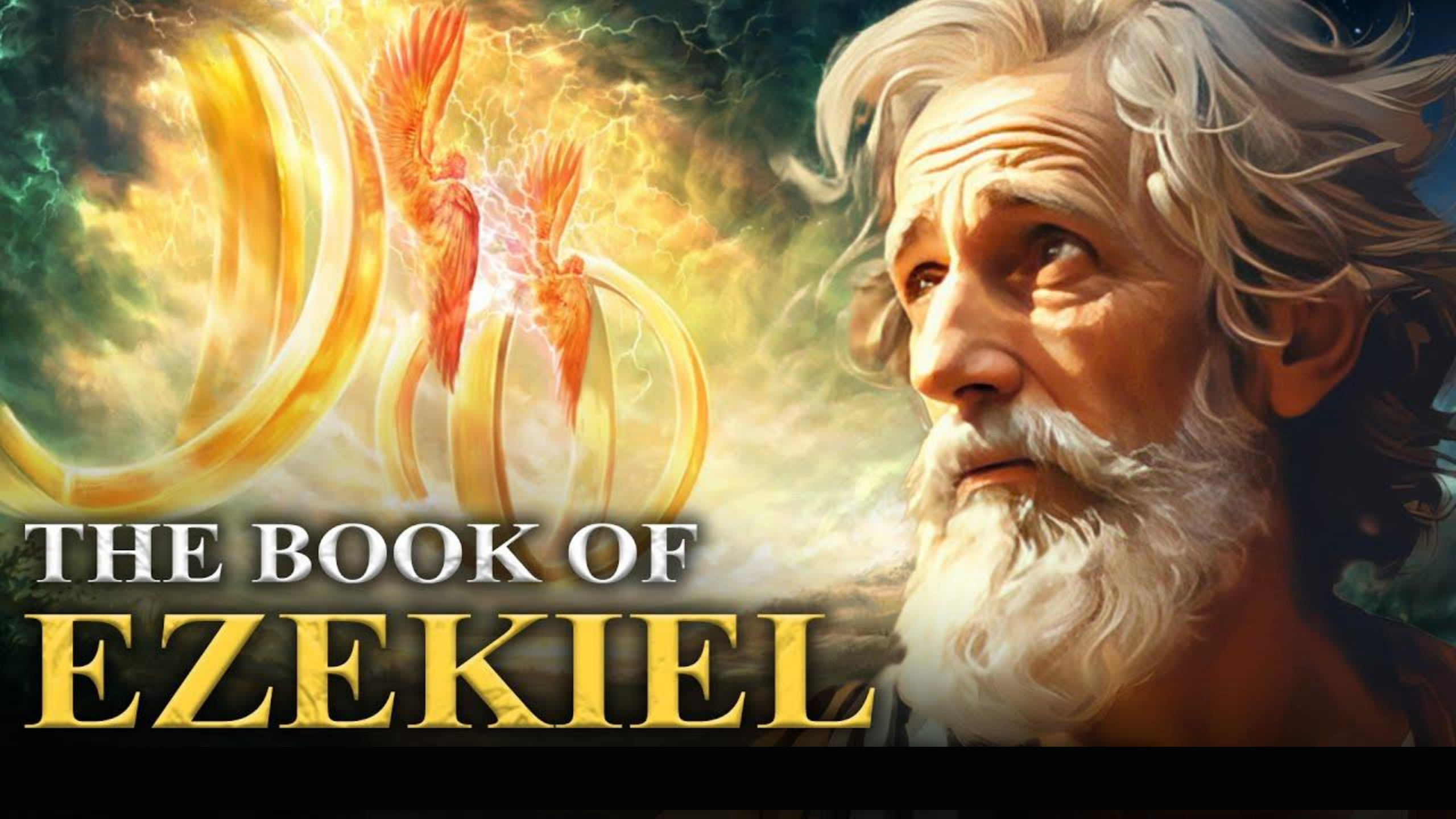


THE FOUR LIVING CREATURES

Unraveling Ezekiel's vision



ALIENS IN THE BIBLE?



THE BOOK OF
EZEKIEL



CONTEXT OF EZEKIEL'S VISION

- Ezekiel lived almost 600 years before Christ, 592BC



CONTEXT OF EZEKIEL'S VISION

- **STATE OF ISRAEL:**
Rebellious Israel
taken into
exile/captivity by
Nebuchadnezzar

Ezekiel 2:3

And He said to me: “Son of man, I am sending you to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against Me; they and their fathers have transgressed against Me to this very day.”

*In Ezekiel chapter 2, God calls Israel rebellious six times

WHY IS THIS IN THE BIBLE?

**“All Scripture is given by
inspiration of God”**

2 Tim. 3:16-17

- Therefore, Ezekiel’s vision has been included for a reason and for the purpose of our edification.
- Like many other passages in the Bible, it requires time, effort, prayer, and patience.

A MESSAGE FOR ISRAEL

- This is given to Israel during an uncertain time of Israel's history, a time many may be wondering, "Where is God?"
- Ezekiel 3:4-5 tells us that this is a message from God directly to Israel, those that would understand the message.

Ezekiel 3:4

Then He said to me: “Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with My words to them.

Ezekiel 3:5

For you *are* not sent to a people of unfamiliar speech and of hard language, *but* to the house of Israel,



THE VISION:
Given in signs and symbols



Ezekiel 1:4

Then I looked, and behold, a whirlwind was coming out of the north, a great cloud with raging fire engulfing itself; and brightness *was* all around it and radiating out of its midst like the color of amber, out of the midst of the fire.

MESSAGE FROM HEAVEN

- **Is. 14:12-14:** farthest sides of the north.
- Coming from heaven, where God lives.
- Jesus will return with a **great cloud of angels**

Refers to Ezekiel 1:4



CLOUD OF ANGELS

- **Dan. 7:9, 10:** Thrones, seated, fiery flame, wheels, fiery stream (angels) issued forth
- **Ps. 99:1:** God sits between the cherubim
- **Ps. 68:17:** The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of angels
- **Rev. 5:11:** the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands

*Next, we see a description of the Creatures

Ezekiel 1:5

Also from within it *came* the likeness of four living creatures. And this *was* their appearance: they had the likeness of a man.



Ezekiel 1:6

Each one had four faces, and each one had four wings.

Ezekiel 1:7

Their legs *were* straight, and the soles of their feet *were* like the soles of calves' feet. They sparkled like the color of burnished bronze.

THE FOUR LIVING CREATURES

- Likeness of a man
- Four faces
- Four wings
- Straight feet like the sole of a calf
- Sparkled like the color of burnished brass
- Wings joined together
- They move straight forward and do not turn

Refers to Ezekiel 1:5-9





Ezekiel 1:10

As for the likeness of their faces, *each* had the face of a man; each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle.



Ezekiel 1:11

Thus *were* their faces. Their wings stretched upward; two *wings* of each one touched one another, and two covered their bodies.

THE FOUR FACES

- Man, lion (right), ox (left), eagle
- 4 = totality, 4 corners of the earth
- 4 banners in encampment of Israel
- 4 faces look in all directions without even moving
- Connected with gospels: 4 gospels

Refers to Ezekiel 1:10





CONNECTION WITH THE GOSPELS

- LUKE = Man = humanity: Rm. 5:19, Jn. 1:14
- MATTHEW = Lion = strength/victory: Rm. 8:37
- MARK = Ox = sacrifice = Rm. 5:8
- JOHN = Eagle = kingly power = 1 Tim. 6:15

CHERUBIM: THEIR POWER AND AUTHORITY

- Two cherubim on ark
 - Solomon's Temple has two more cherubim (*1 Kings 6:23*)
 - Rev. 7:1-3: 4 angels at 4 corners, holding back 4 winds/strife
 - They are in control
-





WINGS:

- Wings stretched upward
 - Two wings joined together
 - Two wings covering their body as a sign of reverence to God on His throne, (PP. EGW)
-

Refers to Ezekiel 1:11-12

FIRE & LIGHTNING

- Creatures had the appearance of burning coals of fire, like lamps, like the appearance of torches going back and forth among the living creatures.
- The fire was bright, and out of the fire went lightning. (speed)
- These creatures perform God's work fast, with wisdom, and reverence. On a mission from God
- Creatures are running back and forth



Refers to Ezekiel 1:13-14



WHEEL WITHIN A WHEEL

- Wheel in the middle of a wheel beside each creature
- When they moved, they went toward any one of four directions; they did not turn aside when they went.
- Wheels are at right angles, can move quickly in any direction, creatures make wheels move

Refers to Ezekiel 1:16-17



FULL OF EYES

- Rims of wheels are full of eyes

Refers to Ezekiel 1:18



Ephesians 1:18

the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

Matthew 6:22

**“The lamp of the body is the eye.
If therefore your eye is good, your
whole body will be full of light.**

*Everything these beings do is with utmost wisdom

MOVEMENTS AND DIRECTION

- When the living creatures went, the wheels went beside them; and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up.
 - Wheels/wings similar
-

Refers to Ezekiel 1:19



Ezekiel 1:20

Wherever the spirit wanted to go, they went, *because* there the spirit went; and the wheels were lifted together with them, for the spirit of the living creatures *was* in the wheels.

THE MAN AND HIS HAND

- **Ezekiel 10:8:** Cherubim appear to have the form of a man's hand under them. - Creatures guided by some man's hands
- **Ezekiel 10:2,6:** Man clothed with linen, man says take fire from the wheels
- The man clothed in linen, like high priest is clothed in linen, is Jesus. **Dan. 12, Rev. 1:16**

Refers to Ezekiel 1 connecting with Ezekiel 10



THE TRINITY

- This scene depicts the Trinity with the cherubim and the angelic host guiding history to its desired end and how they minister to the needs of this world.
 - Trinity = Spirit (guide), Man (in linen), One on throne is God the Father.
 - Living creatures are emissaries of the Trinity.
-





SEA OF GLASS

- Sky above the heads of the living creatures *was* like the color of an awesome crystal, stretched out over their heads.
(Rev. 4:6)
 - God's throne seated upon a sea of glass/crystal
-

Refers to Ezekiel 1:22



Revelation 4:6

Before the throne *there was* a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, *were* four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.

THE SOUND OF MANY WATERS

- Wings like the noise of many waters, like the voice of God, like the noise of an army.
 - When they go on mission, the Almighty is speaking.
-

Refers to Ezekiel 1:24 -25



ABOVE THE THRONE

- Like a rainbow on a cloudy day.
 - Above the one on throne is rainbow.
 - Rainbow is combination of sunshine and rain = justice and mercy of God (the flood).
 - This was the appearance of the glory of God.
-

Refers to Ezekiel 1:26-28



DELIVERY OF THE MESSAGE

- Ezekiel 11:24-25 - I spoke to those in captivity what the Lord spoke to me.
 - Rev. 1:4-5, 10 = Trinity involved in the delivery.
 - From the Father to son to spirit, to angel, to John, to seven churches.
-



A view of Earth from space, showing the curvature of the planet and the bright sun rising over the horizon, creating a lens flare effect. The sun is positioned in the center-left of the frame, and its light illuminates the Earth's surface. The background is a dark, starry space.

Who is in control of
human history?

Man or God?

God is in control.
Trust in Him.



CONFUSION OR ORDER

- Wheels intersecting each other.
- Wheels look like they are in confusion but, are in perfect harmony.
- Wheels are the wheels of human history.
- Wheel, like the complications of earth's history, are under the control of God.
- In chaos and confusion, God still guides the plans of the earth.



Revelation 5:11 – 14: Read from your Bible

Thousands and thousands,
ten thousand times ten
thousand are waiting to do His
will.

Are you?





THE FOUR LIVING CREATURES

Unraveling Ezekiel's vision