

The Divine Tapestry

PART 87

Ezekiel 8-11

“THE REAL ICHABOD”

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“It is guilt, always guilt, that brings a prophet on stage in the Old Testament. The guilt of Judah was deep-seated, inexcusable, and beyond the reach of mercy. All that remained was judgment – hence the need for a prophet. The Old Testament prophet preached to the conscience of the age. Judah’s conscience, however, was seared as with a hot iron...

Ezekiel himself was not ignorant of the situation. He had already been given a vision of what was happening in the north gate of the temple. He had seen the women weeping there for Tammuz ... Moreover, he had seen inside the inner court of the temple twenty-five priests (doubtless the heads of the twenty-four courses along with the high priest) sitting with their backs toward the temple and facing the east to worship the rising sun (8:14-16).

Ezekiel also had seen the glory of the Lord depart from Jerusalem. That “glory” was the Shechinah cloud, which manifested itself as a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night ...

Ezekiel saw that Shechinah glory slowly, reluctantly depart.” ¹*Exploring People of the Old Testament*, John Phillips, pp. 166-168

Let’s look at the progression that led to Ichabod ... the glory departing.

INTERESTING NOTES

- The term, “Son of **Man**” (a term Christ would use for Himself) is found over **90** times.
- Ezekiel’s **life** would be as much of a **message** as his **words**.

ICHABOD

1. The glory **rejected** (*chapter 8*).

- Note: The progress in the **activity**
The progress in the **arguments**
The progress in the **actors**

2. The glory **departs** (*chapter 10; 11:22-24*).

- The departure was **planned** (*Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 30*).
- The departure was **purposeful** (*Ezekiel 11:16*).
- The departure was **personal**.

Note: The “**heaviness**” (almost a reluctance) as the glory of God leaves (*chapter 10*).

3. The glory will **return** (*Ezekiel 11:17-21; 43:1-7; Zechariah 14:3-5; Matthew 24:29-31; Acts 1:11*).

APPLICATION

- Did you know that God is as concerned about worship **today** as He was then?
- If you were to judge your **heart** in light of Christ’s **return**, what would need to change?