

Ezekiel 1:5-9 – The Cherubim

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.**

Visions of God



For Ezekiel, the Lord opened a view into heaven and offered Ezekiel a vision of God. Certainly each of us wonder what does God look like?



In Ezekiel chapter 1 we are offered a limited picture of God the Father and His throne. We will begin our understanding of what Ezekiel saw, by starting with what we already know.



We know that God the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, is both God and man, and in His glorified and risen body we can easily picture Him.

²⁶ And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. ²⁷ Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. ²⁸ And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

John 20:26-28

¹² Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus then cometh, and taketh bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise. ¹⁴ This is now the third time that Jesus shewed himself to his disciples, after that he was risen from the dead.

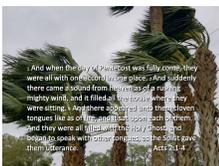
John 21:12-14

⁴¹ And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat? ⁴² And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. ⁴³ And he took it, and did eat before them.

Luke 24:41-43

⁴¹ Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.

Acts 10:41



But when we next consider the Holy Spirit, it becomes harder to picture Him because He is a spirit and at best can be perceived through His working and the effects He causes – like the wind.

¹ And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 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. ³ And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like

as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:1-4



Like the Spirit, God the Father is a spirit, who no one can see – 1 Timothy 6:15, 16:

¹⁵Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; ¹⁶Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honor and power everlasting. Amen.

But here in Ezekiel we see the heavens opened and we are given a look into heaven to see God and His throne.

What is a Throne?

God's throne represents His authority, sovereignty, power, etc. From it, He **sends forth orders**, appointments, or edicts.¹



Thus, in verse 3, God began His orders to Ezekiel, who is God's agent or representative in a special way because **the hand of the LORD was upon him**.

*The word of the LORD came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi [Boo-zie], in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and **the hand of the LORD was there upon him.***

Ezekiel 1:3

“The hand of the Lord was upon him” connotes the idea of God's strength on behalf of the person involved (Ezekiel 3:14; cf. Isaiah 25:10; 41:10, 20), a concept inherent in the name ‘Ezekiel’ (*yehezqel*), which means ‘God strengthens.’” (Alexander)

This was needed for the things Ezekiel saw from the throne would require God's strength, for it was overwhelming.

The first mention of this throne is by the prophet Micaiah when speaking to rebellious Ahab, 1 Kings 22:19

*And he said, Hear thou therefore the word of the LORD: I saw the **LORD sitting on his throne**, and **all the host of heaven standing by him** on his right hand and on his left.*

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¹ Mal Couch, “Throne of God” Harvest Handbook of Bible Prophecy.