

Ezekiel Part 5: Prophecies About the Temple Restoration

Ezekiel Part 5, Week 1, Chapters 40-48

Please start your study with at least 10 minutes of concentrated prayer for God to really open up truth for you in Ezekiel Part 5, chapters 40-48. This section is about the return of the sacrificial system, the priesthood, and the temple that will be built during the time of the Millennium when Christ returns to set up His kingdom on this earth for His chosen people. During this time of the Millennium, God will be visually present in His temple; He will never leave this temple or His people ever again; He will always be in their presence. This was a very important part of the hope with which Ezekiel encouraged the Jews who were exiled to Babylon (See Ezekiel 37:26-28). Please read the last verse of the book of Ezekiel, 48: 35, and write it here:

The name of this city where the temple shall be built is *Jehovah Shammah* or the “LORD is here.” Of course, this city is Jerusalem.

This week in my preparations for writing Ezekiel, Part 5, I have experienced a range of emotions from “I’d just like to skip over this section,” to excitement over this mystery finally to be reconciled in my mind. I know that there are a few of you out there that are dead set on this section being figurative or symbolic only. From the book of Hebrews, you have rightly discerned that the return to the old Levitical way of atoning for one’s sins will net nothing and may even mean that you’ve never truly been a Believer. Let me assure you, that these thoughts have passed through my mind more than once in my many years of studying the Scripture. But, I would like you to pray that God will open your mind up to Truth as we study chapters 40-48. After much reading this past week, I have come to the conclusion, that God intends us to take these references to the Millennial temple and the return of the Jews to the sacrificial system and priestly services literally. Since 2 Timothy 3:16 says that God inspires all Scripture, I must assume that we are still missing something in our interpretation and understanding of chapters 40-48, which will help us to understand this as literal.

I would like to reprint for you here three entire paragraphs written by Charles H. Dyer in the Bible Knowledge Commentary on this problem of the return of the sacrificial system in the Millennial Temple.

“Many have objected to the thought of animal sacrifices being reinstated during the Millennium. Since these sacrifices, it is argued, revert back to the Levitical sacrificial system, they would seem to be out of place in the Millennium. This has caused some to take the passage symbolically rather than literally. However, no difficulty exists if one understands the proper function of these sacrifices. First, animal sacrifices *never* took away human sin; only the sacrifice of Christ can do that (Hebrews 10:1-4,10). In Old Testament times Israelites were saved by grace through faith, and the sacrifices helped

restore a believer's fellowship with God. Second, even after the church began, Jewish believers did not hesitate to take part in the temple worship (Acts 2:46, 3:1, 5:42) and even to offer sacrifices (Acts 21:26). They could do this because they viewed the sacrifices as memorials of Christ's death.

“Levitical sacrifices were connected with Israel's worship of God. When the church supplanted Israel in God's program (cr. Rom. 11:11-24) a new economy or dispensation began. The Levitical sacrificial system, which looked forward to Christ, was replaced by the Lord's Supper, which looked back to His death and forward to His second coming (1 Cor 11:24, 26).

At Christ's second coming Israel will again assume her place of prominence in God's kingdom program (cf. Rom. 11:25-27). The Lord's Supper will be eliminated, because Christ will have returned. It will be replaced by animal sacrifices, which will be memorials or object lessons of the supreme sacrifice made by the Lamb of God. The slaughtering of these animals will be vivid reminders of the Messiah's suffering and death.”¹

We will examine chapters 40-48 of Ezekiel very differently than we have studied the first 39 chapters of Ezekiel. But, before we get started with the text of Ezekiel, please review the following visual pictures of the throne room of God (or the presence of God) that the Holy Spirit has given to us in the Scripture.

Days 1-2 The Sanctuary of God

God's presence in the Heavenly Temple – Isaiah 14:12-14, Ezekiel 28: 12-16

Obviously, these two references are about Satan's origin. Please determine what you can about the presence of God in heaven from these two passages in the space below. If you cannot find some clues, continue to read these two passages until you can discern what clues are written in them. I will start you out with one clue from Isaiah 14:

Heaven is upward and separate from Earth. The Scripture says here that Satan both fell from heaven and he said he would ascend to heaven. Therefore, heaven is above us on the earth, in another place. God's presence is in this Heavenly Temple.

¹ Charles H. Dyer, The Bible Knowledge Commentary, p. 1305.

God's presence in the Garden of Eden – Genesis 2-3

God walked in the midst of the Garden, so Adam and Eve were in His presence or God was present with His creation.

God's presence in the Earthly Tabernacle, Temple, Tent of Meeting, or Sanctuary – Numbers 3:38; Exodus 15:17, 16:2, 25:18-22, 31-40, 28:1,29:29; 1 Kings 6:23-28, 8:5, 10-12; Leviticus 11:44-45, 21:12,23, Joshua 7:6, 10; 1 Samuel 3:3-4, Hebrews chapters 8-10

The tabernacle had an Eastward orientation – the only way into the earthly dwelling place of God was from the East – He would come into His tent of meeting from the east and He would leave His people by going out from His temple to the east.

Again, God's Presence in the Heavenly Tabernacle – Exodus 26:30, Ezekiel 28:14, Revelation 4:1-16:1, 21-22, Hebrews 8-10

The plan given to Moses to build the earthly traveling tabernacle was a picture (or a shadow) of the tabernacle in heaven.

Days 3–4 - Ezekiel 40 – Ezekiel’s Vision of a New Temple

Please mark your double-spaced worksheet for Ezekiel 40 for the following key words and phrases:

- all references to God, including the LORD, and all pronouns as you marked them before
- all references to Ezekiel, including “Son of man,” as before
- “vision” as you marked it before in Ezekiel 1:1
- all references to “mountain,” and all pronouns as before
- all references to “city,” as you marked “Jerusalem” in the past
- all references to cardinal points of the compass with the initial letter of the direction, i.e., “N” for “north”
- all references that have to do with “seeing” the same as before, i.e., “see,” and “eyes”
- all references to Israel or the land of Israel the same as before
- all numbers written out as actual numbers above, i.e., “one,” as “1”
- “a man whose appearance was like the appearance of bronze,” or “the man” in some unique way since this is the first time we’ve encountered him

Mark all references to time with a clock out to the left-hand side of the margin.

What is the date expressed in Ezekiel 40:1? What is your clue that this is a specific holiday on the Jewish calendar? What is this holiday? Why would God have given Ezekiel this vision of the New Temple on this day?

Who or what was the man whose appearance was like bronze?

What did the man, whose appearance was like bronze, have in his hand? For what purpose was this measuring rod?

How much is a cubit of measure? You might find this information in your Bible dictionary or “google” it.

How much is a cubit and a handbreadth of measure?

How precise were the measurements this man of bronze made? Why would God give so much detail concerning the measurements here if this section of Scripture was purely symbolic?

If a common cubit is 18 inches long and a long cubit is 21 inches long, then how tall was the wall surrounding the temple? How thick was it? See 40:5.

The Outer Court

There were three gates leading into the outer court. Why would Ezekiel begin the measurements of the gates with the eastern gate? See 40:6-16.

Describe this gate in detail with its steps, threshold, guardrooms, pillars, porch, etc.

What did Ezekiel enter next through the eastern gateway? See 40:17-19.

How many rooms were along the pavement of the outer court?

For what reason do you think these rooms were used?

What was the distance from the east gate of the outer court to the threshold of the gate leading to the inner court?

To what gate was Ezekiel led next? See 40:20-23.

To what gate was Ezekiel then led to next? See 40: 24-27.

What was noteworthy about these three gates?

The Inner Court

Where did this man, whose appearance was like bronze, go next? See 40:28-37.

These three inner gates had what in common with each other and what in common with the outer three gates? What was different about the inner court gates versus the outer court gates? See 40:32-37.

What was set up at the sides of the inner gates? See 40:38-43.

Why would tables be set up for sacrifices to be prepared if there were no intentions to perform sacrifices?

Where were these sacrifices prepared on these tables offered? In other words, where was the altar located?

Did animal sacrifices, during the time of the Levitical atonement, ever truly take away sin? What does the word “atonement” mean? If you only find that it means, “to cover up,” then look harder. This is important. Do not skip.

How were Old Testament Believers saved?

What did the sacrifices do for the Believer’s relationship with God?

What replaced the Levitical sacrificial system when Christ came the first time? See 1 Corinthians 11:24, 26.

I would like you to read Romans 9, 10, and 11.

Who will take center stage once the Christian believers are gone from the earth via the Rapture?

There are other verses within the text of the Scripture that speak of a sacrificial system being reinstated during the Millennial Kingdom. Please read all of these and write your thoughts down here afterwards:

Isaiah 56:7

Isaiah 66:20-23

Jeremiah 33:18

Zechariah 14:16-21

Malachi 3:3-4

There are two rooms inside the inner court. One of these rooms is on the same side of the north gate and facing south. The other room is on the same side as the south gate and

faces north. Which room was for the priests in charge of the temple? Which room was for the priests in charge of the altar? What do you think the priests did inside these rooms? Notice again, why would God describe rooms in his temple for these priests if He did not intend for these priests to use these rooms when going about their priestly duties?

Who were these priests who were to minister to the LORD? From whom had they descended? See 1 Kings 1:26-27. Had God promised these priests an everlasting position in His Temple? See Exodus 19:6.

The Temple Building

Now, to where does Ezekiel's attention shift? See 40:48-49.

Where did Ezekiel first go to here?

Describe this porch of the temple with its pillars, gate and stairs:

Why would God (through the man whose appearance was like bronze) tell Ezekiel to pay attention to all that he was going to show him? Why would he tell Ezekiel to declare it to the house of Israel?

Why would God want you to study this temple in such detail? See 2 Timothy 3:16 for clues.

Please record the theme of chapter 40 on the individual worksheet for Ezekiel 40 and on the Ezekiel Theme Summary Chart in the Appendix.

Day 5 – Personal Reflection

We will be doing something very different in this week's lesson. You will be writing the questions for personal reflection. Find ways to make this information in Ezekiel 40 practical. Take this task to God in prayer and see what He reveals to you.

Why did Ezekiel make so much effort and take so much time to describe this temple?

What was the priests' proper position before God? What were they to do for Him? What were they to do for others?

You are a priest according to the New Testament. What are your priestly duties? How are you to serve God and how are you to serve others?

This is what Jesus, through an angel writes to the church in Philadelphia in Revelation 3:12, "He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore, and I will write upon him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name." Will the church have anything to do with the Millennial Temple or is this referring to the temple of the New Heavens and New Earth that will come at the end of the Millennial rule of Christ upon the earth?

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Ezekiel Part 5, Chapter 40-48

Chapter 40

Chapter Theme _____

40:1 In the twenty-fifth year of our exile, at the beginning of the year, on the tenth of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was taken, on that same day the hand of the LORD was upon me and He brought me there.

40:2 In the visions of God He brought me into the land of Israel, and set me on a very high mountain; and on it to the south there was a structure like a city.

40:3 So He brought me there; and behold, there was a man whose appearance was like the appearance of bronze, with a line of flax and a measuring rod in his hand; and he was standing in the gateway.

40:4 And the man said to me, “Son of man, see with your eyes, hear with your ears, and give attention to all that I am going to show you; for you have been brought here in order to show it to you. Declare to the house of Israel all that you see.”

40:5 And behold, there was a wall on the outside of the temple all around, and in the man’s hand was a measuring rod of six cubits, each of which was a cubit and a handbreadth. So he measured the thickness of the wall, one rod; and the height, one rod.

40:6 Then he went to the gate which faced east, went up its steps, and measured the threshold of the gate, one rod in width; and the other threshold was one rod in width.

40:7 And the guardroom was one rod long and one rod wide; and there were five cubits between the guardrooms. And the threshold of the gate by the porch of the gate facing inward was one rod.

40:8 Then he measured the porch of the gate facing inward, one rod.

40:9 And he measured the porch of the gate, eight cubits; and its side pillars, two cubits. And the porch of the gate was faced inward.

40:10 And the guardrooms of the gate toward the east numbered three on each side; the three of them had the same measurement. The side pillars also had the same measurement on each side.

40:11 And he measured the width of the gateway, ten cubits, and the length of the gate, thirteen cubits.

40:12 And there was a barrier wall one cubit wide in front of the guardrooms on each side; and the guardrooms were six cubits square on each side.

40:13 And he measured the gate from the roof of the one guardroom to the roof of the other, a width of twenty-five cubits from one door to the door opposite.

40:14 And he made the side pillars sixty cubits high; the gate extended round about to the side pillar of the courtyard.

40:15 And from the front of the entrance gate to the front of the inner porch of the gate was fifty cubits.

40:16 And there were shuttered windows looking toward the guardrooms, and toward their side pillars within the gate all around, and likewise for the porches. And there were windows all around inside; and on each side pillar were palm tree ornaments.

40:17 Then he brought me into the outer court, and behold, there were chambers and a pavement, made for the court all around; thirty chambers faced the pavement.

40:18 And the pavement (that is, the lower pavement) was by the side of the gates, corresponding to the length of the gates.

40:19 Then he measured the width from the front of the lower gate to the front of the exterior of the inner court, a hundred cubits on the east and on the north.

40:20 And as for the gate of the outer court which faced the north, he measured its length and its width.

40:21 And it had three guardrooms on each side; and its side pillars and its porches had the same measurement as the first gate. Its length was fifty cubits, and the width twenty-five cubits.

40:22 And its windows, and its porches, and its palm tree ornaments had the same measurements as the gate which faced toward the east; and it was reached by seven steps, and its porch was in front of them.

40:23 And the inner court had a gate opposite the gate on the north as well as the gate on the east; and he measured a hundred cubits from gate to gate.

40:24 Then he led me toward the south, and behold, there was a gate toward the south; and he measured its side pillars and its porches according to those same measurements.

40:25 And the gate and its porches had windows all around like those other windows; the length was fifty cubits and the width twenty-five cubits.

40:26 And there were seven steps going up to it, and its porches were in front of them; and it had palm tree ornaments on its side pillars, one on each side.

40:27 And the inner court had a gate toward the south; and he measured from gate to gate toward the south, a hundred cubits.

40:28 Then he brought me to the inner court by the south gate; and he measured the south gate according to those same measurements.

40:29 Its guardrooms also, its side pillars, and its porches were according to those same measurements. And the gate and its porches had windows all around; it was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.

40:30 And there were porches all around, twenty-five cubits long and five cubits wide.

40:31 And its porches were toward the outer court; and palm tree ornaments were on its side pillars, and its stairway had eight steps.

40:32 And he brought me into the inner court toward the east. And he measured the gate according to those same measurements.

40:33 Its guardrooms also, its side pillars, and its porches were according to those same measurements. And the gate and its porches had windows all around; it was fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.

40:34 And its porches were toward the outer court; and palm tree ornaments were on its side pillars, on each side, and its stairway had eight steps.

40:35 Then he brought me to the north gate; and he measured it according to those same measurements,

40:36 with its guardrooms, its side pillars, and its porches. And the gate had windows all around; the length was fifty cubits and the width twenty-five cubits.

40:37 And its side pillars were toward the outer court; and palm tree ornaments were on its side pillars on each side, and its stairway had eight steps.

40:38 And a chamber with its doorway was by the side pillars at the gates; there they rinse the burnt offering.

40:39 And in the porch of the gate were two tables on each side, on which to slaughter the burnt offering, the sin offering, and the guilt offering.

40:40 And on the outer side, as one went up to the gateway toward the north, were two tables; and on the other side of the porch of the gate were two tables.

40:41 Four tables were on each side next to the gate; or, eight tables on which they slaughter sacrifices.

40:42 And for the burnt offering there were four tables of hewn stone, a cubit and a half long, a cubit and a half wide, and one cubit high, on which they lay the instruments with which they slaughter the burnt offering and the sacrifice.

40:43 And the double hooks, one handbreadth in length, were installed in the house all around; and on the tables was the flesh of the offering.

40:44 And from the outside to the inner gate were chambers for the singers in the inner court, one of which was at the side of the north gate, with its front toward the south, and one at the side of the east gate facing toward the north.

40:45 And he said to me, "This is the chamber which faces toward the south, intended for the priests who keep charge of the temple;

40:46 but the chamber which faces toward the north is for the priests who keep charge of the altar. These are the sons of Zadok, who from the sons of Levi come near to the LORD to minister to Him.”

40:47 And he measured the court, a perfect square, a hundred cubits long and a hundred cubits wide; and the altar was in front of the temple.

40:48 Then he brought me to the porch of the temple and measured each side pillar of the porch, five cubits on each side; and the width of the gate was three cubits on each side.

40:49 The length of the porch was twenty cubits, and the width eleven cubits; and at the stairway by which it was ascended were columns belonging to the side pillars, one on each side.

Chapter 41

Chapter Theme _____

41:1 Then he brought me to the nave and measured the side pillars; six cubits wide on each side was the width of the side pillar.

41:2 And the width of the entrance was ten cubits, and the sides of the entrance were five cubits on each side. And he measured the length of the nave, forty cubits, and the width, twenty cubits.

41:3 Then he went inside and measured each side pillar of the doorway, two cubits, and the doorway, six cubits high; and the width of the doorway, seven cubits.

41:4 And he measured its length, twenty cubits, and the width, twenty cubits, before the nave; and he said to me, “This is the most holy place.”

41:5 Then he measured the wall of the temple, six cubits; and the width of the side chambers, four cubits, all around about the house on every side.

41:6 And the side chambers were in three stories, one above another, and thirty in each story; and the side chambers extended to the wall which stood on their inward side all around, that they might be fastened, and not be fastened into the wall of the temple itself.

41:7 And the side chambers surrounding the temple were wider at each successive story. Because the structure surrounding the temple went upward by stages on all sides of the temple, therefore the width of the temple increased as it went higher; and thus one went up from the lowest story to the highest by way of the second story.

41:8 I saw also that the house had a raised platform all around; the foundations of the side chambers were a full rod of six long cubits in height.

41:9 The thickness of the outer wall of the side chambers was five cubits. But the free space between the side chambers belonging to the temple

41:10 and the outer chambers was twenty cubits in width all around the temple on every side.

41:11 And the doorways of the side chambers toward the free space consisted of one doorway toward the north and another doorway toward the south; and the width of the free space was five cubits all around.

41:12 And the building that was in front of the separate area at the side toward the west was seventy cubits wide; and the wall of the building was five cubits thick all around, and its length was ninety cubits.

41:13 Then he measured the temple, a hundred cubits long; the separate area with the building and its walls were also a hundred cubits long.

41:14 Also the width of the front of the temple and that of the separate areas along the east side totaled a hundred cubits.

41:15 And he measured the length of the building along the front of the separate area behind it, with a gallery on each side, a hundred cubits; he also measured the inner nave and the porches of the court.

41:16 The thresholds, the latticed windows, and the galleries round about their three stories, opposite the threshold, were paneled with wood all around, and from the ground to the windows (but the windows were covered),

41:17 over the entrance, and to the inner house, and on the outside, and on all the wall all around inside and outside, by measurement.

41:18 And it was carved with cherubim and palm trees; and a palm tree was between cherub and cherub, and every cherub had two faces,

41:19 a man's face toward the palm tree on one side, and a young lion's face toward the palm tree on the other side; they were carved on all the house all around.

41:20 From the ground to above the entrance cherubim and palm trees were carved, as well as on the wall of the nave.

41:21 The doorposts of the nave were square; as for the front of the sanctuary, the appearance of one doorpost was like that of the other.

41:22 The altar was of wood, three cubits high, and its length two cubits; its corners, its base, and its sides were of wood. And he said to me, "This is the table that is before the LORD."

41:23 And the nave and the sanctuary each had a double door.

41:24 And each of the doors had two leaves, two swinging leaves; two leaves for one door and two leaves for the other.

41:25 Also there were carved on them, on the doors of the nave, cherubim and palm trees like those carved on the walls; and there was a threshold of wood on the front of the porch outside.

41:26 And there were latticed windows and palm trees on one side and on the other, on the sides of the porch; thus were the side chambers of the house and the thresholds.

Chapter 42

Chapter Theme _____

42:1 Then he brought me out into the outer court, the way toward the north; and he brought me to the chamber which was opposite the separate area and opposite the building toward the north.

42:2 Along the length, which was a hundred cubits, was the north door; the width was fifty cubits.

42:3 Opposite the twenty cubits which belonged to the inner court, and opposite the pavement which belonged to the outer court, was gallery corresponding to gallery in three stories.

42:4 And before the chambers was an inner walk ten cubits wide, a way of one hundred cubits; and their openings were on the north.

42:5 Now the upper chambers were smaller because the galleries took more space away from them than from the lower and middle ones in the building.

42:6 For they were in three stories and had no pillars like the pillars of the courts; therefore the upper chambers were set back from the ground upward, more than the lower and middle ones.

42:7 As for the outer wall by the side of the chambers, toward the outer court facing the chambers, its length was fifty cubits.

42:8 For the length of the chambers which were in the outer court was fifty cubits; and behold, the length of those facing the temple was a hundred cubits.

42:9 And below these chambers was the entrance on the east side, as one enters them from the outer court.

42:10 In the thickness of the wall of the court toward the east, facing the separate area and facing the building, there were chambers.

42:11 And the way in front of them was like the appearance of the chambers which were on the north, according to their length so was their width; and all their exits were both according to their arrangements and openings.

42:12 And corresponding to the openings of the chambers which were toward the south was an opening at the head of the way, the way in front of the wall toward the east, as one enters them.

42:13 Then he said to me, "The north chambers and the south chambers, which are opposite the separate area, they are the holy chambers where the priests who are near to the LORD shall eat the most holy things. There they shall lay the most holy things, the grain offering, the sin offering, and the guilt offering; for the place is holy.

42:14 “When the priests enter, then they shall not go out into the outer court from the sanctuary without laying there their garments in which they minister, for they are holy. They shall put on other garments; then they shall approach that which is for the people.”

42:15 Now when he had finished measuring the inner house, he brought me out by the way of the gate which faced toward the east, and measured it all around.

42:16 He measured on the east side with the measuring reed five hundred reeds, by the measuring reed.

42:17 He measured on the north side five hundred reeds by the measuring reed.

42:18 On the south side he measured five hundred reeds with the measuring reed.

42:19 He turned to the west side, and measured five hundred reeds with the measuring reed.

42:20 He measured it on the four sides; it had a wall all around, the length five hundred and the width five hundred, to divide between the holy and the profane.

Chapter 43

Chapter Theme _____

43:1 Then he led me to the gate, the gate facing toward the east;

43:2 and behold, the glory of the God of Israel was coming from the way of the east. And His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His glory.

43:3 And it was like the appearance of the vision which I saw, like the vision which I saw when He came to destroy the city. And the visions were like the vision which I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell on my face.

43:4 And the glory of the LORD came into the house by the way of the gate facing toward the east.

43:5 And the Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house.

43:6 Then I heard one speaking to me from the house, while a man was standing beside me.

43:7 And He said to me, “Son of man, this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, where I will dwell among the sons of Israel forever. And the house of Israel will not again defile My holy name, neither they nor their kings, by their harlotry and by the corpses of their kings when they die,

43:8 by setting their threshold by My threshold, and their door post beside My door post, with only the wall between Me and them. And they have defiled My holy name by their abominations which they have committed. So I have consumed them in My anger.

43:9 “Now let them put away their harlotry and the corpses of their kings far from Me; and I will dwell among them forever.

43:10 “As for you, son of man, describe the temple to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities; and let them measure the plan.

43:11 “And if they are ashamed of all that they have done, make known to them the design of the house, its structure, its exits, its entrances, all its designs, all its statutes, and all its laws. And write it in their sight, so that they may observe its whole design and all its statutes, and do them.

43:12 “This is the law of the house: its entire area on the top of the mountain all around shall be most holy. Behold, this is the law of the house.

43:13 “And these are the measurements of the altar by cubits (the cubit being a cubit and a handbreadth): the base shall be a cubit, and the width a cubit, and its border on its edge round about one span; and this shall be the height of the base of the altar.

43:14 “And from the base on the ground to the lower ledge shall be two cubits, and the width one cubit; and from the smaller ledge to the larger ledge shall be four cubits, and the width one cubit.

43:15 “And the altar hearth shall be four cubits; and from the altar hearth shall extend upwards four horns.

43:16 “Now the altar hearth shall be twelve cubits long by twelve wide, square in its four sides.

43:17 “And the ledge shall be fourteen cubits long by fourteen wide in its four sides, the border around it shall be half a cubit, and its base shall be a cubit round about; and its steps shall face the east.”

43:18 And He said to me, “Son of man, thus says the Lord GOD, ‘These are the statutes for the altar on the day it is built, to offer burnt offerings on it and to sprinkle blood on it.

43:19 ‘And you shall give to the Levitical priests who are from the offspring of Zadok, who draw near to Me to minister to Me,’ declares the Lord GOD, ‘a young bull for a sin offering.

43:20 ‘And you shall take some of its blood, and put it on its four horns, and on the four corners of the ledge, and on the border round about; thus you shall cleanse it and make atonement for it.

43:21 ‘You shall also take the bull for the sin offering; and it shall be burned in the appointed place of the house, outside the sanctuary.

43:22 ‘And on the second day you shall offer a male goat without blemish for a sin offering; and they shall cleanse the altar, as they cleansed it with the bull.

43:23 ‘When you have finished cleansing it, you shall present a young bull without blemish and a ram without blemish from the flock.

43:24 ‘And you shall present them before the LORD, and the priests shall throw salt on them, and they shall offer them up as a burnt offering to the LORD.

43:25 ‘For seven days you shall prepare daily a goat for a sin offering; also a young bull and a ram from the flock, without blemish, shall be prepared.

43:26 ‘For seven days they shall make atonement for the altar and purify it; so shall they consecrate it.

43:27 ‘And when they have completed the days, it shall be that on the eighth day and onward, the priests shall offer your burnt offerings on the altar, and your peace offerings; and I will accept you,’ declares the Lord GOD.”

Chapter 44

Chapter Theme _____

44:1 Then He brought me back by the way of the outer gate of the sanctuary, which faces the east; and it was shut.

44:2 And the LORD said to me, “This gate shall be shut; it shall not be opened, and no one shall enter by it, for the LORD God of Israel has entered by it; therefore it shall be shut.

44:3 “As for the prince, he shall sit in it as prince to eat bread before the LORD; he shall enter by way of the porch of the gate, and shall go out by the same way.”

44:4 Then He brought me by way of the north gate to the front of the house; and I looked, and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD, and I fell on my face.

44:5 And the LORD said to me, “Son of man, mark well, see with your eyes, and hear with your ears all that I say to you concerning all the statutes of the house of the LORD and concerning all its laws; and mark well the entrance of the house, with all exits of the sanctuary.

44:6 “And you shall say to the rebellious ones, to the house of Israel, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Enough of all your abominations, O house of Israel,

44:7 when you brought in foreigners, uncircumcised in heart and uncircumcised in flesh, to be in My sanctuary to profane it, even My house, when you offered My food, the fat and the blood; for they made My covenant void — this in addition to all your abominations.

44:8 “And you have not kept charge of My holy things yourselves, but you have set foreigners to keep charge of My sanctuary.”

44:9 Thus says the Lord GOD, “No foreigner, uncircumcised in heart and uncircumcised in flesh, of all the foreigners who are among the sons of Israel, shall enter My sanctuary.

44:10 “But the Levites who went far from Me, when Israel went astray, who went astray from Me after their idols, shall bear the punishment for their iniquity.

44:11 “Yet they shall be ministers in My sanctuary, having oversight at the gates of the house and ministering in the house; they shall slaughter the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister to them.

44:12 “Because they ministered to them before their idols and became a stumbling block of iniquity to the house of Israel, therefore I have sworn against them,” declares the Lord GOD, “that they shall bear the punishment for their iniquity.

44:13 “And they shall not come near to Me to serve as a priest to Me, nor come near to any of My holy things, to the things that are most holy; but they shall bear their shame and their abominations which they have committed.

44:14 “Yet I will appoint them to keep charge of the house, of all its service, and of all that shall be done in it.

44:15 “But the Levitical priests, the sons of Zadok, who kept charge of My sanctuary when the sons of Israel went astray from Me, shall come near to Me to minister to Me; and they shall stand before Me to offer Me the fat and the blood,” declares the Lord GOD.

44:16 “They shall enter My sanctuary; they shall come near to My table to minister to Me and keep My charge.

44:17 “And it shall be that when they enter at the gates of the inner court, they shall be clothed with linen garments; and wool shall not be on them while they are ministering in the gates of the inner court and in the house.

44:18 “Linen turbans shall be on their heads, and linen undergarments shall be on their loins; they shall not gird themselves with anything which makes them sweat.

44:19 “And when they go out into the outer court, into the outer court to the people, they shall put off their garments in which they have been ministering and lay them in the holy chambers; then they shall put on other garments that they may not transmit holiness to the people with their garments.

44:20 “Also they shall not shave their heads, yet they shall not let their locks grow long; they shall only trim the hair of their heads.

44:21 “Nor shall any of the priests drink wine when they enter the inner court.

44:22 “And they shall not marry a widow or a divorced woman but shall take virgins from the offspring of the house of Israel, or a widow who is the widow of a priest.

44:23 “Moreover, they shall teach My people the difference between the holy and the profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.

44:24 “And in a dispute they shall take their stand to judge; they shall judge it according to My ordinances. They shall also keep My laws and My statutes in all My appointed feasts, and sanctify My sabbaths.

44:25 “And they shall not go to a dead person to defile themselves; however, for father, for mother, for son, for daughter, for brother, or for a sister who has not had a husband, they may defile themselves.

44:26 “And after he is cleansed, seven days shall elapse for him.

44:27 “And on the day that he goes into the sanctuary, into the inner court to minister in the sanctuary, he shall offer his sin offering,” declares the Lord GOD.

44:28 “And it shall be with regard to an inheritance for them, that I am their inheritance; and you shall give them no possession in Israel — I am their possession.

44:29 “They shall eat the grain offering, the sin offering, and the guilt offering; and every devoted thing in Israel shall be theirs.

44:30 “And the first of all the first fruits of every kind and every contribution of every kind, from all your contributions, shall be for the priests; you shall also give to the priest the first of your dough to cause a blessing to rest on your house.

44:31 “The priests shall not eat any bird or beast that has died a natural death or has been torn to pieces.

Chapter 45

Chapter Theme _____

45:1 “And when you shall divide by lot the land for inheritance, you shall offer an allotment to the LORD, a holy portion of the land; the length shall be the length of 25,000 cubits, and the width shall be 10,000. It shall be holy within all its boundary round about.

45:2 “Out of this there shall be for the holy place a square round about five hundred by five hundred cubits, and fifty cubits for its open space round about.

45:3 “And from this area you shall measure a length of 25,000 cubits, and a width of 10,000 cubits; and in it shall be the sanctuary, the most holy place.

45:4 “It shall be the holy portion of the land; it shall be for the priests, the ministers of the sanctuary, who come near to minister to the LORD, and it shall be a place for their houses and a holy place for the sanctuary.

45:5 “And an area 25,000 cubits in length and 10,000 in width shall be for the Levites, the ministers of the house, and for their possession cities to dwell in.

45:6 “And you shall give the city possession of an area 5,000 cubits wide and 25,000 cubits long, alongside the allotment of the holy portion; it shall be for the whole house of Israel.

45:7 “And the prince shall have land on either side of the holy allotment and the property of the city, adjacent to the holy allotment and the property of the city, on the west side toward the west and on the east side toward the east, and in length comparable to one of the portions, from the west border to the east border.

45:8 “This shall be his land for a possession in Israel; so My princes shall no longer oppress My people, but they shall give the rest of the land to the house of Israel according to their tribes.”

45:9 Thus says the Lord GOD, “Enough, you princes of Israel; put away violence and destruction, and practice justice and righteousness. Stop your expropriations from My people,” declares the Lord GOD.

45:10 “You shall have just balances, a just ephah, and a just bath.

45:11 “The ephah and the bath shall be the same quantity, so that the bath may contain a tenth of a homer, and the ephah a tenth of a homer; their standard shall be according to the homer.

45:12 “And the shekel shall be twenty gerahs; twenty shekels, twenty-five shekels, and fifteen shekels shall be your maneh.

45:13 “This is the offering that you shall offer: a sixth of an ephah from a homer of wheat; a sixth of an ephah from a homer of barley;

45:14 and the prescribed portion of oil (namely, the bath of oil), a tenth of a bath from each kor (which is ten baths or a homer, for ten baths are a homer);

45:15 and one sheep from each flock of two hundred from the watering places of Israel — for a grain offering, for a burnt offering, and for peace offerings, to make atonement for them, “declares the Lord GOD.

45:16 “All the people of the land shall give to this offering for the prince in Israel.

45:17 “And it shall be the prince’s part to provide the burnt offerings, the grain offerings, and the libations, at the feasts, on the new moons, and on the sabbaths, at all the appointed feasts of the house of Israel; he shall provide the sin offering, the grain offering, the burnt offering, and the peace offerings, to make atonement for the house of Israel.”

45:18 Thus says the Lord GOD, “In the first month, on the first of the month, you shall take a young bull without blemish and cleanse the sanctuary.

45:19 “And the priest shall take some of the blood from the sin offering and put it on the door posts of the house, on the four corners of the ledge of the altar, and on the posts of the gate of the inner court.

45:20 “And thus you shall do on the seventh day of the month for everyone who goes astray or is naive; so you shall make atonement for the house.

45:21 “In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, you shall have the Passover, a feast of seven days; unleavened bread shall be eaten.

45:22 “And on that day the prince shall provide for himself and all the people of the land a bull for a sin offering.

45:23 “And during the seven days of the feast he shall provide as a burnt offering to the LORD seven bulls and seven rams without blemish on every day of the seven days, and a male goat daily for a sin offering.

45:24 “And he shall provide as a grain offering an ephah with a bull, an ephah with a ram, and a hin of oil with an ephah.

45:25 “In the seventh month, on the fifteenth day of the month, at the feast, he shall provide like this, seven days for the sin offering, the burnt offering, the grain offering, and the oil.”

Chapter 46

Chapter Theme _____

46:1 Thus says the Lord GOD, “The gate of the inner court facing east shall be shut the six working days; but it shall be opened on the sabbath day, and opened on the day of the new moon.

46:2 “And the prince shall enter by way of the porch of the gate from outside and stand by the post of the gate. Then the priests shall provide his burnt offering and his peace offerings, and he shall worship at the threshold of the gate and then go out; but the gate shall not be shut until the evening.

46:3 “The people of the land shall also worship at the doorway of that gate before the LORD on the sabbaths and on the new moons.

46:4 “And the burnt offering which the prince shall offer to the LORD on the sabbath day shall be six lambs without blemish and a ram without blemish;

46:5 and the grain offering shall be an ephah with the ram, and the grain offering with the lambs as much as he is able to give, and a hin of oil with an ephah.

46:6 “And on the day of the new moon he shall offer a young bull without blemish, also six lambs and a ram, which shall be without blemish.

46:7 “And he shall provide a grain offering, an ephah with the bull, and an ephah with the ram, and with the lambs as much as he is able, and a hin of oil with an ephah.

46:8 “And when the prince enters, he shall go in by way of the porch of the gate and go out by the same way.

46:9 “But when the people of the land come before the LORD at the appointed feasts, he who enters by way of the north gate to worship shall go out by way of the south gate. And he who enters by way of the south gate shall go out by way of the north gate. No one shall return by way of the gate by which he entered but shall go straight out.

46:10 “And when they go in, the prince shall go in among them; and when they go out, he shall go out.

46:11 “And at the festivals and the appointed feasts the grain offering shall be an ephah with a bull and an ephah with a ram, and with the lambs as much as one is able to give, and a hin of oil with an ephah.

46:12 “And when the prince provides a freewill offering, a burnt offering, or peace offerings as a freewill offering to the LORD, the gate facing east shall be opened for him. And he shall provide his burnt offering and his peace offerings as he does on the sabbath day. Then he shall go out, and the gate shall be shut after he goes out.

46:13 “And you shall provide a lamb a year old without blemish for a burnt offering to the LORD daily; morning by morning you shall provide it.

46:14 “Also you shall provide a grain offering with it morning by morning, a sixth of an ephah, and a third of a hin of oil to moisten the fine flour, a grain offering to the LORD continually by a perpetual ordinance.

46:15 “Thus they shall provide the lamb, the grain offering, and the oil, morning by morning, for a continual burnt offering.”

46:16 ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “If the prince gives a gift out of his inheritance to any of his sons, it shall belong to his sons; it is their possession by inheritance.

46:17 “But if he gives a gift from his inheritance to one of his servants, it shall be his until the year of liberty; then it shall return to the prince. His inheritance shall be only his sons’; it shall belong to them.

46:18 “And the prince shall not take from the people’s inheritance, thrusting them out of their possession; he shall give his sons inheritance from his own possession so that My people shall not be scattered, anyone from his possession.””

46:19 Then he brought me through the entrance, which was at the side of the gate, into the holy chambers for the priests, which faced north; and behold, there was a place at the extreme rear toward the west.

46:20 And he said to me, “This is the place where the priests shall boil the guilt offering and the sin offering, and where they shall bake the grain offering, in order that they may not bring them out into the outer court to transmit holiness to the people.”

46:21 Then he brought me out into the outer court and led me across to the four corners of the court; and behold, in every corner of the court there was a small court.

46:22 In the four corners of the court there were enclosed courts, forty cubits long and thirty wide; these four in the corners were the same size.

46:23 And there was a row of masonry round about in them, around the four of them, and boiling places were made under the rows round about.

46:24 Then he said to me, “These are the boiling places where the ministers of the house shall boil the sacrifices of the people.”

Chapter 47

Chapter Theme _____

47:1 Then he brought me back to the door of the house; and behold, water was flowing from under the threshold of the house toward the east, for the house faced east. And the water was flowing down from under, from the right side of the house, from south of the altar.

47:2 And he brought me out by way of the north gate and led me around on the outside to the outer gate by way of the gate that faces east. And behold, water was trickling from the south side.

47:3 When the man went out toward the east with a line in his hand, he measured a thousand cubits, and he led me through the water, water reaching the ankles.

47:4 Again he measured a thousand and led me through the water, water reaching the knees. Again he measured a thousand and led me through the water, water reaching the loins.

47:5 Again he measured a thousand; and it was a river that I could not ford, for the water had risen, enough water to swim in, a river that could not be forded.

47:6 And he said to me, “Son of man, have you seen this?” Then he brought me back to the bank of the river.

47:7 Now when I had returned, behold, on the bank of the river there were very many trees on the one side and on the other.

47:8 Then he said to me, “These waters go out toward the eastern region and go down into the Arabah; then they go toward the sea, being made to flow into the sea, and the waters of the sea become fresh.

47:9 “And it will come about that every living creature which swarms in every place where the river goes, will live. And there will be very many fish, for these waters go there, and the others become fresh; so everything will live where the river goes.

47:10 “And it will come about that fishermen will stand beside it; from Engedi to Eneglaim there will be a place for the spreading of nets. Their fish will be according to their kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea, very many.

47:11 “But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they will be left for salt.

47:12 “And by the river on its bank, on one side and on the other, will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. They will bear every month because their water flows from the sanctuary, and their fruit will be for food and their leaves for healing.”

47:13 Thus says the Lord GOD, “This shall be the boundary by which you shall divide the land for an inheritance among the twelve tribes of Israel; Joseph shall have two portions.

47:14 “And you shall divide it for an inheritance, each one equally with the other; for I swore to give it to your forefathers, and this land shall fall to you as an inheritance.

47:15 “And this shall be the boundary of the land: on the north side, from the Great Sea by the way of Hethlon, to the entrance of Zedad;

47:16 Hamath, Berothah, Sibram, which is between the border of Damascus and the border of Hamath; Hazer-hatticon, which is by the border of Hauran.

47:17 “And the boundary shall extend from the sea to Hazar-enan at the border of Damascus, and on the north toward the north is the border of Hamath. This is the north side.

47:18 “And the east side, from between Hauran, Damascus, Gilead, and the land of Israel, shall be the Jordan; from the north border to the eastern sea you shall measure. This is the east side.

47:19 “And the south side toward the south shall extend from Tamar as far as the waters of Meribath-kadesh, to the brook of Egypt, and to the Great Sea. This is the south side toward the south.

47:20 “And the west side shall be the Great Sea, from the south border to a point opposite Lebo-hamath. This is the west side.

47:21 “So you shall divide this land among yourselves according to the tribes of Israel.

47:22 “And it will come about that you shall divide it by lot for an inheritance among yourselves and among the aliens who stay in your midst, who bring forth sons in your midst. And they shall be to you as the native-born among the sons of Israel; they shall be allotted an inheritance with you among the tribes of Israel.

47:23 “And it will come about that in the tribe with which the alien stays, there you shall give him his inheritance,” declares the Lord GOD.

Chapter 48

Chapter Theme _____

48:1 “Now these are the names of the tribes: from the northern extremity, beside the way of Hethlon to Lebo-hamath, as far as Hazar-enan at the border of Damascus, toward the north beside Hamath, running from east to west, Dan, one portion.

48:2 “And beside the border of Dan, from the east side to the west side, Asher, one portion.

48:3 “And beside the border of Asher, from the east side to the west side, Naphtali, one portion.

48:4 “And beside the border of Naphtali, from the east side to the west side, Manasseh, one portion.

48:5 “And beside the border of Manasseh, from the east side to the west side, Ephraim, one portion.

48:6 “And beside the border of Ephraim, from the east side to the west side, Reuben, one portion.

48:7 “And beside the border of Reuben, from the east side to the west side, Judah, one portion.

48:8 “And beside the border of Judah, from the east side to the west side, shall be the allotment which you shall set apart, 25,000 cubits in width, and in length like one of the portions, from the east side to the west side; and the sanctuary shall be in the middle of it.

48:9 “The allotment that you shall set apart to the LORD shall be 25,000 cubits in length, and 10,000 in width.

48:10 “And the holy allotment shall be for these, namely for the priests, toward the north 25,000 cubits in length, toward the west 10,000 in width, toward the east 10,000 in width, and toward the south 25,000 in length; and the sanctuary of the LORD shall be in its midst.

48:11 “It shall be for the priests who are sanctified of the sons of Zadok, who have kept My charge, who did not go astray when the sons of Israel went astray, as the Levites went astray.

48:12 “And it shall be an allotment to them from the allotment of the land, a most holy place, by the border of the Levites.

48:13 “And alongside the border of the priests the Levites shall have 25,000 cubits in length and 10,000 in width. The whole length shall be 25,000 cubits and the width 10,000.

48:14 “Moreover, they shall not sell or exchange any of it, or alienate this choice portion of land; for it is holy to the LORD.

48:15 “And the remainder, 5,000 cubits in width and 25,000 in length, shall be for common use for the city, for dwellings and for open spaces; and the city shall be in its midst.

48:16 “And these shall be its measurements: the north side 4,500 cubits, the south side 4,500 cubits, the east side 4,500 cubits, and the west side 4,500 cubits.

48:17 “And the city shall have open spaces: on the north 250 cubits, on the south 250 cubits, on the east 250 cubits, and on the west 250 cubits.

48:18 “And the remainder of the length alongside the holy allotment shall be 10,000 cubits toward the east, and 10,000 toward the west; and it shall be alongside the holy allotment. And its produce shall be food for the workers of the city.

48:19 “And the workers of the city, out of all the tribes of Israel, shall cultivate it.

48:20 “The whole allotment shall be 25,000 by 25,000 cubits; you shall set apart the holy allotment, a square, with the property of the city.

48:21 “And the remainder shall be for the prince, on the one side and on the other of the holy allotment and of the property of the city; in front of the 25,000 cubits of the allotment toward the east border and westward in front of the 25,000 toward the west border, alongside the portions, it shall be for the prince. And the holy allotment and the sanctuary of the house shall be in the middle of it.

48:22 “And exclusive of the property of the Levites and the property of the city, which are in the middle of that which belongs to the prince, everything between the border of Judah and the border of Benjamin shall be for the prince.

48:23 “As for the rest of the tribes: from the east side to the west side, Benjamin, one portion.

48:24 “And beside the border of Benjamin, from the east side to the west side, Simeon, one portion.

48:25 “And beside the border of Simeon, from the east side to the west side, Issachar, one portion.

48:26 “And beside the border of Issachar, from the east side to the west side, Zebulun, one portion.

48:27 “And beside the border of Zebulun, from the east side to the west side, Gad, one portion.

48:28 “And beside the border of Gad, at the south side toward the south, the border shall be from Tamar to the waters of Meribath-kadesh, to the brook of Egypt, to the Great Sea.

48:29 “This is the land which you shall divide by lot to the tribes of Israel for an inheritance, and these are their several portions,” declares the Lord GOD.

48:30 “And these are the exits of the city: on the north side, 4,500 cubits by measurement,

48:31 shall be the gates of the city, named for the tribes of Israel, three gates toward the north: the gate of Reuben, one; the gate of Judah, one; the gate of Levi, one.

48:32 “And on the east side, 4,500 cubits, shall be three gates: the gate of Joseph, one; the gate of Benjamin, one; the gate of Dan, one.

48:33 “And on the south side, 4,500 cubits by measurement, shall be three gates: the gate of Simeon, one; the gate of Issachar, one; the gate of Zebulun, one.

48:34 “On the west side, 4,500 cubits, shall be three gates: the gate of Gad, one; the gate of Asher, one; the gate of Naphtali, one.

48:35 “The city shall be 18,000 cubits round about; and the name of the city from that day shall be, ‘The LORD is there.’”

Elements Common in Eden and Earthly and Heavenly Temples

Eden	Earthly Temple			Heavenly Temple
	Tabernacle	Solomon's Temple Ezra's Temple/Herod	Millennial Kingdom Temple	
East/West Orientation (Gen. 2:8, 3:24)	East/West Orientation (Num. 3:38)	East/West Orientation	East/West Orientation (Ezek. 43:1-2)	East/West Orientation (Ex. 26:30)
Holy Mountain? (Gen. 2:10)	Holy Mountain (Ex. 15:17)	Holy Mountain (Ex. 15:17)	Holy Mountain (Ezek. 43:10-12; Ex. 15:17)	Holy Mountain (Ezek. 28:14)
God's Presence (Gen. 3:8)	God's Presence (Lev. 16:2)	God's Presence (Ex 16:2; 1 Kgs 6:23-28, 8:10-11)	God's Presence (Ezek 43:1-7, 48:35)	God's Presence (Rev. 21:3; 22:3-4)
Paradise Setting (Gen. 2:8-15)	Sanctified Setting (Lev. 11:44-45)	Sanctified Setting (Lev. 11:44-45)	Sanctified Setting	Paradise Setting (Rev. 22:1-2)
Cherubim (Gen. 3:24)	Cherubim (Ex. 36:35, 37:1-9)	Cherubim (1 Kgs. 8:4-7)	Cherubim (Ezek. 41:18-20)	Cherubim (Rev. 11:19)
Tree of Life (Gen. 2:9, 3:22)	Menorah (Ex. 25:31-40)	Menorah (Ex. 25:31-40)		Tree of Life (Rev. 22:2)
River flows out of Eden (Gen. 2: 10)			River flows out of Temple (Ezek. 47:1)	River flows from Throne (Rev. 22:1)
No sin present (Gen. 2:16-17; 3:3)	No sin present (Lev 21:12,23)	No sin present (Lev. 21:12, 23)	No sin present (Ezek. 43:12)	No sin present (Rev. 21:27) ; 22:3
Priestly Service (Gen. 2:15)	Priestly Service (Exod. 28:1)	Priestly Service (Exod. 28:1)	Priestly Service (Ezek 40-48)	Priestly Service (Rev. 7:15, 22:3)
Special Garments (Gen. 3:21)	Special Garments (Ex. 29:29)	Special Garments (Ex. 29:29)	Special Garments (Ezek. 40-48)	Special Garments (Rev. 7:9, 13-14)
Sacrifice Offered (Gen. 3:21; 4:3-4)	Sacrifice Offered (Leviticus)	Sacrifice Offered (Leviticus) 1 Kgs. 8:15	Sacrifice Offered (Leviticus) Ezek 40-48	Sacrifice Offered (Heb. 9:23-26; Rev. 5:1-10)