



A View Into God

Ezekiel 46:1-7

“This is what the Sovereign Lord says: The east gateway of the inner courtyard will be closed during the six workdays each week, but it will be open on Sabbath days and the days of new moon celebrations. The prince will enter the entry room of the gateway from the outside. Then he will stand by the gatepost while the priest offers his burnt offering and peace offering. He will bow down in worship inside the gateway passage and then go back out the way he came. The gateway will not be closed until evening. The common people will bow down and worship the Lord in front of this gateway on Sabbath days and the days of new moon celebrations.

Each Sabbath day the prince will present to the Lord a burnt offering of six lambs and one ram, all with no defects. He will present a grain offering of a basket of choice flour to go with the ram and whatever amount of flour he chooses to go with each lamb, and he is to offer one gallon of olive oil for each basket of flour. At the new moon celebrations, he will bring one young bull, six lambs, and one ram, all with no defects. With the young bull he must bring a basket of choice flour for a grain offering. With the ram he must bring another basket of flour. And with each lamb he is to bring whatever amount of flour he chooses to give. With each basket of flour he must offer one gallon of olive oil”.

These scriptures in Ezekiel chapter 46 describe something so beautiful and eternal that I would suggest taking a moment to pray, asking the Holy Spirit to open the eyes of our hearts to truly behold what is found herein.



Portions of the final chapters of Ezekiel define the lay-out and order of the temple as God showed it to him. I personally believe the temple that God showed to Ezekiel was a representation of us, the temple and body of Jesus. Christ in us is the glory that is meant to fill us (Col. 1:27). Ezekiel 46:1-7 shares with us how the prince and people of God were meant to worship in regards to Sabbath days and during the new moon. During Sabbath a portal was opened in the temple into its inner altar and its activities. This door into the chamber of the inner altar was only open on the Sabbath (apart from a few other special occasions). For most of the time what occurred in this altar room was shut off from everyone except the Zadok priests who ministered to God therein. These intimate and holy activities were hidden from both prince and people all six days of the week when their lives were consumed with the busy-ness of earth life and religious life. Yet when Sabbath came and all flesh rested from its own works, God chose to open Himself in the most intimate way. He was going to give His people a view into the Sabbath of God, into the very Being and way of God. What was normally closed and veiled was flung wide open all Sabbath day. The prince and the people could approach this holy and eternal view into God's inner habitation from the outward porch and stop to gaze and behold this wonder by the post of the gate. What they beheld was an eternal view of God that could change them forever. They were being gathered into a view that would redefine Sabbath, and redefine work, and even redefine God Himself.

As people looked into that opening they watched as lamb after lamb was being offered up on the altar, also a whole ram was completely given, and wheat offerings covered with a gallon of oil were consumed in flames. It was the Father, Son and Holy Spirit endlessly offering themselves for one another as symbolized in these perpetual burnt and peace offerings. *(also see 1 John 5:7-8)*

The inner altar of the temple was filled with the activity of love as the Godhead offers Themselves up one for another through the Eternal Spirit. Here prince and people beheld the endless selfless giving of God; the Father, Son and Spirit pouring out for Each Other as only an altar could reveal. They were given the freedom to watch "God in motion". They could observe how They are. They could behold the Godhead in Their eternal ministry of love. As hearts opened to the true God in His beauty they could breathe in that air. They could absorb Their Spirit. As heart after heart turned from the busyness of earth life and religious deed to God Himself, a great vision enfolded them as they saw the only activity that really matters at all... God Being Who He is in us. Eyes and hearts were being flooded with the Spirit of selfless giving flowing



effortlessly and eternally as they beheld as Each offered Himself for the Other. It is beyond all our works and deeds and efforts. The best we can do is behold and be changed (II Cor.3:16-18).

“Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the veil shall be taken away. Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord”. (II Cor. 3:16-18)

As the prince and people beheld this wonder they would bow, they would fall, they would worship. They would stop doing and start seeing. They were seeing the true Glory. They were seeing a picture of God in His eternal way and kind. They were seeing the only Spirit that should now fill the temple. Both prince and people were to stop, to behold, to bow, to worship – and by faith from the heart choose to open to God in His holy activity of selfless giving by the Eternal Spirit. The reality that this opening came during Sabbath speaks of beholding that which is untouched by human activity, sweat, effort, or influence. This is the Holy Communion of God Himself, something we could never do but can partake of and bear as vessels of His nature.

In Ezekiel chapter 44 the glory had just returned and filled the temple after generations of being rejected. A slain offering (the Lamb) on the throne was not the kind of king or kingdom that most of the people wanted. But now we see God opening Himself again to show His people the beauty of their God and King Whose nature is selfless giving. It was an opportunity for the people to bow, to fall, to cease doing in their own strength and life and truly worship by allowing the true Glory to fill them.

The more we can behold the Godhead in all Their beauty and way as They offer Themselves in purest love, the more we will cease from our labors and become partakers of the divine nature. We will find all else as vain activity when compared to the wonder and eternal release of Their “ever giving selves”. We will awe before our God, bow before Him, and finally yield to His nature from within as the temple of such Deity.

What was available to behold on the Sabbath day was a picture of God Himself Being Who He is in ways that could never be understood by hearts caught up in the doing, rather than being vessels who bear His dying (II Cor. 4:10). May we become that temple that Ezekiel saw in his vision, and may God Himself be found in the innermost altar of our heart. Amen!

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