

Class #44 - God Fills His Temple (Ezekiel 43)

Objectives:

- Explain the similarities and differences between Eden and the tabernacle/temple.
- Recall why God wanted Ezekiel to relay this vision of the temple to the people.
- Connect one element of the temple in Ezekiel 43 to the person/work of Jesus.

Creation and Temple (Genesis 1-2)

- At the beginning of creation, the earth is without _____ & _____. (Genesis 1:1-2)
- Over seven days, God _____ creation (Days 1-3) and _____ it (Days 4-6) (1:3-31)
 - Day 1: Separated Light & Dark
 - Day 2: Waters Above & Below
 - Day 3: Dry Land Out of Seas
 - Day 4: Made Lights in the Heavens
 - Day 5: Created Fish and Birds
 - Day 6: Created Beasts & Humans
- On Day 7, God rested, i.e. He sanctified the creation with His _____ . (2:1-3)
- On the earth, there was a place called _____, and within Eden God planted a _____, and in the midst of the garden was the _____ of life. (2:8-9)
 - Out of the garden, _____ flowed to the rest of the earth. (2:10-14)
 - God put man in the garden to _____ it and to _____ it. (2:15)
- The tabernacle (then temple) was constructed in detailed _____ which mirrored the concentric “zones” of the _____ temple. (Exodus 25-27; 1 Kings 6-8)
- Tabernacle & temple were consecrated with _____-day ceremonies (Lev 8:33-35; 1 Kings 8:65) and sanctified with God’s _____ (Ex 40:34; 1Kgs 8:10-11)
- The priests (sons of Levi) were chosen to _____ in the temple & _____ it, the same two commands given to humans in the garden (Numbers 3:7-8; Gen 2:15)
- The point? God created man & woman to _____ with them, and to _____ with them in the ruling of creation, enjoying its fruitfulness and filling it with His _____.
 - The tabernacle & temple point to that reality and represent the place where God _____ with His people and _____ over creation.
 - Question: What was a required part of worship at the tabernacle/temple that was not necessary in Eden?

Glory and Holiness (Ezekiel 43:1-12)

- Ezekiel sees the _____ of the Lord come from the east, into the temple. (43:1-5)
 - The same vision from his call (ch.1) and destruction of Jerusalem (ch.8-11)
 - His response is to fall on his face (1:28; see Isaiah 6:5)
- The glory fills the temple, and God proclaims that this is His throne, where He will dwell in the midst of His people _____. (43:5-7)
- And so, the people must no longer _____ His name by worshipping other gods, or by worshipping at the monuments of dead kings. (43:7-9)
- In fact, God wants Ezekiel to relay this vision of the temple so that they will be _____ of their iniquities. (43:10)
 - Question: How would this description of a temple make them ashamed?
- God's people are to keep the "law of the temple," which is: ____ _____. (43:11-12)

The Altar (Ezekiel 43:13-27)

- At the geometric _____ of the complex is a huge, square altar. (43:13-17)
 - Question: Why is such prominent attention given to the altar?
- The Zadokite priests first _____ the altar (make _____ for it) before it can be used for sacrifices. (43:18-27)
 - This is a _____ day ceremony of purifying offerings. (43:26)
 - At the end of seven days, God will _____ the sacrifices made on it. (43:27)

Discussion Question

What are all the various ways we see Jesus in this chapter?