

The Lord Is There

Ezekiel 40 – 48

by Don Falkos

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On the twenty-fifth anniversary of his exile, Ezekiel was transported in a vision to the top of a high mountain. He saw a new city with a new Temple, much larger and more magnificent than the Temple of Solomon. There was a new, elaborate arrangement of gates and courtyards. There were many rooms for use by the people and the Levites. The Temple was built on a succession of terraces, gaining height as one drew toward its center. The priests had their own quarters on the exterior of the Temple itself. There was a new altar and a new set of regulations guiding the people in their worship of the Lord. The overall complex formed a large, perfectly symmetrical square.

Suddenly the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord appeared, coming from the east. Ezekiel had seen this throne-chariot of God before, while sitting beside the Kebar canal and again as the Lord had left the Temple before the destruction of Jerusalem. Now the Lord entered the new Temple through its east gate, and the glory of the Lord filled the Temple.

The water of life began to flow from the throne of God, out of the Temple, out of the city, and down into the Dead Sea valley. The salty waters of the Dead Sea became fresh and pure. Everywhere the water flowed life sprang up – fish in the sea, fruit trees along the banks, animals all around. The trees bore a new crop every month. The fruit was good to eat, and the leaves were used for healing.

The city and its surroundings were like a new Eden, and the name of the city was...

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