



DAY 28

Scriptural Background: Ezk 10

"Then the glory of the LORD departed from over the threshold of the temple and stopped above the cherubim." Ezk 10:18 (NIV84)

These are chilling words to read. The nation of Israel had dealt with idolatry from the very beginning (Ex 32). By the time of Ezekiel, explicit idolatry was taking place *within the very temple* itself (8:1–18). The result? God's glory departed in judgment. Later, Ezekiel is given a vision of the glory returning (43:1–12). But, though the temple was rebuilt after its destruction by the Babylonians, its glory never reached the grandeur described in Ezekiel's vision. What do we make of this? The New Testament tells us that the real temple is Jesus' Body, first meaning the physical body He took on in the Incarnation (Jn 2:21), and second meaning the Body of His Church (Eph 2:22). When He went out to the Mount of Olives before His crucifixion, He was following the same path eastward as described in Ezekiel 10. When He went back to the temple mount for His trial and crucifixion, He was fulfilling the same path of return depicted in Ezekiel 43. Jesus is the glory of God (Heb 1:3), and His cross is the profoundest display of that glory (John 12:23). Through His life, death, and resurrection, the true temple is built, our exile is ended, and God again dwells with men.

Prayer:

LORD Jesus, give us eyes that are fixed on You. Let us behold Your glory. Show us this day where we engage in idolatry, that we may turn from it and live with You. For Your Glory, Amen.