**Faith Foundations 2023-2024**

**The Book of Ezekiel**

**Session 6—Ezekiel 10-11**

**In our previous lesson, we saw how God set His sights on the Jerusalem temple and the idolatrous Israelites who worshiped false gods in it. He proclaimed His wrath against the temple and its worshipers, and He commissioned His messengers to punish those who had forsaken Him for idols. In today’s lesson, we will see how God executed His judgment upon the temple itself.**

**1.) Read Ezekiel 10:1-5. What did Ezekiel see in the heavens? What does the text call the creatures that were also there?**

**2.) What did God tell the man in linen to do? What might this have symbolized?**

**3.) What appeared in the inner court of the temple? How was it visibly and audibly manifested?**

**4.) Read Ezekiel 10:6-14. How do these verses describe the cherubim? Where else in Ezekiel have we seen a similar description of creatures by the throne of God?**

**5.) Read Ezekiel 10:15-22. How does Ezekiel explicitly identify the cherubim in verse 15? How does this description of the cherubim affect how we view the concept of a “cherub?”**

**6.) Where did the glory of the Lord go? What did this action symbolize?**

**7.) Read Ezekiel 11:1-4. Whom did God show Ezekiel outside the temple gate?**

**8.) What were these people saying? What did this mean, and why was it wrong in God’s eyes?**

**9.) Read Ezekiel 11:5-12. What did God accuse the Israelites of doing? How did He use this accusation to turn their own words against them?**

**10.) What was God going to do to the people of Jerusalem? Why would He do this?**

**11.) Read Ezekiel 11:13-21. What happened while Ezekiel was prophesying that caused him great distress? What did he say to God in response?**

**12.) According to God in verse 14, who were Ezekiel’s true kinsmen, and who were not?**

**13.) What did the inhabitants of Jerusalem do to Ezekiel’s true kinsmen? How does this dynamic redefine what it means to be a true Israelite?**

**14.) What did the people of Jerusalem believe about their fellow Israelites who had been exiled, and what did they believe about themselves? Were they correct? Why or why not?**

**15.) What was God doing for the exiles? What did He promise to do for them later?**

**16.) What would the true Israelites do when they returned to the land? What would God do for the Israelites when they returned?**

**17.) What would God do to those who worshiped idols?**

**18.) Read Ezekiel 11:22-25. Where did the glory of the Lord go after God said these things to Ezekiel? What did this action symbolize?**

**God’s glory was departing from the temple and from Jerusalem because of the sin and idolatry of its inhabitants. He was leaving His people because they had left Him. However, He promised Ezekiel that He would protect the exiles who had been forced out of Israel and eventually bring them back to their land. Even in the midst of God’s judgment against His people, He still had good news and comfort for those who remained faithful to Him.**