

## **Ezekiel study 6. (Vision of Salvation)**

### **Summary.**

The book of Ezekiel started with a very dark and serious mood with God speaking words of judgment against Israel. God's people had been stubborn and rebellious causing God to be very angry. God had been patiently warning them to stop their rebellion and turn back to him. God had been holding back his judgment but the time has come when God will eventually judge. In the book of Ezekiel we see that God's anger is fierce and the judgment is awful. It maybe hard to accept but it is right and deserved.

Halfway through the book, we see God as a compassionate God because He restores them after he punishes them. The book of Ezekiel ends with a picture of the temple. It's a great image because the temple plays an important part in the book of Ezekiel. It is a symbol of God's grace. It is because of the temple and the temple sacrifices that allow people to have fellowship with God. The temple is where God's judgment and mercy meet. This points to a greater hope in the future.

We will try to follow the theme of the temple in this last study. (This study will involve quite a bit of reading : leaders please note – help members to join the ideas together)

### **1 Kings 8**

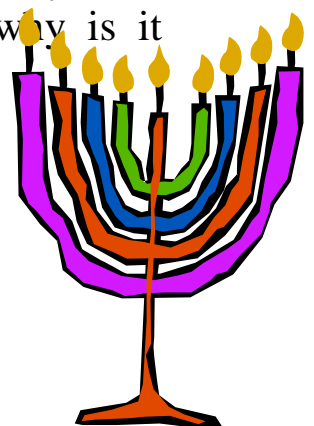
After King Solomon had finished building the temple the glory of God filled the temple. What is the significance of this event?

### **Read 1 Kings 8:1-13**

Divide into 4 groups to research. Summarize what it says and feedback to whole group. What is happening and why is it important?

1 Kings 8:27-30, 8:31-32

1 Kings 8:33-34,35-36



1 Kings 8:37-40,41-43, 44-45

1 Kings 8:46-52,

Read Ezekiel chapter 10 quickly:

*(Leaders please explain this :V18, the glory of God leaves the temple. This is a very sad moment for Israel. God leaves his people).*

Ezekiel chapter 43:1-12 :

*(Note: Hope returns as the glory of God returns to the temple).*

### **Discuss.**

From the passages above, how was the temple important for the relationship between God and his people?

What does it mean for us today? Is the temple still an important thing for Christians?

What is the real meaning of the temple?

Read John 2: 12- 25

Why did Jesus get angry?

What does the passage say about the temple and it's meaning?

Read Revelation 21: 1-14,22-27

What is different about the new Jerusalem (ie. What is missing and why is this significant?)

### **Summarize what you have learnt from this series.**

What have you learnt about God's holiness and mercy?

What is it like living without God? Better or Worse? Why?

What do you think are the consequences if God left us completely?

How much do you yearn to be with Jesus? Scale 1 to 10

How much do you seek to live his way? Scale 1 to 10.

### **Pray.**