

THE BEST IS YET TO COME

a study of Ezekiel

The Glory Departed Ezekiel 8 - 11

God always keeps His promises — even the dreadful ones!

1. Human tendency: Our hearts drift toward substitutes for God. (Ezekiel 8)
 - Public substitutes (8:5-6)
 - Secret substitutes (8:7-13)
 - Spiritual substitutes (8:14-15)
 - Natural substitutes (8:16-18)
2. God's guarantee: "I will not share my glory with another." (Ezekiel 9 - 11)
 - Withdrawal from intimate space (9:3)
 - Withdrawal from interactive space (10:18)
 - Withdrawal from associative space (10:19)
 - Withdrawal from protective space (11:22-23)

MY APPLICATION

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

1. Some people always have to learn things the hard way. Share a life lesson you learned the hard way. How has the process shaped you for the better?
2. We have a human tendency to drift toward substitutes for God. Discuss a time when you fought to reorient your life toward God. Describe the process you went through.
3. God will not share His glory with another. Discuss your current experience of intimacy with God. What might God need to strip away to draw you closer?
4. Jesus is the glory of God in person. Discuss how you orient your life around Him. What are your habits? How do you keep both feet planted in devotion to Jesus?
5. Pray for one another to allow God to strip away anything that keeps Him from being God over you.

Memory Verse

For God, who said, “Light shall shine out of darkness,” is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:6