

Ezekiel 1:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And there was a voice from the firmament that was over their heads, when they stood, and had let down their wings.

Analysis

"And there was a voice from the firmament that was over their heads, when they stood, and had let down their wings." The voice from above the cherubim represents God's sovereign command. The creatures' standing and lowering wings indicates reverent attention before divine speech. This models proper posture before God: active obedience but also attentive listening. The Reformed emphasis on hearing God's Word appears—creatures exist to hear and obey divine communication. True worship includes both adoration and instruction, receiving God's self-revelation humbly.

Historical Context

The vision (593 BC) emphasized God's transcendent authority—His voice coming from above all creation. This contrasted with Babylonian myths placing gods within creation. Yahweh's throne transcends all, and His voice commands absolute authority. The cherubim's respectful posture taught proper worship: reverent attention combined with willing obedience. This shaped liturgical practice: reading Scripture precedes response, divine word elicits creaturely worship.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does the cherubim's attentive posture model proper reception of God's Word?
2. What is the relationship between active obedience and reverent listening in Christian discipleship?

Interlinear Text

עַל אֲשֶׁר לְבָקָעַ יְהִי וְלֹא מֵעַל
H1961 **And there was a voice** H5921 **from the firmament** H834 H5921

רָאשׁ מִן תְּרַבְּפָנָה בְּעֶמֶד מִן כְּנַפְיָה:
H7218 **that was over their heads** H5975 **when they stood** H7503 **and had let down** H3671 **their wings**

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