

# Ezekiel 1:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And every one had four faces, and every one had four wings.

## Analysis

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The four-winged, four-faced cherubim represent the fullness of created order serving God's purposes. Their mobility and coordination demonstrate perfect submission to divine will. The imagery transcends natural creation, pointing to supernatural realities. These beings guard God's holiness and execute His purposes. The fourfold nature (later associated with the four Gospels by church fathers) suggests comprehensive testimony to God's character and works. Created order exists to display God's glory and serve His sovereign purposes.

## Historical Context

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Ezekiel's vision by the Chebar canal (593 BC) occurred during Babylonian exile. Ancient Near Eastern iconography featured composite creatures, but Ezekiel's vision emphasizes Yahweh's unique transcendence. The cherubim's complexity defies human categorization, teaching that God's glory exceeds natural categories. This vision assured exiles that despite distance from Jerusalem, God's throne remained sovereign and mobile, reaching even to Babylon.

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

