

# Ezekiel 10:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And their whole body, and their backs, and their hands, and their wings, and the wheels, were full of eyes round about, even the wheels that they four had.

## Analysis

The comprehensive statement that 'their whole body, and their backs, and their hands, and their wings, and the wheels, were full of eyes round about' presents an overwhelming image of divine omniscience. The Hebrew einayim (עֵינִים, 'eyes') repeated and multiplied suggests God's all-seeing awareness. No detail escapes His notice; no secret remains hidden from His sight (Proverbs 15:3, Hebrews 4:13).

The eyes covering every part—body, backs, hands, wings, wheels—indicates that omniscience extends to all aspects of God's being and operations. His knowledge informs His actions (hands), His movements (wings), His providence (wheels). God never acts in ignorance or discovers new information that alters His plans. His comprehensive knowledge precedes and governs all His works.

From a Reformed perspective, God's exhaustive knowledge includes not only actual events but all possibilities. His decree determines what will occur, and His omniscience comprehends all counterfactuals—what would occur under any conceivable circumstance. This doctrine, while humbling, provides assurance that God's promises are certain, His warnings reliable, and His purposes unchangeable. Nothing can thwart the plans of One who sees and knows all things.

## Historical Context

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Eyes as symbols of knowledge and watchfulness appear throughout ancient Near Eastern iconography, often adorning sacred objects and divine representations. However, biblical usage is distinct in associating eyes not with magical observation but with God's moral governance and covenant faithfulness. The eyes represent God's attention to covenant loyalty and violation.

For Ezekiel's audience, this imagery carried both warning and comfort. God had seen Jerusalem's abominations (chapter 8) and would execute righteous judgment. Yet the same omniscience that observed sin also watched over the faithful remnant in exile. The eyes that judged Israel's idolatry would also recognize genuine repentance and eventual restoration (Ezekiel 36:22-32). God's omniscience serves His covenant purposes.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How does awareness of God's complete omniscience affect your thought life and private behavior?
2. In what ways is God's all-seeing knowledge a comfort rather than merely a threat?
3. How should understanding that 'all things are naked and open unto the eyes of Him' (Hebrews 4:13) shape your approach to confession and repentance?

## Interlinear Text

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וְכֹל	בָּשָׂרָם	וְגַבְבָּהּ	וְיָדָהּ	וְכַפְרִים	
H3605	And their whole body	H1320	and their backs	H1354	
			and their hands	H3027	
			and their wings	H3671	
וְמַלְאָה	יָם	עֵינָם	סָבָבָהּ	לְאַרְבָּעָתָהּ	אֲוֹפְנִים:
and the wheels	were full	of eyes	round about	that they four	and the wheels
H212	H4392	H5869	H5439	H702	H212

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 1:18** (Parallel theme): As for their rings, they were so high that they were dreadful; and their rings were full of eyes round about them four.

**Revelation 4:6** (Parallel theme): And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind.

**Revelation 4:8** (Parallel theme): And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.