

# Ezekiel 10:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the cherubims were lifted up. This is the living creature that I saw by the river of Chebar.

## Analysis

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The statement 'this is the living creature that I saw by the river of Chebar' connects this temple vision to Ezekiel's inaugural call vision (chapter 1). The Hebrew chayah (חַיָּה, 'living creature') emphasizes vitality, movement, and active participation in God's purposes. These are not static symbols but dynamic agents of divine will.

The connection between visions establishes continuity—the same God who called Ezekiel to prophesy now reveals why: to announce judgment upon Jerusalem. The cherubim/living creatures present in both visions demonstrate that God's holiness demands response to sin. What began as a vision of God's glory ends with that glory departing due to covenant unfaithfulness.

This verse reinforces that genuine prophetic experience has internal coherence. True revelation from God displays unified purpose and consistent character across multiple encounters. The Reformed emphasis on Scripture's unity reflects this principle—all biblical revelation coheres because it originates from the one true God whose character never changes (Malachi 3:6, Hebrews 13:8).

## Historical Context

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The Chebar River (modern Kebar Canal) in Babylon was where Ezekiel received his prophetic commission (Ezekiel 1:1-3). Referencing this earlier vision reminded the exiles that Ezekiel's authority came from genuine divine encounter, not

imagination or false prophecy. The consistency between visions authenticated Ezekiel's message.

In ancient times, false prophets proliferated, especially during national crises. True prophets demonstrated consistency in their messages and fulfillment of their predictions. Ezekiel's reminder of his earlier vision established credibility—he wasn't inventing new theology but faithfully reporting what Yahweh revealed. This consistency distinguished true prophets from false ones who spoke from their own hearts (Jeremiah 23:16-22).

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. How does the consistency between Ezekiel's visions illustrate the importance of coherent biblical theology?
2. What role does recognizing continuity in God's revelation play in discerning truth from error?
3. In what ways does God's unchanging character (reflected in consistent visions) provide stability in changing circumstances?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיְעַל מִזְבֵּחַ	וְאַנְשֵׁי כְּדָמָיו	וְאַנְשֵׁי כְּדָמָיו	וְאַנְשֵׁי כְּדָמָיו
were lifted up	And the cherubims	H1931	This is the living creature
H7426	H3742	H2416	H834
בְּאֵת אֲשֶׁר	בְּאֵת אֲשֶׁר	בְּאֵת אֲשֶׁר	בְּאֵת אֲשֶׁר
בָּבֶן כְּדָמָיו	בָּבֶן כְּדָמָיו	בָּבֶן כְּדָמָיו	בָּבֶן כְּדָמָיו
that I saw	by the river	H3529	of Chebar
H7200	H5104		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 1:5** (Parallel theme): Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance; they had the likeness of a man.

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