

Ezekiel 11:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Afterwards the spirit took me up, and brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God into Chaldea, to them of the captivity. So the vision that I had seen went up from me.

Analysis

God commands Ezekiel to communicate the vision: 'Afterwards the spirit took me up, and brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God into Chaldea, to them of the captivity. So the vision that I had seen went up from me.' The Spirit returns Ezekiel from visionary experience to normal consciousness among the exiles in Babylon. The phrase 'vision...went up from me' indicates the prophetic experience's conclusion.

That Ezekiel returns 'to them of the captivity' reminds us of his primary audience—exiled Jews in Babylon. The visions weren't for private edification but for prophetic proclamation to God's people. Ezekiel must now communicate what he witnessed: Jerusalem's abominations, the glory's departure, judgment on corrupt leaders, and promises of eventual restoration. This moves from revelation (what God shows) to proclamation (what the prophet declares).

From a Reformed perspective, this illustrates the purpose of revelation—not merely to inform individuals but to equip prophetic witness to communities. God reveals truth through chosen vessels so they can faithfully communicate it to others. This pattern continues in Scripture's completion—God revealed truth through apostles and prophets so the church could have authoritative written Word for all generations (Ephesians 2:20, 2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Historical Context

Chaldea refers to Babylon, specifically the region around Babylon city where Jewish exiles were settled. Archaeological evidence shows Jewish communities near Nippur along the Chebar canal system. These exiles maintained ethnic and religious identity, gathering for instruction (Ezekiel 8:1, 14:1, 20:1), providing community context for Ezekiel's prophetic ministry.

The phrase 'vision went up from me' describes returning to normal consciousness after ecstatic prophetic experience. Ancient prophets experienced various states—dreams, visions, auditions, ecstatic trances. These genuine spiritual experiences conveyed divine revelation, distinguishing true prophets from false ones who invented messages (Jeremiah 23:25-32). Ezekiel's detailed, consistent visions authenticated his prophetic authority, even though his message was often unwelcome.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does the movement from private vision to public proclamation model the purpose of spiritual insight?
2. What responsibility comes with receiving divine revelation, and how should it be communicated?
3. In what ways does the completion of special revelation in Scripture affect how we understand and communicate spiritual truth today?

Interlinear Text

בָּרָ וּמָ	נִשְׁאָתָנִי	וַתָּבָא נִ	אֶל כָּלֶד יִמָּה	
Afterwards the spirit	took me up	and brought	into Chaldea	H413
H7307	H5375	H935	H3778	
בָּרָ וּמָ	הַמְּרָא הָ	בָּרָ וּמָ	אֱלֹהִים	וַיַּעַל
to them of the captivity	So the vision	Afterwards the spirit	of God	went up
H1473	H4758	H7307	H430	H5927
בָּרָ וּמָ	הַמְּרָא הָ	אֲשֶׁר	בְּאַתְּמִי	
So the vision	H834	that I had seen		
H4758		H7200		

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 3:12 (Spirit): Then the spirit took me up, and I heard behind me a voice of a great rushing, saying, Blessed be the glory of the LORD from his place.

Ezekiel 11:1 (Spirit): Moreover the spirit lifted me up, and brought me unto the east gate of the LORD'S house, which looketh eastward: and behold at the door of the gate five and twenty men; among whom I saw Jaazaniah the son of Azur, and Pelatiah the son of Benaiah, princes of the people.

Ezekiel 8:3 (Spirit): And he put forth the form of an hand, and took me by a lock of mine head; and the spirit lifted me up between the earth and the heaven, and brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the inner gate that looketh toward the north; where was the seat of the image of jealousy, which provoketh to jealousy.

Acts 10:16 (Parallel theme): This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven.

Ezekiel 1:3 (Parallel theme): The word of the LORD came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was there upon him.

