

Ezekiel 46:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then he brought me forth into the utter court, and caused me to pass by the four corners of the court; and, behold, in every corner of the court there was a court.

Analysis

Then he brought me forth into the utter court, and caused me to pass by the four corners of the court; and, behold, in every corner of the court there was a court—The outer court (הַחֵצֵר הַחַיְצוֹנָה, heḥāṣēr haḥîṣônāh) has מִקְצוֹעַ (miqṣôaʿ, 'corner') courts in all אַרְבַּעַת (arbaʿat, 'four') corners—חֵצֵר בְּמִקְצַע חֵצֵר (ḥāṣēr bĕmiqṣôaʿ ḥāṣēr, 'a court in the corner of the court').

These subsidiary courts served specific functions (v. 23-24—boiling sacrifices for the people). Architectural symmetry (four corners, each with court) demonstrates order and planning. God's character—orderly, not chaotic (1 Corinthians 14:33)—reflects in worship space design. Symmetrical architecture facilitates efficient service. Practical worship requires thoughtful logistics, a principle seen in tabernacle design (Exodus 25-31) and Jesus' organization of feeding 5,000 (Mark 6:39-40—groups of 50/100).

Historical Context

Temple courtyards facilitated different worship activities: sacrifice, prayer, teaching. The four corner courts in Ezekiel's vision exceed previous temple designs, showing millennial temple's expanded capacity. Archaeological excavations of ancient temples show multiple courtyards for various functions. Worship infrastructure enables proper service—a principle continuing in church buildings designed for specific ministries.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. What does architectural symmetry in temple design teach about God's character?
2. How do practical logistics facilitate worship?
3. What is the relationship between sacred space design and ministry effectiveness?

Interlinear Text

<p>וַיֹּצִיא נִי Then he brought me forth H3318</p>	<p>אֵל H413</p>	<p>הֵחָצֵר: there was a court H2691</p>	<p>הַחַיְצוֹן הַ into the utter H2435</p>	
<p>וַיַּעֲבֵר נִי and caused me to pass by H5674</p>	<p>אֵל H413</p>	<p>אַרְבַּע עֵת the four H702</p>	<p>בְּמִקְצָ ע and behold in every H4740</p>	<p>הֵחָצֵר: there was a court H2691</p>
<p>וְהִנֵּה הַ H2009</p>	<p>הֵחָצֵר: there was a court H2691</p>	<p>בְּמִקְצָ ע and behold in every H4740</p>	<p>הֵחָצֵר: there was a court H2691</p>	<p>הֵחָצֵר: there was a court H2691</p>
<p>בְּמִקְצָ ע and behold in every H4740</p>	<p>הֵחָצֵר: there was a court H2691</p>			

