



# The Cherubím in Eden

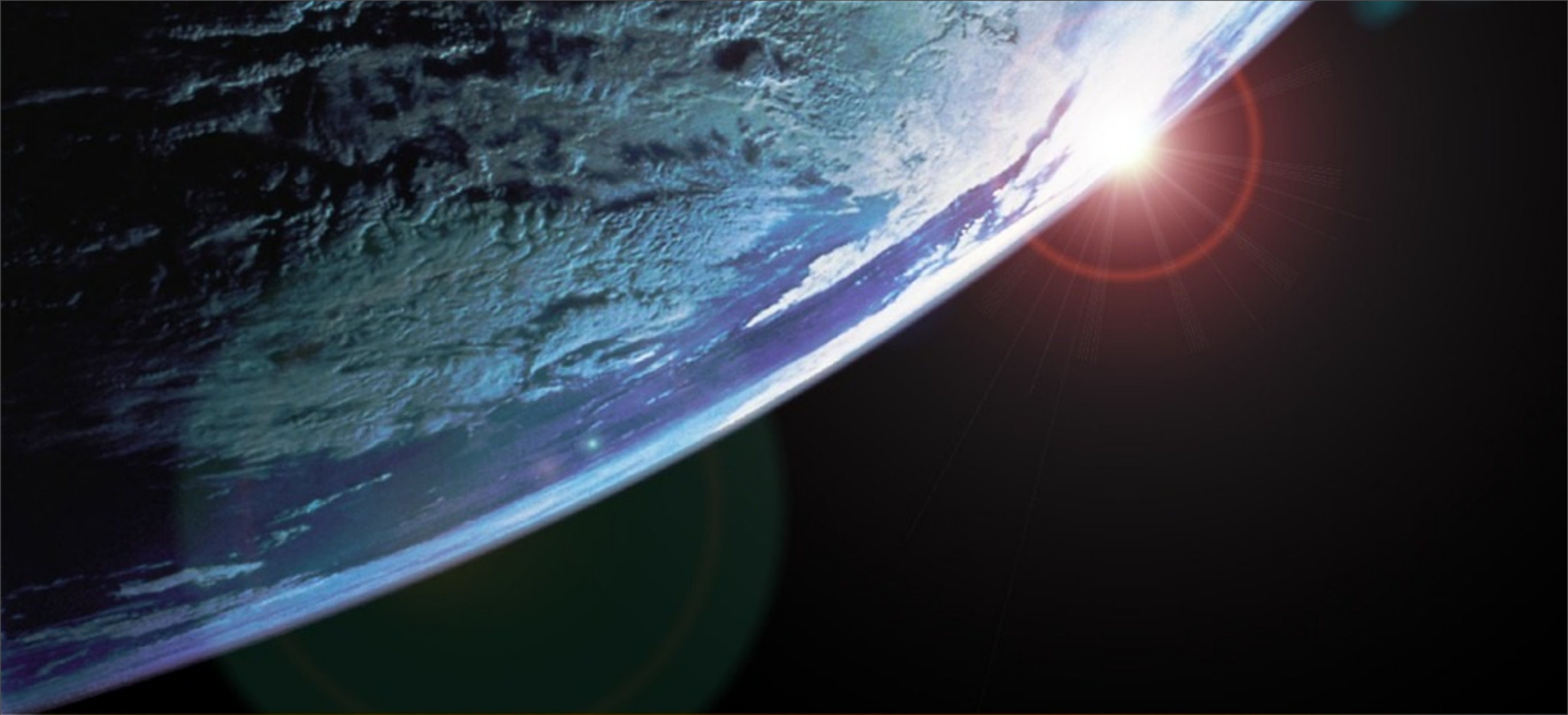




## Outline:

1. **The Cherubim in Eden** - their role and function in the antediluvian worship
2. **The Cherubim under the law** - the introduction of this pictorial biblical imagery into the life of the nation of Israel - and their role surrounding it
3. **The Cherubim in Isaiah** - actually called **Seraphim** - the visions of the Kingdom Isaiah is taken into - and the response of Isaiah
4. **The Cherubim in Ezekiel I** - the animated Biblical imagery that is expanded upon from the law - looking at the spiritual significance behind many of the elements
5. **The Cherubim in Ezekiel 10** - the story of Ezekiel being taken from Chebar to Jerusalem where he witnesses the Cherubim in motion - and its implications for us
6. **The Cherubim/Seraphim in Revelation** - called the “Living Creatures” - and their involvement in the vision






# God's Purpose







For thus saith the  
LORD that created the  
heavens; God himself  
that formed the earth  
and made it; he hath  
established it, **he  
created it not in vain,  
he formed it to be  
inhabited:** I am the  
LORD; and there is  
none else.

(Isaiah 45:18)





# God's Purpose with the Earth:

For the earth shall  
be **filled with the  
knowledge of the  
glory of the LORD,**  
as the waters  
cover the sea.  
(Habakkuk 2:14)





Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, **shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people... I beseech thee, shew me thy glory.**  
(Exodus 33:13,18)





**And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation.**

**(Exodus 34:6-7)**



# God's Purpose:

The earth is to be inhabited by people with the knowledge of the intimate experience of the character (glory) of God





# The Initial Canvass

## Genesis 2:8

And the LORD God **planted a garden** eastward in Eden; and there he put the **man** whom he had formed. And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; **the tree of life** also in the midst of the garden, and **the tree of knowledge of good and evil**.

**Planted:** [5193] - Gesenius - “to plant, to pitch a tent, to setup, to fix or fasten”

**Life:** [2416] - chay - life or lives (c/p Rev 22:2)





# Introduction of Doubt

## Genesis 3:1

Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, **hath God said**, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

Followed by faithlessness and disobedience





# *The Mercy of God*

Genesis 3:21

*Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make **coats of skins**, and clothed them.*





# The Mercy of God

Genesis 3:22-23

And the LORD God said,  
Behold, the man is become as  
one of us, to know good and  
evil: and now, **lest he put  
forth his hand, and take also  
of the tree of life, and eat,  
and live for ever:** **Therefore**  
the LORD God **sent him forth**  
from the garden of Eden, to  
till the ground from whence  
he was taken.





# The Mercy of God

But, if Adam had eaten of the Tree of Life, when reduced to such misery as this he would have sought death, but it would have fled from him. He would have found no deliverance. This, however, would not have been the worst of it. He would have involved all his posterity in the same interminable calamity. **The earth would at length have become crowded with undying generations of sensual and devilish men; who, if any virtue should survive, would afflict it a hundredfold.** For this awful consummation there would have been no remedy but to break up the fountains of the abyss, and cast them down under chains of intense darkness...

-John Thomas, *Elpis Israel* page 144





# Keeping the Way

Genesis 3:24

So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden

**Cherubíms...**





# Keeping the Way

Genesis 3:24

...and a flaming sword  
which turned every  
way, **to keep the way  
of the tree of life.**

Definition: to keep

Strong's #8104 - shamar - To keep watch or to guard as a garden, a flock of sheep;

In a wider sense to keep safe or preserve;

To keep in mind and memory;

To observe or attend to any thing

To keep, to observe as a covenant;

To honour or worship





# Keep - guard or protect

## Genesis 2:15

And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden **to dress it and to keep it.**

## Genesis 4:9

And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: **Am I my brother's keeper?**

## Genesis 28:15

And, behold, I am with thee, and **will keep thee in all places whither thou goest,** and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of





# Keep God's covenant

## Genesis 17:9

And God said unto Abraham, **Thou shalt keep my covenant** therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations.

## Exodus 19:5

Now therefore, **if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant**, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine.'



# Keep - keep in mind

## Malachi 2:7

For **the priest's lips should keep knowledge**, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of Yahweh of hosts.

## Isaiah 62:6-7

I have set **watchmen** upon thy walls,  
O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that **make mention of Yahweh, keep not silence**, And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth.

## Luke 11:52

Woe unto you, lawyers! for ye have **taken away the key of knowledge**: ye **entered not in** yourselves, and them that were entering in ye **hindered**.





# Keeping the WAY

## Proverbs 10:17

He is in the **WAY of life that keepeth instruction**: but he that refuseth reproof erreth.

## Genesis 18:19

For I know him, that he will **command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the WAY of Yahweh**, to do justice and judgment; that the Yahweh may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

## Isaiah 26:2

Open ye the gates, that **the righteous nation which keepeth the TRUTH** may enter in.



# Corrupting the WAY

A narrow, straight path made of light-colored gravel or dirt leads from the bottom center towards the background. The path is flanked on both sides by a tall, dense, and perfectly trimmed green hedge. In the distance, at the end of the path, stands a large, leafy green tree. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day, with some shadows cast on the path.

## Genesis 6:12

And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for **all flesh had corrupted his way** upon the earth.

## Jude v11

Woe unto them! for **they have gone in the way of Cain...**

## Matthew 7:13-14

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and **broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction**, and many there be which go in thereat: Because **strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life**, and few there be that find it.



# Keeping the Living Way

## John 14:5-6

Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

## Hebrews 10:19-22

....Having therefore, brethren, **boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way,** which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; **Let us draw near** with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.





# People of the Way

## Acts 18:25-26

This man was **instructed in the way of the Lord**; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John. And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and **expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.**

## Acts 16:17

The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us **the way of salvation.**

## Acts 9:2

**...if he found any of this way...**

## Acts 22:4

**...I persecuted this way unto the death...**



# Summary: The Way

- ▶ The Way to the Tree of Life is the method by which Eternal life will be granted to the faithful.
- ▶ Mankind corrupted God's WAY on the earth
- ▶ God in his mercy barred man from living forever in a corrupt state - thus preserving his purpose on the earth
- ▶ Keeping the WAY equates with preserving the knowledge of the truth and sharing it with others
- ▶ The Lord Jesus Christ is the "WAY" by which we will be granted eternal life
- ▶ The 1st Century Ecclesia was called "the WAY"





# *Summary:*

*The Cherubím and  
the sword were  
there to preserve  
the way to the tree of life*

*God wanted to fill the earth  
with those who manifested  
his character - not corrupt flesh*



# The end of the story

## Revelation 2:7

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the ecclesiás; **To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.**

## Revelation 22:14

Blessed are they that **do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in** through the gates into the city.





# Keeping the Way

Genesis 3:24

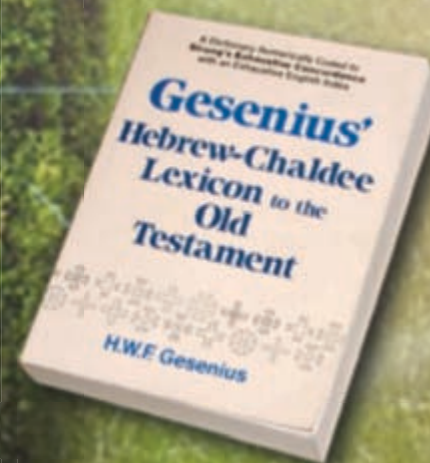
...and **a flaming sword**  
which turned every  
way, to keep the way  
of the tree of life.

Definición: flaming

Strong's #3858 - lahat from 3851; flashing point of a spear or sword, glittering steel, in brightness resembling a flame; c/p Luke 9:29 - "raiment was white and glistening"

Definición: Sword

Strong's #chereb- from 2717; sword or knife with edges - for circumcision, war





# Sword of God's Judgment

## Deuteronomy 32:41

If I **whet my glittering sword**, and mine hand take hold on **judgment**; I will render vengeance to mine enemies, and will reward them that hate me.

## Psalms 7:11-12

God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry with the wicked every day. **If he turn not, he will whet his sword**; he hath bent his bow, and made it ready.

## Isaiah 66:15-16

For, behold, Yahweh will come **with fire**, and with his **chariots** like a **whirlwind**, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with **flames of fire**. For by **fire** and **by his sword** will Yahweh plead with all flesh: and the slain of Yahweh shall be many.



# *In angelic hands*

## Joshua 5:13-14

And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with **his sword drawn in his hand**: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries? And he said, Nay; but **as captain of the host of Yahweh** am I now come....

## 1 Chron 21:16

And David lifted up his eyes, and saw the angel of Yahweh stand between the earth and the heaven, **having a drawn sword in his hand stretched out over Jerusalem**....

See also Numbers 22:23-31



# In the hand of the faithful

## Judges 7:20

And the three companies blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers, and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow withal: and they cried, **The sword of Yahweh, and of Gideon.**

## Psalms 149:5-9

Let the **saints** be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds. Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and **a twoedged sword in their hand; To execute vengeance upon the heathen... To execute upon them the judgment written: this honour have all his saints.**



# *In the hand of nations*

Ezekiel 30:25

**But I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon, and the arms of Pharaoh shall fall down; and they shall know that I am Yahweh, when *I shall put my sword into the hand of the king of Babylon,* and he shall stretch it out upon the land of Egypt.**



# Sword of God's word

## Hebrews 4:12

For the **word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword**, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

## Ephesians 6:17

And take the helmet of salvation, and **the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:**

## Isaiah 49:1-3

Yahweh hath called me from the womb... And **he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword...** and made me a polished shaft; in his quiver hath he hid me... Thou art my servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified.





# Summary: The Sword

- ▶ Symbolic of the Word of God
- ▶ Wielded by angels, saints and nations - ultimately by Christ
- ▶ Was to “preserve” the entrance to the “tree of life” for those who believed and obeyed the commandments of God.
- ▶ Used to guide the faithful in and keep the unfaithful out
- ▶ Those who “walk in the commandments” of the Father are granted the right to eat of the tree of life
- ▶ They will live forever and fill the earth with his glory - completing his purpose





# What were the cherubím?

Genesis 3:24

So he drove out the  
man; and he placed  
at the east of the  
garden of Eden  
**Cherubím...**





# What were the cherubim?

Definition: Cherubim

Strong's #3742 - keruwb -  
of uncertain derivation.

Gesenius - etymology of  
the word is doubtful.

Theological Workbook of  
the Old Testament -  
derivation of the word is  
dubious.





# Contextual Definition:

Psalm 68:4

Sing unto God, sing praises to his name: extol him that **rideth upon the heavens** by his name YAH, and rejoice before him.

Psalm 18:10

And **he rode upon a cherub, and did fly: yea, he did fly upon the wings of the wind.**



# Contextual Definition:

## Psalm 104:3-4

Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: who **maketh the clouds his chariot:** who **walketh upon the wings of the wind:** Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire:



# Concordance Definition:

## Definición: Chariot

Strong's #4818 - **merkabah** - **something that is ridden** from 4817

Strong's #4817 - **merkab** from - **saddle, place to ride** from 7392

## Definición: Ride

Strong's #7392 - **rakab** - **to mount and ride, ride**

## Definición: Cherubim

Strong's #3742 - **keruwb**

### Psalm 18:10

And **he rode upon a cherub, and did fly:**  
yea, he did fly upon the wings of the wind.



# Contextual Definition:



## 1 Chronicles 28:18

And for the altar of incense refined gold by weight; and gold for the pattern of **the chariot of the cherubims**, that spread out their wings, and covered the ark of the covenant of Yahweh.



## 2 Kings 2:11-12

And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared **a chariot of fire, and horses of fire**, and parted them both asunder; and Elíjah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elísha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, **the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof**. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces.



# Angelic Chariots



# Angelic Chariots



## 2 Kings 6:17

And Elísha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the **mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire** round about Elísha.



# Contextual Definition:



## Habakkuk 3:8

Was Yahweh displeased against the rivers? was thine anger against the rivers? was thy wrath against the sea, that **thou didst ride upon thine horses and thy chariots of salvation?**

## Deut 33:26-27

There is none like unto the God of Jeshurun, who **rideth upon the heaven** in thy help, and in his excellency on the sky. The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them.



# Contextual Definition:



## Isaiah 19:1

The burden of Egypt. Behold, **Yahweh rideth upon a swift cloud**, and shall come into Egypt: and the idols of Egypt shall be moved at his presence, and the heart of Egypt shall melt in the midst of it.

## Isaiah 58:14

Then shalt thou delight thyself in Yahweh; and **I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth**, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of Yahweh hath spoken it.



# Contextual Definition:

2 Kings 19:15

"And Hezekiah prayed before Yahweh, and said,  
O Yahweh Elohím of Israel, **which dwellest between the cherubims**, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth.

Definition: Dwellest

Strong's #3427 - yashab -  
to inhabit, make one's abode,  
to be seated upon a throne

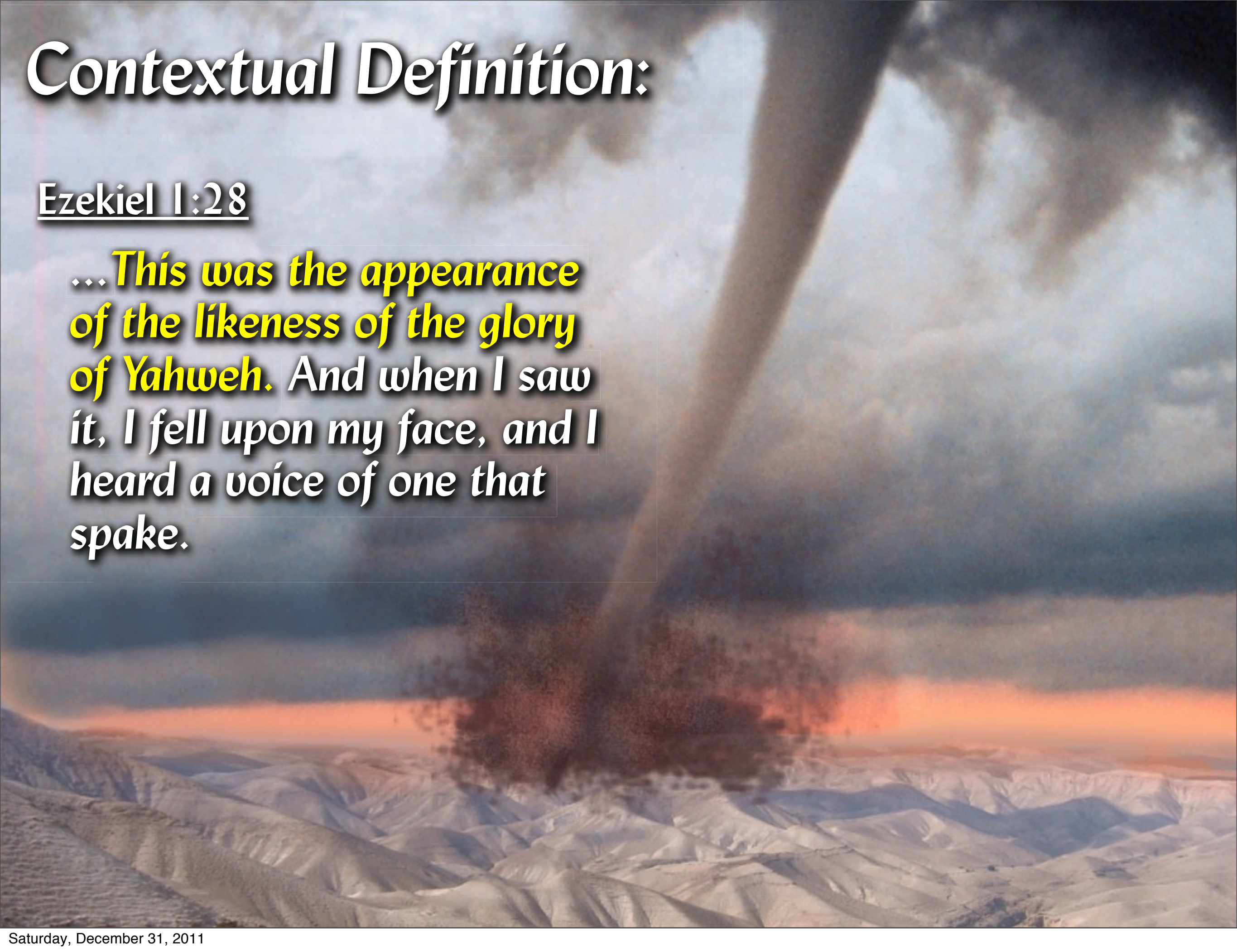
c/p also 2 Sam 6:2; Psa 80:1; Psa 99:1-3; Isa 37:1-15



# Contextual Definition:

Ezekiel 1:28

**...This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of Yahweh.** And when I saw it, I fell upon my face, and I heard a voice of one that spake.





# Summary: Cherubím

- ▶ God rides upon the Cherubím
- ▶ The Mercy Seat is termed the “chariot of the Cherubím”
- ▶ A visible manifestation of the angelic chariots happens twice in the scripture - termed “the chariot of Israel”
- ▶ Cherubím is something that is **ridden by the divine majesty**
- ▶ The Cherubím are **a vehicle of God’s will**
- ▶ The Cherubím are **something that resembles the majesty - or something God dwells in**



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# *Interaction with the Cherubim in Eden*





# A Visible Appearance of Spiritual Presence:

- ▶ Chariots of Fire - **Elíjah**
- ▶ Chariots of Fire - **Elísha**
- ▶ Spírit in form of a **Dove**:  
Chríst's Baptísm
- ▶ Spírit in form of **clouen  
tongues of fire**:  
Day of Pentecost





# Interaction with the Cherubim in Eden

## Genesis 4:3-5

And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain **brought** of the fruit of the ground **an offering unto Yahweh**. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And **Yahweh had respect unto Abel** and to his offering: But **unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect**. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.





# How was acceptance shown?

## Leviticus 9:24 - Moses

And **there came a fire out from before Yahweh, and consumed upon the altar the burnt offering and the fat:** which when all the people saw, they shouted, and fell on their faces.

## Judges 6:21 - Gideon

Then the angel of Yahweh put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and **there rose up fire out of the rock, and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes.**

## Judges 13:19-20 - Samson's Parents

So Manoah took a kid with a meat offering, and offered it upon a rock unto Yahweh: and **the angel did wondrously;** and Manoah and his wife looked on. For it came to pass, when **the flame went up toward heaven from off the altar,** that the angel of Yahweh ascended in the flame of the altar.





# How was acceptance shown?

## 1 Chronicles 21:26 - David

And David built there an altar unto Yahweh, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings, and called upon Yahweh; and **he answered him from heaven by fire upon the altar** of burnt offering.

## 2 Chron 7:1-3 - Solomon

Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the **fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices**; and the glory of Yahweh filled the house. And the priests could not enter into the house of Yahweh, because the glory of Yahweh had filled Yahweh's house.

## 1 Kings 18:24 - Elijah

And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of Yahweh: and the **God that answereth by fire**, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.





# Answering by Fire....

## Leviticus 10:1-2 (Nadab and Abihu)

And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before Yahweh, which he commanded them not. And **there went out fire from Yahweh, and devoured them**, and they died before Yahweh.



## Numbers 16:35 (Rebellion of Korah)

And there **came out a fire from Yahweh**, and consumed the two hundred and fifty men that offered incense.



# Cain's Response:

## Genesis 4:14

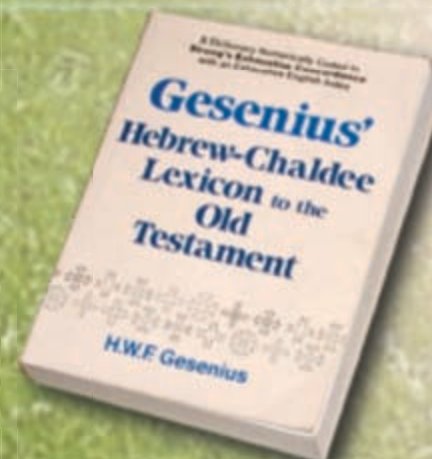
Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and **from thy face [faces]** shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me.

## Genesis 4:16

And Cain went out **from the presence [faces]** of **Yahweh**, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.

Definition: face/presence

Strong's #6440 - paniym - faces, plural





# Summary: The Cherubím in Eden

- ▶ The Cherubím are **VEHICLES** of God's will
- ▶ They are something he **RIDES** or **INHABITS**
- ▶ Their purpose is the **KEEP THE WAY** to the tree of life
- ▶ They are symbols of God's divine judgment.
- ▶ The saints fulfill a similar roll in **KEEPING** the **TRUTH** - and preserving the way of salvation

