

## **Ezekiel's Temple (Ez. 40 -48)**

*Blood sacrifices in the millennium?*

### Arguments for:

Literal interpretation of Ezekiel

References in other books- Isaiah 56:7; Jer. 33:18, Zech. 14:16-21, Mal. 3:3-4

### **Speculation:**

Made for a memorial to Christ's work on the cross like the Lord's supper for the Church.

Educational purposes (to teach the holiness of God and that without shedding of blood there is not remission of sins)- If so, they may be temporary (serve their purpose of pointing to Christ then discontinued).

God still needs blood to purify the temple from corruption (people-sin) so that His presence (Jesus) can dwell there without being defiled.

### Arguments against:

Jesus' sacrifice is the only salvation for **all** men **forever**. (Heb. 10:10-14, 1 John 2:2: Rom. 5:12, Heb. 9:12)

Old testaments sacrifice never forgave sin. (Heb. 10:1-11)

God was never happy with sacrifices if the heart is not right. (1 Sam. 15:22-23, Prov. 21:3, Jer. 7:21-23, Ps. 51:16, Matt. 12:7, Hosea 6:6, Micah 6:8, Mark 12:33, Romans 12:1-2, Amos 5:22-25, Isaiah 1:11-17, Matt. 5:24, Prov. 15:8, Ps. 50:13-14, Heb. 13:15-16, Rom. 5:19)

John 4:22-24 "God seeks those who would worship Him in Truth and in Spirit."

Ezekiel 44:9 No uncircumcised in heart or in flesh may come into His sanctuary.

\*Maybe it is a conditional promise that never came to fruition? Ez. 43:6-10

### **Thoughts about reconciling the two sides:**

\*Ezekiel 36:22-32 God says He will bring Israel back to Him to be His people, but not for their sake. Instead, so that He will be glorified.

*The millennial is different from the church age:*

1. Jesus is present in all His glory leading and ruling in His wisdom.
2. Fulfilling promises made to the Jews, not the church.
3. One thousand years seems long but it is as a day in scope of eternity (these sacrifices would be temporary and serve a purpose / not an established practice God intends on maintaining).
4. Death and blood will not be common sights / perhaps sacrifices are partly to remind people of their mortality(wages of sin and need for Christ).
5. Acts 4:12 There is no other name whereby men must be saved. People in all periods of time are saved by Jesus' work on the cross. Details and circumstances may change but it is unquestionable throughout scripture that **"Jesus saves."**