

## ~LIKENESS (400)

[English, similarity, resemblance]

- Man was created in the **likeness** of his God Yehowah.
- And God went on to say; Let us make man in our image, according to our **likeness**, and let them have in subjection the fish of the sea and the flying creatures of the heavens and the domestic animals and all the earth and every moving animal that is moving upon the earth. (**Genesis 1:26**)
- This is the book of Adam's history. In the day of God's creating Adam he made him in the **likeness** of God. (**Genesis 5:1**)
- At 130 years of age Adam became father to a son in his **likeness** and named him Seth.
- And Adam lived on for a hundred and thirty years. Then he became father to a son in his **likeness**, in his image, and called his name Seth. (**Genesis 5:3**)
- Around the basin or sea at the temple there was a likeness of gourd shaped ornaments.
- And there was the **likeness** of gourd-shaped ornaments under it clear around, surrounding it, ten in a cubit, enclosing the sea all around. The gourd-shaped ornaments were in two rows, being cast in its casting. (**2 Chronicles 4:3**)
- The Psalmist showed that the wicked one has a **likeness** to a lion that yearns to tear one to pieces, and sits in concealed places for his prey.
- His **likeness** is that of a lion that yearns to tear to pieces and that of a young lion sitting in concealed places. (**Psalms 17:12**)
- Since all of the things on earth, its forests, animals, islands, mountains and nations, are simply insignificant when compared to him, then what **image** or **likeness** could men possibly compare him to? Any attempted representation of him would be a lie! An insult to him.
- And to whom can you people liken God, and what **likeness** can

you put alongside him? (Isaiah 40:18)

- The first thing that Ezekiel sees in the midst of this brightness is a **likeness** of four living-creatures. These four living creatures denote that Yehowah's glorious throne rests firmly on his creations which all mirror his fine qualities. They each have the likeness of earthling man because man alone among all of God's creations was created in his **image** and has been granted dominion over all God's creation on earth.
- And out of the midst of it there was the **likeness** of four living creatures, and this was how they looked, they had the likeness of earthling man. (Ezekiel 1:5)
- The first face of a man denotes love, which is Yehowah's most dominant quality. God is love. Man should reflect perfectly the love of God in all his dealings with the creation and his fellow man.
- The face on the right denotes courageous justice. This, justice, is always a balancer to the **bull, power**. Justice is weak where there is no power to back it up and power exercised without justice is cruel lacking in both love and wisdom.
- The **back-facing face, the eagle** denotes, **wisdom**, which we get after we pass through many of life's experiences. Therefore it is back-facing.
- None of these qualities must exist alone but always together and in perfect balance and harmony. They will guide us as men flawlessly in life. We do not need to turn around or retrace our steps or change directions if we have all of them in balance like Yehowah does.
- And as for the **likeness** of their faces, the four of them had a man's face with a lion's face to the right, and the four of them had a bull's face on the left, the four of them also had an eagle's face. (Ezekiel 1:10)
- Mankind must be aglow with God's Holy Spirit and have a burning love of their God and creator. They must then give out this divine light and warmth and accept it from others. This love of the spirit would brighten their lives and enlighten all those around them. To those who lived such lives Yehowah would give **divine insight, lightnings**, to illuminate their pathway in life, within a spiritually darkened world.

- And as for the **likeness** of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire. Something like the appearance of torches was moving back and forth between the living creatures, and the fire was bright, and out of the fire there was lightning going forth. (**Ezekiel 1:13**)
- The wheels represent the means by which God's universal organization moves. It moves forward by means of revealed understanding which enables it to go wherever the spirit directs. This understanding is not one-dimensional but multi-dimensional, like a wheel within a wheel.
- We see many symbols used throughout the Bible record in a very consistent fashion, and these in harmony with powerful dramas, help to steer us in a very precise course in harmony with Yehowah's will. We will never need to turn to other sources of understanding to do God's will or to understand his word the Bible.
- This understanding is a thing of beauty to us, like the glow of chrysolite, which enlightens God's servants.
- As for the appearance of the wheels and their structure, it was like the glow of chrysolite, and the four of them had one **likeness**. And their appearance and their structure were just as when a wheel proved to be in the midst of a wheel. (**Ezekiel 1:16**)
- In the Bible **water**, **represents truth** as a symbol. Ice represents congealed waters that are not yet known or flowing, thus drinkable. Likewise, Yehowah's throne is established on truth for truth is the grandest principle that there is.
- And over the heads of the living creatures there was the **likeness** of an expanse like the sparkle of awesome ice, stretched out over their heads up above. (**Ezekiel 1:22**)
- Just as this **likeness** of Yehowah's throne and of himself is above this vast expanse of truth, which we cannot yet understand, so the throne of Yehowah is beautiful beyond description, like a sapphire stone with its deep and intriguing beauty.
- Men cannot see it directly but only by a **likeness**. Also men cannot fully appreciate its beauty and its inestimable precious value. We cannot yet appreciate all that rule by God means for us, we only see a likeness. His throne **is based on spiritual values** that are so many

and varied, deep and intertwined it will take mankind throughout eternity to understand them.

- Also we see a person in the **likeness** or appearance of an earthling man. In a like manner we need to progress mightily in spirit before we can understand ourselves as being created in God's image. Therefore we can only see a likeness of an earthling man.
- And above the expanse that was over their head there was something in appearance like sapphire stone, the **likeness** of a throne. And upon the likeness of the throne there was a likeness of someone in appearance like an earthling man upon it, up above. ([Ezekiel 1:26](#))
- The appearance of the rainbow is seen and it reminds us that Yehowah is the great keeper of his promises. The beautiful breaking of pure white light into the colors of the spectrum in a rainbow denotes a beauty deep inside, pure, consistent, inviting, beauty from beauty. Men on earth can only see Yehowah in such visions because he is truly a spirit and he has no physical existence. Yet he can appear to man within the creation in any way that he chooses.
- There was something like the appearance of the bow that occurs in a cloud mass on the day of a pouring rain. That is how the appearance was of the brightness round about. It was the appearance of the **likeness** of the glory of Yehowah. When I got to see it, then I fell upon my face, and I began to hear the voice of one speaking. ([Ezekiel 1:28](#))
- Next in the vision he sees a **likeness** similar to the first vision but there is no longer a chariot, only the **likeness** of Yehowah is seen. But why is there no chariot? Because Yehowah's earthly organization is about to be destroyed and Ezekiel is about to be shown things deep inside of the temple's inner rooms that are the reason for Yehowah's rejection of the men of Judah who are before him.
- The appearance of fire beneath denotes how Yehowah keeps any defiling thing or uncleanness from his being. The look of electrum above denotes that Yehowah combines all of the most precious spiritual qualities and divine principles.
- And I began to see, and, look! A **likeness** similar to the appearance of fire, from the appearance of his hips even downward there was fire, and from his hips even upward there

was something like the appearance of a shining, like the glow of electrum. (**Ezekiel 8:2**)

- Again we are reminded that Yehowah's very throne is supported on truth and that there is a broad expanse of truth that is yet far above our current understanding. His throne, like a beautiful sapphire, is a beautiful combination of intertwined qualities of heart and divine principles. He is high above us always guiding and directing his faithful servants.

- And I continued to see, and, look! Upon the expanse that was over the head of the cherubs there was something like sapphire stone, like the appearance of the **likeness** of a throne, appearing above them. (**Ezekiel 10:1**)

- These four wheels within wheels represent how Bible dramas working together with signs and symbols and always in harmony with these four primary qualities, will always bring us to the correct interpretation of the Bible. The judgments mentioned in the commentary on **Verse 6** are all clearly of this mold and demonstrate the concept of a wheel within a wheel.

- And as for their appearance, the four of them had one **likeness**, just as when a wheel proves to be in the midst of a wheel. (**Ezekiel 10:10**)

- Love, justice, wisdom and power are four wonderful guiding qualities that must be in each of us. We each should submit our own works to the doing of God's will. We should be eager and willing to make the doing of God's will our every task.

- As for the four, each one had four faces and each one had four wings, and the **likeness** of the hands of earthling man was under their wings. (**Ezekiel 10:21**)

- These four wonderful balanced qualities are the support of the throne of Yehowah, which is based on truth. We always need to go **straight** in them and not deviate into hatred, injustice, foolishness, cruelty and lies. We need to keep vigilant toward new understanding and appreciate the **beauty** of our God. If fail to do all of these things then we cannot be a part of his holy organization.

- And as for the **likeness** of their faces, they were the faces the appearance of which I had seen by the river Chebar, the very

ones. They would go each one straight forward. ([Ezekiel 10:22](#))

- They send out their Bethel speakers, very polished young men who speak well and forcefully, and people flock to hear a good talk. These capable ones have the appearance of warriors, capable of defending the land. However, among them Yehowah finds no one who will stand firm for truth and resist this idolatry.
- They are Babylonians for that was the land of their birth. Babylonian ways are what they prosper and carry forth because they are unwilling to reexamine and clean up their ways.
- Girded with belts on their hips, with pendant turbans on their heads, having the appearance of warriors, all of them, the **likeness** of the sons of Babylon, Chaldeans as respects the land of their birth. ([Ezekiel 23:15](#))
- Then as Daniel states; One similar in **likeness** to the sons of mankind was touching my lips. At that Daniel spoke and said; O my Lord, and because of what he saw, his convulsions were turned inward and he retained no power to act.
- And, look! One similar to the **likeness** of the sons of mankind was touching my lips, and I began to open my mouth and speak and say to the one who was standing in front of me. O my lord, because of the appearance my convulsions were turned within me, and I did not retain any power. ([Daniel 10:16](#))
- Even though, before the time of Moses, God did not call mankind to accountability, they all died because of their sin. There were, during that time, faithful men like Enoch, and yet these men died also, because of sin, though not the same likeness of sin as Adam's.
- Adam thus bears a resemblance to the one who was to come, Jesus Christ, for what Adam lost for all men, Christ will gain back for all of them, through his faithfulness unto death, thus he became the father of mankind, whom he has repurchased from slavery to sin and death.
- Nevertheless, death ruled as king from Adam down to Moses, even over those who had not sinned after the **likeness** of the transgression by Adam, who bears a resemblance to him that was to come. ([Romans 5:14](#))

- Our staying clean spiritually and remaining devoted to God and ever loyal to him, as Christ was, will include, that when we die, we will share in the same **likeness** of a resurrection as Christ partook of. All who do, will become part of Christ glorious body of faithful ones, who will rule from the heavens with him. However that number is limited to 144,000.
- For if we have become united with him in the **likeness** of his death, we shall certainly also be united with him in the **likeness** of his resurrection. (**Romans 6:5**)
- The Law Covenant was not capable of overcoming the desires of the flesh, it only made them more apparent to mankind, and condemned them. It exposed a deep and abiding need within the human family, but it did not of itself fix it, or even address the problem.
- Just like the second Abrahamic covenant did away with the first Abrahamic covenant, because it was superior, Christ, the Greater than Melchizedek, brought a New Covenant to mankind, and thus did away with the old Law Covenant.
- What person will not take back an old agreement in return for an even better agreement? If your mortgage lender took back your existing mortgage note, and cut in half the amount you owed, would you not gladly sign the papers, and joyfully keep making the remaining smaller payments.
- Through Christ, Yehowah God condemned sin in the flesh, when he sent his son to earth and placed his own powerful spirit within him, enabling him as a fleshly man, to overcome all his fleshly desires and tendencies, through his love of the spirit, and by following it closely.
- For all such ones who will follow in his course, there is no need for a Law Covenant, and thus the Law Covenant is done away with forever, replaced with a superior one, due to God's undeserved kindness.
- Thus the Law Covenant was the righteous tutor leading all mankind to Christ, through whom righteousness is actually attained, through faith and love of God's Holy Spirit within us. This spiritual battery of ours is recharged daily within us, by prayer, Bible study, and by meditation on spiritual matters, and through doing godly work, and by the preaching of the Good News of God's Kingdom.

- For, there being an incapability on the part of the Law, while it was weak through the flesh, God, by sending his own Son in the **likeness** of sinful flesh and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh. (**Romans 8:3**)
- No but Jesus Christ willingly left this heavenly abode, and took what was relatively, a slave's form, as a man on earth, and then he found himself in the **likeness** of men on earth.
- No, but he emptied himself and took a slave's form and came to be in the **likeness** of men. (**Philippians 2:7**)
- Anointed Christians use their tongues to bless Yehowah God, and yet out of that same mouth come forth curses made toward those who have come forth in the very **likeness** of God, other men. It is not proper for this to continue. We must learn to love our fellow man, or we cannot love God.
- With it we bless Yehowah, even the Father, and yet with it we curse men who have come into existence in the **likeness** of God. (**James 3:9**)