

Ezekiel 48:1–35

“The Lord Is There”: God’s Final Word in Ezekiel

Ezekiel’s final chapter brings his prophetic journey to a beautiful conclusion. The book that opened with a breathtaking vision of God’s glory closes with the promise that God Himself will dwell among His people forever. Every detail—every boundary, every gate, every tribe—points to this one truth: God has not abandoned His people, and His ultimate desire is to be with them.

1. The Division of the Land (Ezekiel 48:1–7, NKJV)

Ezekiel describes the land of Israel organized in long, horizontal sections stretching from the Mediterranean Sea to the eastern border. The tribes are arranged from north to south:

- Dan (Ezekiel 48:1 NKJV)
- Asher (Ezekiel 48:2 NKJV)
- Naphtali (Ezekiel 48:3 NKJV)
- Manasseh (Ezekiel 48:4 NKJV)
- Ephraim (Ezekiel 48:5 NKJV)
- Reuben (Ezekiel 48:6 NKJV)
- Judah (Ezekiel 48:7 NKJV)

This orderly arrangement highlights God’s faithfulness. Even tribes with troubled histories receive an inheritance. God remembers them, restores them, and places them securely in His future plans.

2. The Holy District and the Prince’s Portion (Ezekiel 48:8–22, NKJV)

South of Judah is a large “holy district,” a square region that includes the sanctuary and the city. This area is set apart for worship and life with God at the center.

It is divided into three portions:

1. The northern section for the priests, with the sanctuary in its heart.
2. The middle section for the Levites, the servants of the temple.
3. The southern section for the common people, with Jerusalem at its center.

On both sides—east and west—is the land assigned to the prince.

This structure paints a picture of a reordered world where worship, community, and leadership all revolve around the presence of God. Life flows outward from the sanctuary, reminding us that God’s presence is meant to shape every part of life—not just religious moments but all of daily existence.

3. The Southern Tribes (Ezekiel 48:23–27, NKJV)

Below the holy district lie the allotments for the remaining tribes:

- Benjamin (Ezekiel 48:23 NKJV)
- Simeon (Ezekiel 48:24 NKJV)
- Issachar (Ezekiel 48:25 NKJV)
- Zebulun (Ezekiel 48:26 NKJV)
- Gad (Ezekiel 48:27 NKJV)

These tribes, too, are fully restored. Their failures did not erase God’s covenant love. Their weaknesses did not cancel His promise.

4. The City and Its Twelve Gates (Ezekiel 48:28–35, NKJV)

The restored city has twelve gates—three on each side—each named after one of the tribes of Israel. This imagery mirrors God’s heart: all His people are welcomed in, and all share in His presence.

Ezekiel ends with the city’s new name:

“The LORD Is There.” Jehovah Shammah. (Ezekiel 48:35 NKJV)

This name is the heartbeat of Scripture.

God’s desire has always been to draw people back to Himself.

From calling out to Adam, “Where are you?”

To sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to shed His blood on the cross, rise from the dead, and make reconciliation possible—God has always moved toward us.

His presence is the great promise of the future and the great need of every human heart today.

Practical Application

1. God Restores What We Cannot

The tribes’ long history of sin did not erase their place in God’s plan. In the same way, God restores us—not because we deserve it, but because His love is steadfast. Through Jesus Christ’s sacrifice and resurrection, forgiveness and restoration are offered freely.

2. Order Your Life Around God’s Presence

The holy district stood at the center of the land.

Worship was not an add-on—it shaped everything else.

Ask yourself:

Is God at the center of your life?

Or is He squeezed into the margins?

3. God Desires Us to Draw Close

The name “The LORD Is There” reminds us that God’s greatest gift is Himself. He invites us not just to believe facts about Him but to walk with Him daily.

A Challenge for Believers

Ezekiel’s vision calls every believer to examine the structure of their life.

Is Christ truly at the center?

Is your heart aligned with His desires?

Are you living in a way that reflects His holiness and His love?

Let this chapter challenge you to realign your priorities, renew your devotion, and draw near to the God who longs to dwell with His people.

An Invitation to Non-Believers

The God who reveals Himself in Ezekiel 48 is the same God who sent Jesus Christ to save you. Jesus shed His blood on the cross to take away your sin, and His resurrection declares that He is God, Savior, and Lord.

He is calling you—even now—to come home to Him.

If you turn to Him, confess your need, and place your trust in the risen Jesus Christ, you will find forgiveness, restoration, and the promise of His presence forever.

The Lord is there—and He invites you to come to Him.