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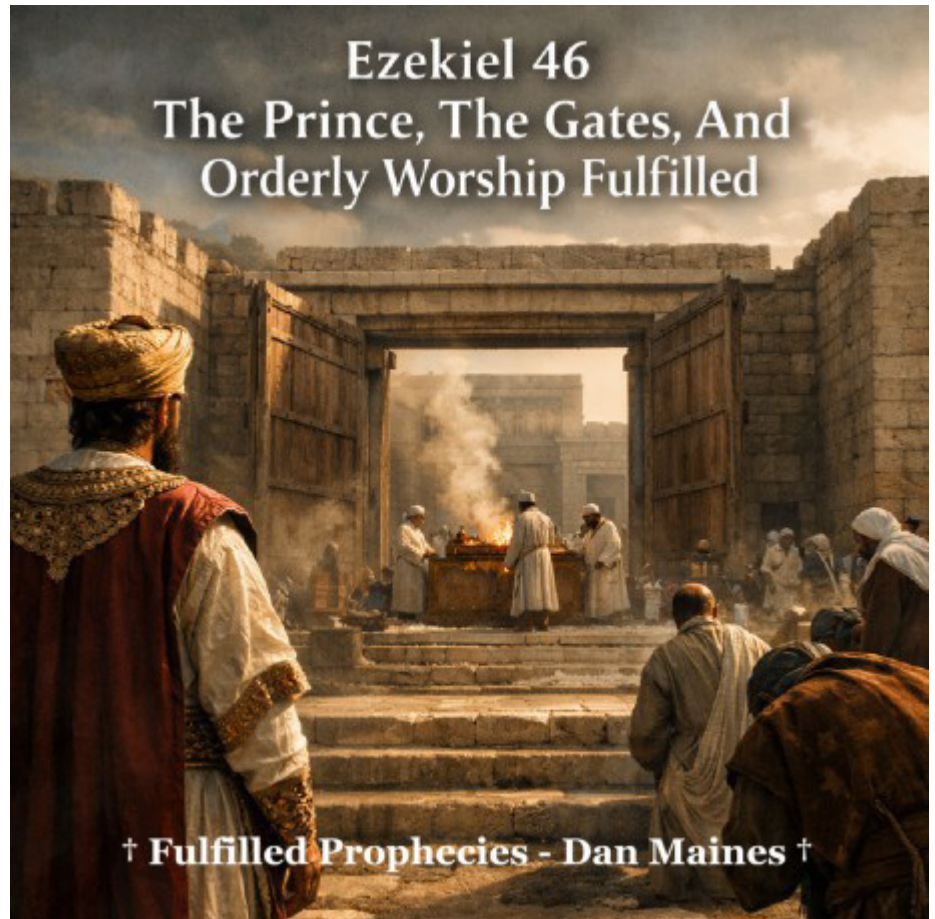
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## Ezekiel 46 The Prince The Gates And Orderly Worship Fulfilled



By Dan Maines

## Ezekiel 46 The Prince, The Gates, And Orderly Worship Fulfilled

### Introduction

† Ezekiel 46 continues the vision of ordered worship, showing access, sacrifice, and leadership under God's authority (Ezekiel 46:1)

† The focus is on the prince, the people, and the gates, revealing structure, reverence, and access that all point forward

to Christ and the New Covenant reality (Ezekiel 46:2)

† From the fulfilled perspective, this isn't about a future temple system, it's about Christ establishing true access and proper worship, completed by the end of the Old Covenant age in AD 70 (John 4:21-24)

### **Ezekiel 46:1-3**

This is what the Lord GOD says: The gate of the inner courtyard facing east shall be shut the six working days, but it shall be opened on the Sabbath day and opened on the day of the new moon. The prince shall enter by way of the porch of the gate from the outside and stand by the post of the gate. Then the priests shall provide his burnt offering and his peace offerings, and he shall worship at the threshold of the gate and then go out, but the gate shall not be shut until evening. The people of the land shall also worship at the doorway of that gate before the LORD on the Sabbaths and on the new moons.

† The gate being opened at appointed times shows controlled access, pointing to how access to God was restricted under the Old Covenant (Hebrews 9:8)

† The prince standing at the threshold shows a mediator role, but not full access, pointing forward to Christ who would bring full access (Hebrews 10:19-20)

† The people worshiping at the gate shows distance, but in Christ, that distance is removed and we draw near directly (Ephesians 2:13)

### **Ezekiel 46:4-7**

The burnt offering which the prince shall offer to the LORD on the Sabbath day shall be six lambs without blemish and a ram without blemish; and the grain offering shall be an ephah with the ram, and the grain offering for the lambs shall be what he is able to give, and a hin of oil with an ephah. On the day of the

new moon he shall offer a bull without blemish, and six lambs and a ram; they shall be without blemish. And he shall provide a grain offering, an ephah with the bull and an ephah with the ram, and for the lambs as much as he is able, and a hin of oil with an ephah.

† These repeated offerings show the insufficiency of the Old Covenant system, it had to be done continually (Hebrews 10:1-3)

† The requirement of spotless offerings points directly to Christ as the perfect sacrifice once for all (1 Peter 1:18-19)

† The prince offering sacrifices shows he himself isn't the final solution, Christ alone fulfills that role completely (Hebrews 7:27)

### **Ezekiel 46:8-10**

When the prince enters, he shall go in by way of the porch of the gate and go out by the same way. But when the people of the land come before the LORD at the appointed feasts, the one who enters by way of the north gate to worship shall go out by way of the south gate; and the one who enters by way of the south gate shall go out by way of the north gate. He shall not return by way of the gate by which he entered, but shall go out straight ahead. When they go in, the prince shall go in among them; and when they go out, he shall go out.

† This order shows reverence and structure in approaching God, not casual access (1 Corinthians 14:40)

† Entering one way and leaving another shows transformation, you don't come to God and leave the same (2 Corinthians 5:17)

† The prince being among the people shows identification, fulfilled in Christ who dwells among His people (John 1:14)

## **Ezekiel 46:11-15**

At the festivals and the appointed feasts the grain offering shall be an ephah with a bull and an ephah with a ram, and for the lambs as much as one is able to give, and a hin of oil with an ephah. When the prince provides a voluntary offering, a burnt offering or peace offerings as a voluntary offering to the LORD, the gate facing east shall be opened for him. And he shall provide his burnt offering and his peace offerings as he does on the Sabbath day. Then he shall go out, and after he goes out the gate shall be shut. And you shall provide a lamb a year old without blemish as a burnt offering to the LORD daily; morning by morning you shall provide it. You shall also provide a grain offering with it morning by morning, a sixth of an ephah, and a third of a hin of oil to moisten the fine flour, a grain offering to the LORD continually by a permanent ordinance. So they shall provide the lamb, the grain offering, and the oil, morning by morning, for a continual burnt offering.

† The daily sacrifice shows constant need for atonement, pointing to the unfinished nature of that system (Hebrews 10:11)

† The freewill offering shows voluntary devotion, fulfilled in Christ who willingly gave Himself (John 10:18)

† The continual offering is fulfilled in Christ's one sacrifice that ended all others (Hebrews 10:12-14)

## **Ezekiel 46:16-18**

This is what the Lord GOD says: If the prince gives a gift out of his inheritance to any of his sons, it shall belong to his sons; it is their possession by inheritance. But if he gives a gift from his inheritance to one of his servants, it shall be his until the year of liberty; then it shall return to the prince. His inheritance shall be only his sons'; it shall belong to them. The prince shall not take any of the people's inheritance, driving them out of their possession; he shall give his sons inheritance from his own possession so that My people will not be scattered, anyone

from his possession.

† This shows protection of inheritance, pointing to God's faithfulness to preserve His people (1 Peter 1:4)

† The year of liberty reflects Jubilee principles, fulfilled in Christ bringing true freedom (Luke 4:18-19)

† The prince not oppressing the people contrasts with corrupt leaders, fulfilled when Christ removes unjust leadership (Matthew 23:37-38)

### **Ezekiel 46:19-24**

Then he brought me through the entrance, which was at the side of the gate, into the holy chambers for the priests, which faced north; and behold, there was a place at the extreme rear toward the west. He said to me, This is the place where the priests shall boil the guilt offering and the sin offering and where they shall bake the grain offering, so that they do not bring them out into the outer courtyard to transmit holiness to the people. Then he brought me out into the outer courtyard and had me pass by the four corners of the courtyard; and behold, in every corner of the courtyard there was a courtyard. In the four corners of the courtyard there were enclosed courtyards, forty cubits long and thirty wide; these four corner areas had the same measurement. There was a row of masonry all around in them, around the four of them, and boiling places were made under the rows all around. Then he said to me, These are the boiling places where the ministers of the house shall boil the sacrifices of the people.

† These preparation areas show separation between holy and common, emphasizing holiness (Leviticus 10:10)

† The structure reflects order in sacrifice, but also shows complexity that pointed forward to something better (Hebrews

8:5)

† All of this is fulfilled in Christ, who removed the need for physical sacrifice systems entirely (Hebrews 9:11-12)

## **Historical References**

† Josephus records the strict temple regulations and priestly duties, showing how seriously these structures were taken in the first century (Josephus, Antiquities of the Jews, Book 15)

† Eusebius notes the destruction of the temple in AD 70 as the end of the sacrificial system (Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3)

† Tacitus describes the fall of Jerusalem and the temple, confirming the historical fulfillment of the end of that system (Tacitus, Histories 5.13)

## **How It Applies To Us Today**

† We don't approach God through gates, rituals, or priests, we have direct access through Christ (Hebrews 4:16)

† Worship isn't about physical structures, it's about spirit and truth (John 4:23-24)

† The order and reverence still matter, but now it's internal, not tied to a building (1 Corinthians 3:16)

† Christ has fulfilled all sacrifice, so we don't return to shadows when the reality has come (Colossians 2:16-17)

† Our inheritance is secure, not in land, but in the kingdom that cannot be shaken (Hebrews 12:28)

## **Q & A Appendix**

**Q** Was Ezekiel describing a future physical temple?

**A** No, this vision pointed forward to fulfillment in Christ and the end of the Old Covenant system, Hebrews 8:5; Hebrews 10:1

**Q** Who is the prince in Ezekiel 46?

**A** The prince represents a leadership role pointing toward Christ, but not equal to Him in the shadow system, fulfilled in Jesus as the true ruler, John 18:37

**Q** Why were sacrifices still required in this vision?

**A** Because it reflects the Old Covenant system which was incomplete, pointing forward to Christ's final sacrifice, Hebrews 10:12

**Q** What do the gates represent?

**A** Controlled access to God under the Old Covenant, fulfilled in Christ giving full access, Hebrews 10:19-20

**Q** When was this fulfilled?

**A** This was fulfilled through Christ's work and finalized in AD 70 when the temple system ended, Matthew 24:1-2

**† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †**

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## **Source Index**

† Ezekiel 46

† Josephus, Antiquities of the Jews, Book 15; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3; Tacitus, Histories 5.13

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