

# Deuteronomy 6:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then beware lest thou forget the LORD, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

## Analysis

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The urgent warning 'Beware lest thou forget the LORD' addresses prosperity's spiritual danger. The Hebrew 'shamar pen' (beware/watch lest) indicates vigilant caution. The reminder 'which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage' grounds covenant obedience in redemptive history. Forgetting God manifests practically through ingratitude, self-reliance, and idolatry. Affluence breeds forgetfulness more readily than affliction. This verse illustrates the Reformed understanding that even believers require constant exhortation to remember grace. Memory of redemption sustains faithfulness; amnesia produces apostasy.

## Historical Context

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Israel's history tragically validated this warning. During prosperous periods under Solomon, Israel adopted pagan practices (1 Kings 11:1-8). The northern kingdom's wealth under Jeroboam II coincided with injustice and idolatry (Amos 6:1-7). Judah similarly forgot God during affluent times, provoking prophetic condemnation (Hosea 13:6, Jeremiah 2:31-32). Conversely, wilderness and exile hardships often produced repentance and renewed dependence on God. Prosperity proves more spiritually dangerous than adversity.

## Related Passages

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**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

### Study Questions

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1. How does prosperity tempt believers to forget God and credit themselves for blessings He provided?
2. What spiritual disciplines help maintain awareness of redemption and dependence on God during seasons of material blessing?

### Interlinear Text

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הָשֵׁר מֶרֶ	לֵב	פֶּן	תִּשְׁכַּח	אֶת	יְהוָה	אֱשֶׁר
<b>Then beware</b>	H0	H6435	<b>lest thou forget</b>	H853	<b>the LORD</b>	H834
H8104			H7911		H3068	
הוֹצִיאָךְ		מֵאֶרֶץ	מִצְרַיִם	מִבֵּית	עֲבָדִים:	
<b>which brought thee forth</b>		<b>out of the land</b>	<b>of Egypt</b>	<b>from the house</b>	<b>of bondage</b>	
H3318		H776	H4714	H1004	H5650	

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