

Ezekiel 12:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Say thou unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; This burden concerneth the prince in Jerusalem, and all the house of Israel that are among them.

Analysis

"Say thou unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; This burden concerneth the prince in Jerusalem, and all the house of Israel that are among them."

God explains the sign-act's meaning—it concerns "the prince" (King Zedekiah) and all Israel. The Hebrew *nasi* (נָשִׂי, "prince") may deliberately avoid "king" (*melek*) to emphasize Zedekiah's reduced status as Babylonian puppet. The prophecy targets both leadership and people—all share coming exile. This clarification prevents misinterpretation and establishes prophetic specificity.

Historical Context

Zedekiah was Babylon's appointee after deposing Jehoiachin (2 Kings 24:17). His rebellion against Babylon (2 Kings 24:20; 25:1) triggered the final siege. The prophecy specifically targets him while including all residents—comprehensive judgment affecting leadership and populace. Within years, Zedekiah's capture and the population's exile fulfilled the prophecy exactly as predicted, vindicating Ezekiel's word.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

