

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 (נָשִׂיא, "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

Study Questions

1. How does the prophecy's specificity (naming the prince and location) demonstrate divine foreknowledge?
2. What does including both leadership and people teach about corporate responsibility?
3. In what ways should leaders recognize their actions affect entire communities under their care?

Interlinear Text

בְּשָׁאָמָר אֱלֹהִים אֶת־רַבָּה	say	H413	אָמָר כִּי אָמָר הָאֱלֹהִים	say	H3541	אָמָר יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים	the Lord	H559	אָמָר יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים	the Lord	H136	אָמָר יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים	GOD	H3069	אָמָר יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים	concerneth the prince	H5387
אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁרָאֵל בְּבֵית יְהוָה בְּבֵית יְהוָה בְּבֵית יְהוָה בְּבֵית יְהוָה	This burden	H4853	הַמִּשְׁאָל בְּבֵית יְהוָה בְּבֵית יְהוָה בְּבֵית יְהוָה בְּבֵית יְהוָה	H2088	in Jerusalem	H3389	וְשָׁלַמְתָּ בְּבֵית יְהוָה	H3605	וְשָׁלַמְתָּ בְּבֵית יְהוָה	and all the house	H1004	וְשָׁלַמְתָּ בְּבֵית יְהוָה	of Israel	H834	וְשָׁלַמְתָּ בְּבֵית יְהוָה	H3478	
בְּתוּךְם בְּתוּךְם בְּתוּךְם בְּתוּךְם	that are among	H1992	בְּתוּךְם בְּתוּךְם בְּתוּךְם בְּתוּךְם	H8432													

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 13:1 (Parallel theme): The burden of Babylon, which Isaiah the son of Amoz did see.

2 Kings 9:25 (References Lord): Then said Jehu to Bidkar his captain, Take up, and cast him in the portion of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite: for remember how that, when I and thou rode together after Ahab his father, the LORD laid this burden upon him;