

# Ezekiel 12:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In their sight shalt thou bear it upon thy shoulders, and carry it forth in the twilight: thou shalt cover thy face, that thou see not the ground: for I have set thee for a sign unto the house of Israel.

## Analysis

**"In their sight shalt thou bear it upon thy shoulders, and carry it forth in the twilight: thou shalt cover thy face, that thou see not the ground: for I have set thee for a sign unto the house of Israel."** Ezekiel must carry baggage on shoulders with covered face "in twilight"—depicting shameful, furtive departure. Covering the face represents disgrace and inability to see where going—exile strips dignity and certainty. The final phrase "I have set thee for a sign" (מוֹפֵת נְתָתִיךְ) designates Ezekiel's entire person as living prophetic symbol. His actions embody Israel's coming experience.

## Historical Context

The covered face specifically foreshadowed Zedekiah's fate—captured during escape attempt, he witnessed his sons' execution before Babylonians blinded him (2 Kings 25:7; Ezekiel 12:13). He literally couldn't see the ground as led captive to Babylon. Ezekiel's prophecy predicted with uncanny precision the king's tragic end, demonstrating divine foreknowledge and prophetic accuracy.

## Related Passages

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does the covered face symbolize the shame and blindness of judgment?
2. What does being 'set as a sign' teach about prophetic ministry embodying God's message?
3. In what ways should Christian living serve as living sign pointing others to gospel truth?

## Interlinear Text

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בְּעָלֹת	הַ	תְּשַׁא	כַּתְּרֵא	לְעֵדִים	עַל	לְעֵדִים	בְּ
In	their	sight	H5921	it	upon	thy	shoulders
H5869				H3802			H5375
							H5939
וְ	תְּוַצֵּא	אֵלֶיךָ	תְּכַסֵּה	פָּנֶיךָ	תְּוַצֵּא	אֵלֶיךָ	תְּרַא
and	carry	it	forth	thy	face	thou	shalt
H3318				H6440		H3680	H3808
							H7200
אַתָּה	תְּרַא	הַ	אֵלֶיךָ	תְּכַסֵּה	פָּנֶיךָ	תְּוַצֵּא	וְ
וְ	לְבָבְךָ	יְהִי	מִזְמָרָת	בְּנֵתֶךָ	תְּכַסֵּה	אֵלֶיךָ	וְ
not	the	ground	H3588	thee	for	a	sign
H776				H4159		H5414	H1004
							H3478

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 4:3** (References Israel): Moreover take thou unto thee an iron pan, and set it for a wall of iron between thee and the city: and set thy face against it, and it shall be besieged, and thou shalt lay siege against it. This shall be a sign to the house of Israel.

**Isaiah 8:18** (References Israel): Behold, I and the children whom the LORD hath given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth in mount Zion.

**Ezekiel 24:24** (Parallel theme): Thus Ezekiel is unto you a sign: according to all that he hath done shall ye do: and when this cometh, ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

**1 Samuel 28:8** (Parallel theme): And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee.

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