

Ezekiel 12:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I did so as I was commanded: I brought forth my stuff by day, as stuff for captivity, and in the even I digged through the wall with mine hand; I brought it forth in the twilight, and I bare it upon my shoulder in their sight.

Analysis

"And I did so as I was commanded: I brought forth my stuff by day, as stuff for captivity, and in the even I digged through the wall with mine hand; I brought it forth in the twilight, and I bare it upon my shoulder in their sight." Ezekiel's obedience report demonstrates faithful execution of difficult commands. Despite personal cost (damaging his house, public humiliation), the prophet obeys precisely. This models prophetic faithfulness—delivering God's message regardless of personal consequences or popular reception. The phrase "as I was commanded" emphasizes that prophets serve God's agenda, not their own comfort or reputation.

Historical Context

Ezekiel's obedience to perform embarrassing, costly sign-acts authenticated his message. True prophets submitted to divine directives even when difficult; false prophets spoke only comfortable messages from their own imagination (Jeremiah 23:16-22). The physical effort (digging walls, carrying baggage publicly) demonstrated commitment to faithfully proclaiming God's word regardless of personal cost. This prepared exiles to trust later restoration promises from the same faithful prophet.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does Ezekiel's costly obedience model faithful prophetic ministry?
2. What does willingness to endure embarrassment for God's message teach about authentic ministry?
3. In what ways are we called to costly obedience in proclaiming biblical truth today?

Interlinear Text

וָזַח אֶתְיוֹ	פְּכַל	וְ	הַזְחָקָה	אֶתְיוֹ	רְכִי	כִּי	רָאשָׁ	כִּי	עָשָׂה
And I did	H3651	H834	so as I was commanded		as stuff	H3627	I brought forth		
	H6213			H6680		H3318			
בְּקַר יְרֵא	לְ	וְ	חַטָּרָה	תְּ	וְ	בְּ	גּוֹלָה	בְּ	פְּכַל
as stuff	for captivity		by day		and in the even		I dug	H0	through the wall
H3627	H1473		H3119		H6153		H2864		H7023
בְּ	עַל	וְ	זְהַחֲקָה	אֶתְיוֹ	בְּעַלְתָּה	הַזְחָקָה	אֶתְיוֹ	בְּ	כַּתְּ
with mine hand	in the twilight		I brought forth		H5921	it upon my shoulder			
H3027	H5939		H3318			H3802			
בְּ	עַלְתָּה	וְ	זְהַחֲקָה	אֶתְיוֹ	בְּ	עַל	זְהַחֲקָה	אֶתְיוֹ	בְּ
and I bare	in their sight								
H5375	H5869								

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 24:18 (Parallel theme): So I spake unto the people in the morning: and at even my wife died; and I did in the morning as I was commanded.

Ezekiel 37:10 (Parallel theme): So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.

Ezekiel 37:7 (Parallel theme): So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone.

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