

# Ezekiel 16:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Behold, therefore I have stretched out my hand over thee, and have diminished thine ordinary food, and delivered thee unto the will of them that hate thee, the daughters of the Philistines, which are ashamed of thy lewd way.

## Analysis

**I have stretched out my hand over thee, and have diminished thine ordinary food**—The Hebrew *natah yad* (נָתַן יָד, stretched out hand) signals covenant judgment. God's hand stretched out in blessing becomes outstretched in discipline. **Diminished thine ordinary food** (*chok*, חֹק, appointed portion) refers to reducing Jerusalem's territorial holdings and economic prosperity.

**Delivered thee unto the will of them that hate thee, the daughters of the Philistines, which are ashamed of thy lewd way**—Devastating irony: even pagans were scandalized by Jerusalem's apostasy. The Philistines (*benoth Pelishtim*, בְּנוֹת פְּלִשְׁתִּים, daughters of Philistines) represent Israel's ancient enemies, yet they exhibit more moral shame than covenant Jerusalem. When the world is shocked by the church's sin, judgment is imminent (1 Peter 4:17-18).

## Historical Context

This likely refers to Philistine invasions during Ahaz's reign (2 Chronicles 28:18), when Judah lost territory and tribute. The Philistines, traditional enemies since Judges, seized Judean cities. That pagan nations found Israel's religious syncretism shameful highlights the depth of Judah's corruption—worse than surrounding idolaters.

## Related Passages

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

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. Has your witness become so compromised that even non-Christians are scandalized by your behavior or the church's actions?
2. What does it reveal about church culture when secular society exhibits more moral outrage over injustice than believers?

## Interlinear Text

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וְהִנֵּה הַ	נָטַ יְתִי	עַל יָדִי	
H2009	<b>Behold therefore I have stretched out</b>	<b>my hand</b>	H5921
	H5186	H3027	
וְאָגַב עַ	חֵזֶק רַ	וְאָתַנּוּ רַ	בְּנֵי פֶשַׁ
<b>over thee and have diminished</b>	<b>thine ordinary</b>	<b>food and delivered</b>	<b>thee unto the will</b>
H1639	H2706	H5414	H5315
שִׂנְאוֹתֵי יָרְ	בְּנֵי וְתִ	פְּלִשְׁתֵּי יָם	הַנִּכְלָמֹת וְתִ
<b>of them that hate</b>	<b>thee the daughters</b>	<b>of the Philistines</b>	<b>which are ashamed</b>
H8130	H1323	H6430	H3637
מִדֶּרֶךְ רַ	זָמָה:		
<b>way</b>	<b>of thy lewd</b>		
H1870	H2154		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 9:12** (Parallel theme): The Syrians before, and the Philistines behind; and they shall devour Israel with open mouth. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

**Ezekiel 16:57** (Parallel theme): Before thy wickedness was discovered, as at the time of thy reproach of the daughters of Syria, and all that are round about her, the daughters of the Philistines, which despise thee round about.

**Ezekiel 16:37** (Parallel theme): Behold, therefore I will gather all thy lovers, with whom thou hast taken pleasure, and all them that thou hast loved, with all them that thou hast hated; I will even gather them round about against thee, and will discover thy nakedness unto them, that they may see all thy nakedness.

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