

# Ezekiel 17:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Say now to the rebellious house, Know ye not what these things mean? tell them, Behold, the king of Babylon is come to Jerusalem, and hath taken the king thereof, and the princes thereof, and led them with him to Babylon;

## Analysis

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'Know ye not what these things mean?' implies they should have understood from the parable's symbolism. Their spiritual dullness reflects the hardening Isaiah prophesied (Matthew 13:13-15). 'Rebellious house' (Hebrew bayit meri) appears 15 times in Ezekiel, characterizing Israel's fundamental disposition. God's provision of interpretation demonstrates patience even with rebels.

## Historical Context

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The 597 BC deportation is well-documented. Babylonian chronicles record Nebuchadnezzar's capture of Jerusalem (March 16, 597 BC). He took King Jehoiachin, officials, craftsmen, warriors—approximately 10,000 people including Ezekiel (2 Kings 24:10-17). Archaeological discoveries list rations for 'Jehoiachin, king of Judah.'

## Related Passages

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

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. What spiritual dullness prevents us from recognizing God's clear messages?
2. How can we move from 'rebellious house' to obedient household of faith?

## Interlinear Text

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אָמַר	רְאֵת	בָּאָם	לְבִתְהִיכָּה	בְּפִמְרִיאָה	כָּל	מִדְעָתָה	מָה	לְהִזְכִּיר
<b>Say</b> H559	<b>house</b> H4994		<b>now to the rebellious</b> H1004		<b>Know</b> H3808		<b>H4100</b>	<b>H428</b>
אָמַר	רְאֵת	בָּאָם	לְבִתְהִיכָּה	מֶלֶךְ	בְּבִלְהָה	יְרוּשָׁלָם	לְקַח	אָתָּה
<b>Say</b> H559	<b>is come</b> H2009		<b>the king</b> H935	<b>of Babylon</b> H4428		<b>to Jerusalem</b> H894	<b>and hath taken</b> H3389	<b>H853</b>
אָמַר	רְאֵת	בָּאָם	שָׁׁבֵךְ	יְהִי	אָתָּה	בְּבִלְהָה	אַל יְהִי	אָתָּה
<b>the king</b> H4428	<b>H853</b>		<b>thereof and the princes</b> H8269	<b>is come</b> H935			<b>H413</b>	<b>of Babylon</b> H894

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 24:19** (Parallel theme): And the people said unto me, Wilt thou not tell us what these things are to us, that thou doest so?

**Ezekiel 1:2** (Kingdom): In the fifth day of the month, which was the fifth year of king Jehoiachin's captivity,

**Ezekiel 17:3** (Parallel theme): And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; A great eagle with great wings, longwinged, full of feathers, which had divers colours, came unto Lebanon, and took the highest branch of the cedar: