

# Ezekiel 17:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

That the kingdom might be base, that it might not lift itself up, but that by keeping of his covenant it might stand.

## Analysis

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'That the kingdom might be base, that it might not lift itself up'—God's remedial intent. 'Base' (Hebrew *shaphal*) means 'brought low,' not destroyed. Judah's humiliation would teach dependence on God rather than political power. 'By keeping of his covenant it might stand'—paradox: faithful submission to Babylon would demonstrate trust in God's sovereignty.

## Historical Context

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Exile's purpose: corrective, not merely punitive. The 70-year exile (Jeremiah 25:11-12, 29:10) would purge idolatry and teach faithfulness. Had Judah remained subject to Babylon, the temple would have stood and exile limited to 597 BC. Post-exilic Israel never again fell into systematic idolatry—showing the exile's effectiveness.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does God use humbling circumstances to teach dependence on Him?

2. When has submission to difficulty proven to be God's path to flourishing?

## Interlinear Text

לְהִזְמִית	מֶמְלָכָה	שָׁפֵל הַ	לְבָלָת	הַתְּנִישׁ אֶ
H1961	That the kingdom	might be base	H1115	that it might not lift itself up
H4467		H8217		H5375

  

לְשֵׁם רֹ	אֵת	בְּרִית וְ	לְעַמְּדָה:
but that by keeping	H853	of his covenant	it might stand

## Additional Cross-References

**Ezekiel 29:14** (Kingdom): And I will bring again the captivity of Egypt, and will cause them to return into the land of Pathros, into the land of their habitation; and they shall be there a base kingdom.

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