

# Ezekiel 17:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He took also of the seed of the land, and planted it in a fruitful field; he placed it by great waters, and set it as a willow tree.

## Analysis

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The 'seed of the land' represents Zedekiah, whom Nebuchadnezzar installed as vassal king. Like a plant in rich soil, Zedekiah was given opportunity to thrive under Babylonian oversight. This arrangement could have brought stability, but Zedekiah's rebellion destroyed it. God's sovereignty doesn't eliminate human responsibility.

## Historical Context

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Zedekiah, Josiah's youngest son, became king at 21 when Nebuchadnezzar bypassed Jehoiachin's infant son. His reign (597-586 BC) was marked by weak leadership, false prophets, and foolish rebellion against Babylon despite Jeremiah's warnings.

## Related Passages

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

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How do you respond to God's providential arrangements in your life—with submission or rebellion?

2. What opportunities has God given you that require faithful stewardship rather than selfish ambition?

## Interlinear Text

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וְיָקַרְתָּ בַּעַד בָּשָׂדֶה וְיָקַרְתָּ בַּעַד  
He took also of the seed of the land and planted field also of the seed  
H3947 H2233 H776 H5414 H7704 H2233

וְיָקַרְתָּ עַל מִם מִמְּנָה אֲפִכָּפָה שְׁמָוֹן  
He took waters it by great it as a willow tree and set  
H3947 H5921 H4325 H7227 H6851 H7760

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 44:4** (Parallel theme): And they shall spring up as among the grass, as willows by the water courses.

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