

Ezekiel 41:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

After he measured the wall of the house, six cubits; and the breadth of every side chamber, four cubits, round about the house on every side.

Analysis

The temple wall's thickness—'six cubits'—and side chambers' width—'four cubits round about'—demonstrate substantial construction. The Hebrew קִיר (qir, 'wall') of six cubits (approximately 10.5 feet thick) provided massive structural support and symbolized impenetrable protection. This wasn't flimsy construction but fortress-strength walls guarding God's holiness. The four-cubit side chambers (approximately seven feet wide) housed temple treasuries, priestly storage, and support facilities. The four-sided distribution ('round about') indicates comprehensive provision on all sides. Reformed theology sees thick walls as picturing God's protecting presence—'I will be unto her a wall of fire round about' (Zechariah 2:5). The church, as God's temple, receives His protection against hell's gates (Matthew 16:18).

Historical Context

Solomon's temple had side chambers three stories high, expanding at each level (1 Kings 6:5-10), similar to Ezekiel's vision. These chambers stored temple vessels, priestly garments, tithes, and offerings (1 Chronicles 9:26-33, Nehemiah 10:37-39). The six-cubit walls compare to ancient fortress walls designed to withstand siege. Archaeological excavations show Bronze Age Canaanite temple walls averaging 4-6 feet thick; Ezekiel's six cubits (10.5 feet) exceeds typical construction, emphasizing strength. The side chambers' four-cubit width provided functional space while maintaining wall integrity. Ancient architecture balanced functionality (useful

space) with stability (structural strength). The temple's substantial construction demonstrated that God's house deserved excellence, not minimal acceptable standards.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How thick are your spiritual 'walls'—protecting devotion to God from worldly corruption through strong disciplines?
2. What 'side chambers' in your life store spiritual resources (Scripture memory, prayer habits, fellowship) for ministry?
3. Does your commitment to God's kingdom reflect minimal acceptable effort or excellence that honors His worthiness?

Interlinear Text

וַיִּמָּד	קִיר	לְבַיִת	שֵׁשׁ שֵׁשׁ	אַמּוֹת	וְרֹחַב
After he measured	the wall	of the house	six	cubits	and the breadth
H4058	H7023	H1004	H8337	H520	H7341
הַצִּלְע	אַרְבַּע	אַמּוֹת	סְבִיב:	סְבִיב:	לְבַיִת
of every side chamber	four	cubits	on every side	on every side	of the house
H6763	H702	H520	H5439	H5439	H1004
סְבִיב:					
on every side					
H5439					