

Ezekiel 41:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And there was an enlarging, and a winding about still upward to the side chambers: for the winding about of the house went still upward round about the house: therefore the breadth of the house was still upward, and so increased from the lowest chamber to the highest by the midst.

Analysis

The chambers' expansion—'went still upward' and 'increased from the lowest chamber to the highest by the midst'—created progressively larger space at each level. This engineering provided stability (wider base) while maximizing upper-floor space. The 'midst' (Hebrew **בְּתוֹכָהּ**, *misabbab*) suggests circular or surrounding construction. The upward expansion symbolizes spiritual growth—foundation (narrow) supporting increasing fruitfulness (wider). Reformed theology sees sanctification as progressive enlargement—'grow in grace' (2 Peter 3:18), 'increase and abound' (1 Thessalonians 3:12). The structural necessity (wide base, expanding floors) teaches that spiritual growth requires strong foundations supporting increasing capacity for service.

Historical Context

Solomon's temple chambers similarly expanded at each level: 'The nethermost chamber was five cubits broad, and the middle was six cubits broad, and the third was seven cubits broad' (1 Kings 6:6). This design reduced wall weight on lower floors while maximizing upper storage. Ancient architecture understood load-bearing principles. The graduated increase provided approximately 120 total increased cubits of width across three floors. The practical construction teaches

theological truth: proper development starts narrow/small (foundation) and expands upward (maturity). Jesus' parable of talents (Matthew 25:14-30) shows similar principle—faithfulness with little leads to greater responsibility. Church growth should follow this pattern: solid foundation (doctrine) supporting expanding ministry (service).

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. Is your spiritual life 'going still upward'—progressive growth and increasing capacity—or stagnating?
2. What solid foundation (narrow lower chamber) supports your expanding upper floors of ministry and service?
3. How do you ensure that growth builds on proper foundations rather than top-heavy instability?

Interlinear Text

וְנִסְבָּה הַ	וְנִסְבָּה	לָמָּה עֲלֶה	לָמָּה עֲלֶה
And there was an enlarging	and a winding about	still upward	still upward
H7337	H5437	H4605	H4605
לְצִלְעוֹתָיו	כִּי	מִוֶּסֶב	לְבַיִת יְת
to the side chambers	H3588	for the winding about	of the house
H6763		H4141	H1004
			לָמָּה עֲלֶה
			still upward
			H4605
לָמָּה עֲלֶה	סָבִיב	סָבִיב	לְבַיִת יְת
still upward	round about	round about	of the house
H4605	H5439	H5439	H1004
			עַל
			H5921
			כִּי
			H3651
רָחֵב	לְבַיִת יְת	לָמָּה עֲלֶה	וְכִי
therefore the breadth	of the house	still upward	H3651
H7341	H1004	H4605	
			הַתַּחְתּוֹנָה
			from the lowest
			H8481
וַיֵּשֶׁל הַ	עַל	הַעֲלִיּוֹנָה	לְתִיכּוֹנָה:
and so increased	H5921	chamber to the highest	by the midst
H5927		H5945	H8484

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 6:8 (Parallel theme): The door for the middle chamber was in the right side of the house: and they went up with winding stairs into the middle chamber, and out of the middle into the third.