

Ezekiel 41:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The thickness of the wall, which was for the side chamber without, was five cubits: and that which was left was the place of the side chambers that were within.

Analysis

The thickness of the wall, which was for the side chamber without, was five cubits—the Hebrew qir (קִיר, wall) emphasizes structural solidity and separation. The five-cubit thickness (approximately 7.5 feet) denotes substantial strength, suggesting permanence and divine protection surrounding God's dwelling place.

That which was left was the place of the side chambers that were within—these tsela'ot (צֵלָעוֹת, side chambers/ribs) provided storage for temple vessels and priests' needs. The architectural precision mirrors Solomon's temple (1 Kings 6:5-6) but with eschatological perfection, pointing to the church as God's carefully structured dwelling (Ephesians 2:19-22).

Historical Context

Ezekiel prophesied this temple vision around 573 BC during Babylonian exile, fourteen years after Jerusalem's destruction. The detailed architectural specifications served to sustain exilic hope for restoration while describing a temple surpassing Solomon's in glory and permanence.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does the substantial thickness of God's temple walls reflect His commitment to protecting His dwelling place among His people?
2. What does the orderly provision of side chambers teach about God's care for the practical needs of those who serve Him?

Interlinear Text

רָחֹב	הַקִּיר	אֲשֶׁר	צִלְעֹתָיו	אֵל	הֵחָוֶץ	חֲמִישָׁה
The thickness	of the wall	H834	of the side chambers	H413	without	was five
H7341	H7023		H6763		H2351	H2568
וְאֵשֶׁת	וְאֵשֶׁת	מִן	לְבֵית:	צִלְעֹתָיו		
cubits	H834	and that which was left	that were within	of the side chambers		
H520		H3240	H1004	H6763		
אֲשֶׁר	לְבֵית:					
H834	that were within					
	H1004					

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 41:11 (Parallel theme): And the doors of the side chambers were toward the place that was left, one door toward the north, and another door toward the south: and the breadth of the place that was left was five cubits round about.