

# Ezekiel 46:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then said he unto me, These are the places of them that boil, where the ministers of the house shall boil the sacrifice of the people.

## Analysis

**Then said he unto me, These are the places of them that boil, where the ministers of the house shall boil the sacrifice of the people**—These are בֵּית חַמְבָּשָׁלִים (bêt hammēbashshēlîm, 'house of the boilers') where מְשָׁרֶתֶת הַבָּיִת (mēshārētē habbayit, 'ministers of the house') prepare זֶבַח הָעָם (zevah hā'ām, 'sacrifice of the people').

'Ministers of the house'—likely Levitical assistants (not priests). Their service—cooking people's sacrifices—was essential but not priestly. This demonstrates ministry hierarchy: all roles necessary, but distinct. New Testament parallel: Christ's body has many members with different functions (Romans 12:4-8, 1 Corinthians 12:12-31)—all essential, none inferior. The 'ministers' boiling sacrifices served God as truly as priests offering sacrifices. Faithful service in any role honors God. No task is menial when done for His glory.

## Historical Context

Levites assisted priests with various temple tasks: music, gatekeeping, maintenance, and apparently food preparation (1 Chronicles 23:24-32, Ezra 8:20). While priests performed altar rituals, Levites handled logistics. Ezekiel's vision maintains this division of labor, showing that organized, role-specific service facilitates worship. The principle continues: churches function best when members serve according to their gifts (Ephesians 4:11-16).

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

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

## Study Questions

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1. What does 'ministers' (not priests) cooking sacrifices teach about diverse roles in service?
2. How does role differentiation in temple service relate to spiritual gifts in the church?
3. Why is no service role inferior if done faithfully for God?

## Interlinear Text

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וְאָמַרְתָּ לְךָ אֵלֶיךָ כִּי תְהִלֵּל בְּשָׁלֹן  
Then said H413 H428 he unto me These are the places of them that boil

אֲשֶׁר רְאָתָה אֲשֶׁר בְּשָׁלֹן שְׁמָרָתִי  
H834 of them that boil H1310 H8033 where the ministers

כִּי בְּתַת אֶת כְּבָשָׂעַם  
he unto me These are the places H853 the sacrifice of the people

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 46:20** (Sacrifice): Then said he unto me, This is the place where the priests shall boil the trespass offering and the sin offering, where they shall bake the meat offering; that they bear them not out into the utter court, to sanctify the people.

