

Ezra 10:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And of the sons of Pashur; Elioenai, Maaseiah, Ishmael, Nethaneel, Jozabad, and Elasah.

Analysis

And of the sons of Pashur; Elioenai, Maaseiah, Ishmael, Nethaneel, Jozabad, and Elasah—six priests from Pashur's family are named. Pashur was another major priestly division (2:38), second in size after Jedaiah. The progression through priestly families (Jeshua, Harim, Pashur) demonstrates systematic investigation by family lines.

The name Maaseiah appears repeatedly in the list (vv. 18, 21, 22, 30), suggesting this was a common priestly name meaning 'work of Yahweh.' Multiple men named 'work of Yahweh' stood accused of covenant violation—another tragic irony. The repetition emphasizes how widespread the problem was even among those whose names proclaimed devotion.

Six violators from one family represents significant compromise. Pashur's line included over 1,200 members (2:38), so these six represent about 0.5%—yet even this percentage threatened priestly integrity. The naming demonstrates that covenant purity matters more than maintaining family reputation or avoiding embarrassment.

Historical Context

Pashur appears in Jeremiah 20:1-6 as a priestly opponent of the prophet who persecuted him. Whether this is the same family line or different branch remains debated, but it establishes Pashur as a significant priestly name. The exile should

have taught these families the cost of covenant violation, yet some members still compromised. This shows that historical knowledge doesn't automatically produce faithfulness—each generation must choose covenant commitment.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does the presence of six violators in one prominent family demonstrate that religious pedigree doesn't guarantee faithfulness?
2. What does the naming of multiple 'Maaseiahs' teach about the gap between religious profession and actual devotion?
3. How can churches prevent covenant compromise from spreading through family or social networks?

Interlinear Text

וּמִבְנֵי י'	פֶּשֶׁחַ וּר	אֶלְיוֹעִיָּהּ י'	מַעֲשִׂיָּהּ	יִשְׁמַעֵל אֶל	נֶתְנֵאֵל ל
And of the sons	of Pashur	Elioenai	Maaseiah	Ishmael	Nethaneel
H1121	H6583	H454	H4641	H3458	H5417

וְאֶלְעָזָר:	יֹזָבָד ד
Jozabad	and Elasah
H3107	H501

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 9:12 (Parallel theme): And Adaiah the son of Jeroham, the son of Pashur, the son of Malchijah, and Maasiai the son of Adiel, the son of Jahzerah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Meshillemith, the son of Immer;

