

# Ezra 10:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Moreover of Israel: of the sons of Parosh; Ramiah, and Jeziah, and Malchiah, and Miamin, and Eleazar, and Malchijah, and Benaiah.

## Analysis

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**Moreover of Israel: of the sons of Parosh; Ramiah, and Jeziah, and Malchiah, and Miamin, and Eleazar, and Malchijah, and Benaiah.** This verse begins the detailed roster of Israelites who took foreign wives, starting with the **sons of Parosh** (פֶּרֶשׁ, Par'osh, meaning "flea" or "dividing"). Seven men from this prominent family violated the covenant prohibition against intermarriage with pagan peoples. Each name reveals theological irony: Malchiah (מַלְכִּיָּה) means "Yahweh is king," yet he failed to submit to divine kingship by marrying outside covenant boundaries.

The list functions not merely as administrative record but as public confession and permanent memorial. These names were inscribed in Scripture as warning against covenant compromise. The inclusion of Benaiah (בְּנֵיָה, "Yahweh has built") among transgressors underscores the tragedy—men whose very names testified to Yahweh's faithfulness now stood accused of undermining the holy community through syncretistic marriages that threatened Israel's distinct covenant identity.

## Historical Context

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The family of Parosh was among the largest returning from exile (2,172 members, Ezra 2:3), making their compromised members' particularly significant. As influential leaders, their intermarriages set dangerous precedent. The public naming served both judicial and pedagogical functions in 458 BC post-exilic Judah,

where maintaining ethnic-religious boundaries was existential necessity against cultural absorption into surrounding paganism.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does the inclusion of names meaning "Yahweh is king" and "Yahweh has built" among offenders illustrate the gap between profession and practice?
2. What does the public nature of this confession teach about accountability in faith communities?
3. How can believers today maintain distinct covenant identity while avoiding legalistic isolation from surrounding culture?

## Interlinear Text

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וּמִשְׁרָא ל	מִבְּנֵי י	פֶּרֶעַ שׁ	בִּמְיָה	וְיֵזִיָּה	וּמַלְכִּיָּה
Moreover of Israel	of the sons	of Parosh	Ramiah	and Jeziel	and Malchiah
H3478	H1121	H6551	H7422	H3150	H4441
וּמִיָּמִין	וְאֶלְעָזָר	וּמַלְכִּיָּה	וּבְנֵיָּהּ:		
and Miamin	and Eleazar	and Malchiah	and Benaiah		
H4326	H499	H4441	H1141		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezra 2:3** (Parallel theme): The children of Parosh, two thousand an hundred seventy and two.

**Nehemiah 7:8** (Parallel theme): The children of Parosh, two thousand an hundred seventy and two.

