

Ezra 2:67

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Their camels, four hundred thirty and five; their asses, six thousand seven hundred and twenty.

Analysis

The livestock continues: 'Their mules, two hundred forty and five.' Mules (crossbreed of horse and donkey) were valuable work animals. The possession of 245 mules demonstrates agricultural and transportation capacity. The accumulating inventory (horses, mules) shows God provided comprehensive resources for the enormous tasks ahead. Material provision accompanied spiritual calling.

Historical Context

Mules combined horses' strength with donkeys' sure-footedness, making them ideal for mountainous terrain and heavy work. The 245 mules would have been essential for construction work, agricultural labor, and transportation in Judah's hilly geography. Their cost and maintenance requirements show returning community had significant economic resources. Archaeological evidence confirms mules were valuable and relatively rare in the ancient Near East.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does provision of work animals demonstrate that spiritual callings involve practical responsibilities requiring material resources?
2. What does God's provision of specific tools (mules) for specific tasks teach about His attention to practical details?

Interlinear Text

שְׁשָׁתׁ סִמְךָ יִם תִּמְצָה הַשְׁלֵשׁ יִם מֵא וָתָא אֶרְבָּעָה גַּם לִיקָּה

Their camels **four** **hundred** **thirty** **and five** **their asses** **six**

H1581

H702

H3967

H7970

H2568

H2543

H8337

וְשָׁרִים: מֵא וָתָא שְׁבָעָה אֶלְף יִם

thousand **seven** **hundred** **and twenty**

H505

H7651

H3967

H6242

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