

Ezra 2:69

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They gave after their ability unto the treasure of the work threescore and one thousand drams of gold, and five thousand pound of silver, and one hundred priests' garments.

Analysis

The voluntary offerings: 'They gave after their ability unto the treasure of the work threescore and one thousand drams of gold, and five thousand pound of silver, and one hundred priests' garments.' The phrase 'after their ability' shows proportionate giving based on resources. The amounts—61,000 gold drams and 5,000 pounds of silver—represent enormous wealth. The priests' garments shows attention to worship necessities. This generous giving demonstrated commitment to restoring proper temple worship.

Historical Context

One gold dram (daric) equaled approximately one-fourth ounce; 61,000 drams equals about 1,100 pounds of gold. Five thousand pounds of silver represents massive wealth. These voluntary offerings funded temple construction and operation. The willingness to give sacrificially after the arduous journey and facing settlement challenges demonstrates genuine devotion. The priests' garments enabled immediate resumption of sacrificial service. Such generosity testified to faith that God would bless covenant faithfulness.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does giving 'after their ability' establish the biblical principle of proportionate rather than uniform contributions?
2. What does sacrificial giving immediately upon arrival teach about priorities—worship before personal comfort?

Interlinear Text

כְּכֹחַם	נָתַנוּ	לְאוֹצַר	הַמְלָאכָה	זֶה ב
after their ability	They gave	unto the treasure	of the work	of gold
H3581	H5414	H214	H4399	H2091
דְּרַחְמוֹנִים	שָׁשׁ	רַב אוֹת	אֶלֶף יָם	מִן יָם וְכֶסֶף
drams	threescore	H7239	and one thousand	of silver
H1871	H8337		H505	H3701
וְחֵמֶשׁ	אֶלֶף יָם	וְכִתְנֵי ת	כֹּהֲנֵי יָם	מֵאָה:
and five	and one thousand	garments	priests	and one hundred
H2568	H505	H3801	H3548	H3967