

Ezra 7:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And all the silver and gold that thou canst find in all the province of Babylon, with the freewill offering of the people, and of the priests, offering willingly for the house of their God which is in Jerusalem:

Analysis

Additional provision—'And all the silver and gold that thou canst find in all the province of Babylon, with the freewill offering of the people, and of the priests, offering willingly for the house of their God which is in Jerusalem'—combines imperial gifts with voluntary offerings. The phrase 'all the silver and gold that thou canst find' suggests comprehensive collection. The distinction between imperial provision and freewill offerings shows multi-source funding. Both governmental and personal generosity contributed to temple worship.

Historical Context

The authorization to collect 'all the silver and gold' throughout Babylon province gave Ezra broad fundraising authority. Jewish communities in Babylon had prospered economically (evidenced by business documents from Murashu archives). Their willingness to support Jerusalem temple showed maintained covenant identity despite geographical distance. This diaspora support pattern continues throughout Jewish history, with dispersed communities supporting the homeland.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does combination of governmental funding and voluntary offerings demonstrate diverse means God uses to resource His work?
2. What does diaspora Jewish support for Jerusalem temple teach about maintaining covenant identity across geographical separation?

Interlinear Text

וְכָל ל	כֶּסֶף וְ	וְזָהָב	וְיָ	תִּהְיֶה	וְכָל ל	מְדִינַת
And all	the silver	and gold	H1768	that thou canst find	And all	the province
H3606	H3702	H1722		H7912	H3606	H4083
וְכָל ל	עִם	מִתְנַדֵּב יֵן	עַם א	וְכֹהֲנֵי		
of Babylon	with	offering willingly	of the people	and of the priests		
H895	H5974	H5069	H5972	H3549		
מִתְנַדֵּב יֵן	לְבַיִת	אֱלֹהֵיהֶם	וְיָ	בִּירוּשָׁלַם:		
offering willingly	for the house	of their God	H1768	which is in Jerusalem		
H5069	H1005	H426		H3390		

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 29:6 (Parallel theme): Then the chief of the fathers and princes of the tribes of Israel, and the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the rulers of the king's work, offered willingly,

1 Chronicles 29:9 (Parallel theme): Then the people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the LORD: and David the king also rejoiced with great joy.

Ezra 1:6 (Parallel theme): And all they that were about them strengthened their hands with vessels of silver, with gold, with goods, and with beasts, and with precious things, beside all that was willingly offered.

Ezra 1:4 (Sacrifice): And whosoever remaineth in any place where he sojourneth, let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.