

# Ezra 8:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now on the fourth day was the silver and the gold and the vessels weighed in the house of our God by the hand of Meremoth the son of Uriah the priest; and with him was Eleazar the son of Phinehas; and with them was Jozabad the son of Jeshua, and Noadiah the son of Binnui, Levites;

## Analysis

**Now on the fourth day was the silver and the gold and the vessels weighed in the house of our God**—the בַּיּוֹם הָרִבִּיעִי (bayyom harevi'i, on the fourth day) references the three-day rest period (v. 32). The וַיִּשְׁקֹל (vayyishshaqel, was weighed) fulfills Ezra's command in v. 29 for public accounting before Jerusalem leadership. The בְּבֵית אֱלֹהֵינוּ (b'veit Eloheinu, in the house of our God—the temple) location sanctifies the transaction, making it worship offering, not mere asset transfer.

**By the hand of Meremoth the son of Uriah the priest; and with him was Eleazar the son of Phinehas**—עַל־יַד מֶרְמוֹת בֶּן־אוּרִיָּה הַכֹּהֵן (al-yad Meremot ben-Uriyyah hakohen, upon the hand of Meremoth son of Uriah the priest). מֶרְמוֹת (Meremot, 'heights/elevations') descended from אוּרִיָּה (Uriyyah, 'Yahweh is my light'), establishing priestly pedigree. אֶלְעָזָר בֶּן־פִּינְחָס (El'azar ben-Pinechas, Eleazar son of Phinehas) invokes illustrious ancestry: Eleazar was Aaron's son (Exodus 6:23), and Phinehas was the zealous priest who stopped plague (Numbers 25:7-13). Naming these priests validates the transaction through recognized religious authority.

**And with them was Jozabad the son of Jeshua, and Noadiah the son of**

**Binnui, Levites**—the inclusion of יֹזָבָד (Yozavad, 'Yahweh has bestowed') and נֹאֲדָיָה (Noadyah, 'Yahweh has met by appointment'), both Levites, ensures comprehensive witness from both priestly and Levitical orders. The careful recording of genealogies (son of X) authenticates each witness's credentials.

## Historical Context

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Meremoth appears again rebuilding Jerusalem's wall (Nehemiah 3:4, 21), showing he was trusted leader in the restoration community. The involvement of multiple witnesses from different priestly/Levitical families prevented any single clan from controlling the narrative about the treasure's arrival and distribution. This transparency protected against later disputes and ensured the entire religious establishment collectively validated the transaction. The pattern mirrors ancient Near Eastern legal contracts requiring multiple witnesses.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. What does the careful recording of witnesses' names and genealogies teach about accountability in ministry leadership?
2. How does conducting the formal accounting 'in the house of our God' transform financial transaction into worship?
3. In what ways should modern church leadership ensure transparency through multi-party witness in financial matters?

## Interlinear Text

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וְהִכָּל יָם	וְהִזָּה ב	הַכֶּסֶף	נִשְׁקָ ל	הַרְבִּיעַ י	וּבֵי יוֹם
and the vessels	and the gold	was the silver	weighed	Now on the fourth	day
H3627	H2091	H3701	H8254	H7243	H3117
אֲוִרְיָה	בֶּן	מֶרֶמְוֹת	יָד	עַל	בֵּית יְת
of Uriah	the son	of Meremoth	by the hand	of our God	in the house
H223	H1121	H4822	H3027	H430	H1004
וְעִמָּהֶם	פִּינֶחָס	בֶּן	אֶלְעָזָר	וְעִמָּהּ	הַכֹּהֵן
H5973	of Phinehas	the son	and with him was Eleazar	H5973	the priest
H6372	H1121	H499	H3548		
בֶּן יִי	בֶּן	וְנוֹעֲדִיָּה	יֵשׁוּעַ	בֶּן	יֹזָבָד
of Binnui	the son	and Noadiah	of Jeshua	the son	and with them was Jozabad
H1131	H1121	H5129	H3442	H1121	H3107

הַלְוִיִּם:

Levites  
H3881

## Additional Cross-References

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**Nehemiah 3:4** (Parallel theme): And next unto them repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah, the son of Koz. And next unto them repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabeel. And next unto them repaired Zadok the son of Baana.

**Nehemiah 3:21** (Parallel theme): After him repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah the son of Koz another piece, from the door of the house of Eliashib even to the end of the house of Eliashib.

**Ezra 8:30** (References God): So took the priests and the Levites the weight of the silver, and the gold, and the vessels, to bring them to Jerusalem unto the house of our God.

