

# Isaiah 22:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they shall hang upon him all the glory of his father's house, the offspring and the issue, all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flagons.

## Analysis

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**וְתַלְוּ עַלְיוֹ כָּל קָבוֹד** (בֵּית אָבִיו)—The imagery shifts from the secure peg (v. 23) to an overburdened one. Eliakim, installed as a yated (peg/nail) in a sure place, would bear the weight of his entire family's expectations and dependencies. The Hebrew kavod (glory/weight) contains wordplay: glory brings burden. **The offspring and the issue** refers to descendants seeking positions through nepotism.

**All vessels of small quantity, from cups to flagons**—The metaphor extends: just as household vessels hang on pegs, so relatives would 'hang' on Eliakim for patronage. This prophesies the inevitable corruption of even faithful servants when family obligations compromise integrity. The progression from small cups (agganot) to large flagons (nevelim) suggests escalating demands. What begins with minor favors ends with major exploitation—a timeless warning about power's corrupting influence, even on the godly.

## Historical Context

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Eliakim replaced Shebna as steward under King Hezekiah (c. 701 BC). Ancient Near Eastern court officials faced intense pressure from extended families seeking

advancement. The 'father's house' system meant one person's promotion benefited entire clans, creating conflicts between public duty and family loyalty.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does family or relational pressure tempt you to compromise your integrity in positions of responsibility?
2. What safeguards can leaders establish to prevent nepotism from undermining their effectiveness?
3. In what ways does this verse warn against placing too much hope in human leaders, even godly ones?

## Interlinear Text

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אָבִיו בֵּית כְּבָד עַל כֵּל וְיִתְּלֶן  
And they shall hang upon him all the glory of his father's house

H8518

H5921

H3605

upon him all the glory

H3519

house

H1004

of his father's

H1

כָּל כְּלִים וְכָל כְּלִים בְּכָל כְּלִים בְּכָל כְּלִים  
the offspring and the issue all vessels of small all vessels of cups

H6631

H6849

H3605

all vessels

H3627

of small

H3627

all vessels

H101

כָּל כְּלִים בְּכָל כְּלִים  
all vessels of flags

H5704

H3605

all vessels

H3627

H5035

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 28:18** (Parallel theme): And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

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