

# Jeremiah 13:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then I went to Euphrates, and digged, and took the girdle from the place where I had hid it: and, behold, the girdle was marred, it was profitable for nothing.

## Analysis

This verse reveals decay: 'Then I went to Euphrates, and digged, and took the girdle from the place where I had hid it: and, behold, the girdle was marred; it profited for nothing.' 'Digged' (chapharthy) indicates excavation; 'took' (eqqach) retrieves the buried garment. 'Behold' (hinneh) creates dramatic revelation—'the girdle was marred' (nishchath ha'ezor). The Hebrew shachath (שַׁחַת) means ruined, corrupted, destroyed. 'It profited for nothing' (lo yitslach lekhhol)—completely worthless, beyond repair or use. The intimate garment, once valuable and personal, has become garbage.

## Historical Context

Linen buried in moisture would indeed decay, becoming moldy, rotted, falling apart. The visual of retrieving ruined fabric would be memorable and disturbing. What was meant for intimate closeness has become worthless refuse. The physical demonstration communicated more powerfully than words alone.

## Related Passages

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

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

1. What does the ruined condition of the girdle symbolize about Judah's spiritual state?
  2. How does something meant for intimate relationship become worthless through corruption?

## Interlinear Text

מִן	בָּאֵז וּרְ	אָתְ	תִּאַקְרֹב	תִּאַחַפֵּר	פָּנָה מִתְּהִלָּה	בְּאֵלֶּה
H4480	it and behold the girdle	H853	and took	and dug	to Euphrates	H1980
H232		H3947		H2658	H6578	
נִשְׁחַם תְּ וְהִנֵּה שְׁמַה תִּמְנַתְּ יְהִי אָשָׁר בְּמִקְםֵךְ וּמָ	was married	H2009	וְהִנֵּה שְׁמַה תִּמְנַתְּ יְהִי אָשָׁר בְּמִקְםֵךְ וּמָ	H8033	where I had hid	H2934
from the place	H7843	H4725	H834	from the place	H834	
לְכָל: בָּאֵז וּרְ	it was profitable	H3605	יצַל חַלְלָה	לְאַל	H3808	it and behold the girdle
H232	H6743		H232			

## Additional Cross-References

**Isaiah 64:6** (Parallel theme): But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

**Romans 3:12** (Parallel theme): They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.