

# Jeremiah 32:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I bought the field of Hanameel my uncle's son, that was in Anathoth, and weighed him the money, even seventeen shekels of silver.

## Analysis

**I bought the field of Hanameel**—Jeremiah's symbolic purchase of land in occupied territory enacts prophetic hope. While imprisoned and prophesying doom, he invests in Judah's future. The Hebrew qanah (buy/redeem) connects to God's redemption of Israel (go'el—kinsman redeemer).

**Seventeen shekels of silver** (שבעה שקלים ובעשרה הגדף)—approximately 7 ounces, a modest sum reflecting the land's devaluation during siege. The precision demonstrates historical authenticity. This real estate transaction during enemy occupation seems absurd—like buying stock during a market crash—yet demonstrates radical faith in God's promise that 'houses and fields...shall be possessed again in this land' (v. 15). Jeremiah puts his money where his prophecy is, investing in God's future when circumstances scream hopelessness.

## Historical Context

Levitical law required family land redemption (Leviticus 25:25-28, Ruth 4:1-6). As nearest kinsman, Jeremiah had obligation and right to redeem Hanameel's field in Anathoth (Jeremiah's hometown). The careful legal documentation (v. 10-12) follows ancient Near Eastern practice—similar legal tablets have been discovered archaeologically.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does Jeremiah's land purchase model faith that acts on God's promises despite contrary circumstances?
2. What 'foolish' investments might God be calling you to make based on His promised future?
3. How does Christ as our kinsman-redeemer (<em>go'el</em>) fulfill the typology of Jeremiah redeeming family land?

## Interlinear Text

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אֲשֶׁר דָּקַר בְּנֵי חֶנְמַא לְמִתְּפַשֵּׂד הַמִּתְּאַקְנֵה  
And I bought the field of Hanameel son my uncle's  
H7069 H853 H2601 H1121 H1730 H834

וְעַתָּה וְתַּעֲשֵׂה לְזַהֲרֵת וְתַּעֲשֵׂה לְזַהֲרֵת וְתַּעֲשֵׂה לְזַהֲרֵת  
that was in Anathoth and weighed him the money even seventeen  
H6068 H8254 H853 H3701 H7651

וְעַתָּה וְתַּעֲשֵׂה לְזַהֲרֵת וְתַּעֲשֵׂה לְזַהֲרֵת  
shekels him the money  
H8255 H6235 H3701

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Kings 20:39** (Parallel theme): And as the king passed by, he cried unto the king: and he said, Thy servant went out into the midst of the battle; and, behold, a man turned aside, and brought a man unto me, and said, Keep this man: if by any means he be missing, then shall thy life be for his life, or else thou shalt pay a talent of silver.

**Esther 3:9** (Parallel theme): If it please the king, let it be written that they may be destroyed: and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver to the hands of those that have the charge of the business, to bring it into the king's treasuries.

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