

Jeremiah 41:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

That there came certain from Shechem, from Shiloh, and from Samaria, even fourscore men, having their beards shaven, and their clothes rent, and having cut themselves, with offerings and incense in their hand, to bring them to the house of the LORD.

Analysis

These men came from northern regions to worship at Jerusalem's ruins, bringing offerings despite the temple's destruction. Their devotion shows that true worship transcends buildings. The 'meat offerings and incense' demonstrate continued faith in YAHWEH even after judgment. God preserves a remnant of sincere worshipers even in darkest times.

Historical Context

This occurred shortly after Jerusalem's destruction. That worshipers still came to the ruins shows the temple's centrality to Jewish faith and hope for restoration.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How do you maintain devotion to God when external structures and supports are removed?
2. What does this teach about the nature of true worship?

Interlinear Text

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|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| וּמִשְׁמֶרֶן | מִשָּׁל וְ | מִשְׁכָּם | אֲיִשׁ | לָקָב יֵא |
| and from Samaria | from Shiloh | from Shechem | men | That there came |
| H8111 | H7887 | H7927 | H376 | H935 |
| בְּגָדֵיהֶם | וְקִרְעֵיהֶם | זָקָן | מְגֻלָּה יֵאִישׁ | שְׁמֹנֶה יָם |
| and their clothes | rent | having their beards | shaven | even fourscore |
| H899 | H7167 | H2206 | H1548 | H8084 |
| בְּיָדָם | וּלְבוֹנָה | וּמִנְחָה | וּמִתְגַּדְּדִים | |
| in their hand | and incense | themselves with offerings | and having cut | |
| H3027 | H3828 | H4503 | H1413 | |
| יְהוָה: | בֵּית | לָקָב יֵא | | |
| of the LORD | them to the house | That there came | | |
| H3068 | H1004 | H935 | | |

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 16:24 (Parallel theme): And he bought the hill Samaria of Shemer for two talents of silver, and built on the hill, and called the name of the city which he built, after the name of Shemer, owner of the hill, Samaria.

Deuteronomy 14:1 (References Lord): Ye are the children of the LORD your God: ye shall not cut yourselves, nor make any baldness between your eyes for the dead.

Joshua 18:1 (Parallel theme): And the whole congregation of the children of Israel assembled together at Shiloh, and set up the tabernacle of the congregation there. And the land was subdued before them.

2 Kings 25:9 (References Lord): And he burnt the house of the LORD, and the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem, and every great man's house burnt he with fire.

Genesis 33:18 (Parallel theme): And Jacob came to Shalem, a city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, when he came from Padan-aram; and pitched his tent before the city.

1 Kings 12:1 (Parallel theme): And Rehoboam went to Shechem: for all Israel were come to Shechem to make him king.

Judges 9:1 (Parallel theme): And Abimelech the son of Jerubbaal went to Shechem unto his mother's brethren, and communed with them, and with all the family of the house of his mother's father, saying,

Isaiah 15:2 (Parallel theme): He is gone up to Bajith, and to Dibon, the high places, to weep: Moab shall howl over Nebo, and over Medeba: on all their heads shall be baldness, and every beard cut off.

1 Kings 12:25 (Parallel theme): Then Jeroboam built Shechem in mount Ephraim, and dwelt therein; and went out from thence, and built Penuel.

1 Kings 16:29 (Parallel theme): And in the thirty and eighth year of Asa king of Judah began Ahab the son of Omri to reign over Israel: and Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty and two years.