

Jeremiah 52:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He took also out of the city an eunuch, which had the charge of the men of war; and seven men of them that were near the king's person, which were found in the city; and the principal scribe of the host, who mustered the people of the land; and threescore men of the people of the land, that were found in the midst of the city.

Analysis

An eunuch, which had the charge of the men of war (סִרִיס) —a court official commanding military forces. **Seven men...near the king's person** (רֹאֵי פְנֵי-הַמֶּלֶךְ) literally 'seers of the king's face') were royal counselors with direct access to Zedekiah. The **principal scribe** (סֹפֵר שְׁרָכָבָא) mustered troops—the secretary of defense.

Threescore men of the people—60 community leaders. The totality: religious leaders (v. 24), military commanders, royal advisors, administrative officials, and civic leaders—all held accountable for leading Judah into covenant rebellion.

Historical Context

The phrase 'seers of the king's face' reflects ancient Near Eastern court protocol where only high-ranking officials could enter the king's presence. These men shaped Zedekiah's disastrous policy of rebellion against Babylon, rejecting Jeremiah's counsel to submit.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does the comprehensive judgment of all leadership levels warn against collective responsibility for national sin?
2. What does the capture of those who 'saw the king's face' teach about the danger of influencing leaders toward disobedience?
3. In what ways are you accountable for your influence in civic, professional, or spiritual leadership?

Interlinear Text

בָּנֵי הַבָּנִים אֲשֶׁר אִם דָּסֶר יִסְלָמֶנּוּ לְקַח
 H4480 also out of the city H5892 He took H3947 eunuch H5631 an H834 H1961

אֲנָשִׁים וְשָׁבָעַ הַמְלָכָם הַאֲנָשִׁים עַל
 which had the charge H6496 H5921 men H582 of war H4421 and seven H7651 men H582

מִרְאֵי פָּנִים לְבָטְחָה אֲשֶׁר בְּגִמְצָא יִם
 of them that were near H7200 person H6440 the king's H4428 H834 that were found H4672

בְּמִצְבָּה אֲבָצָב אֲתָת בָּנִים
 also out of the city H5892 H853 scribe H5608 and the principal H8269 of the host H6635 who mustered H6633

בָּאָתְּ מִעַם בָּאָרֶץ וְשָׁשָׁים אִישׁ מִעַם בָּאָרֶץ
 H853 of the people H5971 of the land H776 and threescore H8346 men H376 of the people H5971 of the land H776

בָּנִים בְּבָתְוֹן בָּנִים
 that were found in the midst also out of the city H4672 H8432 H5892

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 25:19 (Kingdom): And out of the city he took an officer that was set over the men of war, and five men of them that were in the king's presence, which were found in the city, and the principal scribe of the host, which mustered the people of the land, and threescore men of the people of the land that were found in the city:

Esther 1:14 (Kingdom): And the next unto him was Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena, and Memucan, the seven princes of Persia and Media, which saw the king's face, and which sat the first in the kingdom;)

