

Jeremiah 52:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And changed his prison garments: and he did continually eat bread before him all the days of his life.

Analysis

Changed his prison garments—(*וַיַּשְׁבַּח אֶת בְּגָדָיו כֹּל־אֹי*)—removal of prisoner's clothes symbolized new status, like Joseph (Genesis 41:14) and the high priest's robe changes (Zechariah 3:4). **He did continually eat bread before him** (*וְאָכַל לְפָנָיו פָּתַח*)—(*לַפְנֵי פָתַח*)—daily provision at the royal table, a permanent pension.

This verse ends Jeremiah's prophecy with hope. After 52 chapters of judgment, the final image is a king eating bread—echoing Eden's provision, manna in wilderness, and anticipating the Messianic banquet. The book of weeping (Lamentations) concludes with a king at table, sustained by a pagan's kindness, showing God works through all circumstances to preserve His covenant line.

Historical Context

Jehoiachin's daily provision 'all the days of his life' likely continued until Evil-Merodach's assassination in 560 BC. This brief two-year window of favor gave the exiled king dignity in his final years and kept alive hope for the Davidic covenant's fulfillment.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does the imagery of 'eating bread' throughout Scripture (Eden, manna, Last Supper, Messianic banquet) culminate in this restoration scene?
2. What does Jehoiachin's change of garments teach about God's ability to transform our status from prisoner to honored guest?
3. In what ways does Jeremiah's ending with hope (not despair) shape how you view God's purposes in seasons of judgment?

Interlinear Text

וְשָׁבָה	ה	תְּ	אֵת	בְּגִדֵּי	כִּלְאָיו	אֶאָכֶל	לְפָנָי	לִפְנֵי	בְּפָנָיו	אַתְּ	וְשָׁבָה
And changed	H853	garments	H899	his prison	H3608	eat	H398	bread	H3899	before	H6440
H8138											

וְתַּמְּנָה	תְּ	כִּלְ	וְ	יְמִ	וְ	לִפְנֵי					
and he did continually	H8548	H3605	**him all the days**	H3117	**of his life**	H2416					

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 9:7 (Parallel theme): And David said unto him, Fear not: for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.

Genesis 41:42 (Parallel theme): And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand, and put it upon Joseph's hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck;

Genesis 41:14 (Parallel theme): Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon: and he shaved himself, and changed his raiment, and came in unto Pharaoh.

1 Kings 2:7 (Parallel theme): But shew kindness unto the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be of those that eat at thy table: for so they came to me when I fled because of Absalom thy brother.

2 Samuel 9:13 (Parallel theme): So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem: for he did eat continually at the king's table; and was lame on both his feet.

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